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The Honorable Meenakshi Srivivasan, Chair NYC Board of Standards and Appeals 9th Floor 40 Rector Street New York, NY 10006 Reference: Calendar 74-07-BZ 6-10 West 70th Street New York, NY June 10, 2008

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Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Standards and Appeals:

Congregation Shearith Israel (CSI) has not produced the required acquisition costs and dates for 6-10 West 70th Street, Lots 37, 38, and 39 on Block 1122.

Item M-5, Financial Feasibility Study, BSA Rules, state:

5. Generally, for cooperative or **condominium development** proposals the following information is required: market value of the property, acquisition costs and date of acquisition, and percentage return on equity (net profit divided by equity). [Emphasis added]

Appendix I shows the range of possible acquisition costs in 1949 for 6-8 W. 70th and in 1965 for 10 W. 70th. These acquisition costs are restated in 2008 dollars, using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflator, for a total acquisition cost of \$1,033,000.

To determine if a reasonable return on the property is not possible, Item M-3, Financial Feasibility Study, BSA Rules, states:

3. The economic hardship that arises from the unique physical conditions must be quantified.....

Returns on equity for the three lots as a whole were calculated using three Freeman/Frazer Associates (FFA) scenarios: the FFA Proposed Development case of the May 13, 2008 submission and the FAA As-of-Right cases, AOR Scheme A and the AOR Scheme C, both dated December 21, 2008. Two valuations, on each of these cases, were calculated based on FFA residential values scaled and FFA \$625/square foot. Platt Byard Dovell White's (PBDW's) square footage numbers were used.

The lowest return is AOR Scheme C at a Net Profit on the property of \$13.7 million, a 1,334% return on equity, or 13.7 times CSI's equity investment in one year since all the figures are in 2008 dollars. The highest Net Profit is \$55.7 million, a 5,388% return on equity investment or 55 times the CSI equity investment in one year. The Proposed Development returns are in between these returns.

Even without context, a range of possible returns of 1300% to 5500%, or 13 to 55 times return on equity investment in current dollars, represents a reasonable return on the property by any standards.

Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Standards and Appeals June 10, 2008 Page 2

These returns are based on CSI produced scenarios and assumptions and do not include the added benefit to CSI gained from income producing property, for which we have not been provided adequate figures.

Sincerely, hande.

Appendices

- I. Estimated CSI Acquisition Costs, 1949 & 1965, Restated in 2008 Dollars II. Estimated CSI Return On Equity 2008
- III. Supporting Documents for Appendix I

ESTIMATED CSI ACQUISITION COSTS, 1949 & 1965. RESTATED IN 2008 DOLLARS

The Appendix I table shows the range of possible acquisition costs in 1949 for 6-8 W. 70th and in 1965 for 10 W. 70th, and are then restated in 2008 dollars based on the Consumer Price Index Inflator (CPI).

The acquisition values used, and then restated in 2008 dollars, are from:

- New York City tax valuations. "Assessed Real Estate Valuations Without Improvements" (i.e. the land) and With Improvements in 1949 and 1965, the acquisition years.
- Indenture Agreements between buyers, Trustees of the Congregation Shearith Israel or Congregation Shearith Israel, respectively in 1949 and 1965 and the sellers.
- Acquisition costs of 15 W. 70th in 1948. This address is diagonally across the street from the Community House and is the only property on which we have the actual Purchase Price (Acquisition Costs) from 1948.

Extensive research does not reveal purchase price as part of the public record. Articles in the New York Times from the period almost always report tax valuations for private sales.

Values reflect the decline of the neighborhood by 1949 and, although on the cusp of rejuvenation in 1965, this year preceded re-gentrification of the Upper West Side.

Supporting documents for data in this Appendix is included in Appendix III.

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ESTIMATED CSI ACQUISITION COSTS, 1949 & 1965, RESTATED IN 2008 DOLLARS 7

Lot #36, 99 Central Park West, also block 1122, was purchased by Congregation Shearth Israel (not the Trustees) in 1985 from Charles F. and Eleanor L. Hoffman and is the property occupied by the Parsonage and the synagogue.

^{2. 70}th St Holding Co. Inc. had the same address as the Trustees Congregation Shearith Israel, 2 west 70th, indicating that the purchase may not have not have been an arms length transaction. 70th St Holding Co. Inc. had purchased the property from E. Zippa a year before.

^{3.} At some point after the purchase of #6 and #8, the Lots 37 and 38 were merged into one property, became exempt,, and for city records became Lot 37.

^{4.} Closing statement provided by current owner, Peter Nizzam Kettaneh.

Extenuating circumstances could have been taxes in arrears, imminent or actual foreclosure, bankruptcy of the owners, no maintenance and houses on verge of collapse,

The sum of the "Acquisition Costs" or Purchase Price for #6-10 is \$1,033,000 in 2008 dollars..
 The supporting documents for assumptions made in this Appendix are found in Appendix III.

^{8.} The 2008 dollars for Acquisition Costs are based on the Consumer Price (CPI) index inflator as provided by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

ESTIMATED CSI RETURN ON EQUITY 2008

Item M-5, Financial Feasibility Study, BSA Rules, state:

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5. Generally, for cooperative or **condominium development** proposals the following information is required: market value of the property, acquisition costs and date of acquisition, and percentage return on equity (net profit divided by equity). [Emphasis added]

For simplicity, it is assumed for all cases that the CSI equity is \$1,033,000, the highest Acquisition Costs for #6-10 W. 70th in 1949 and 1965 inflated to 2008 dollars as shown in Appendix I.

The Net Profit is the gain on the total value of the property #6-10 W. 70th, using the value of the total property in 2008 less the amount paid for the three lots of \$1,033,000, which represents the figure restated in 2008 dollars, for an apples to apples comparison.

Taking Freeman/Frazer Associates (FFA) and Platt Byard Dovell White (PBDW) assumptions, there are two ways to calculate market value for the property as a whole in 2008.

- 1. The total property value in 2008 can be based on PBDW's allocations of square feet, applied to the condo residences and the Community House including the cellars, scaling FFA's value on the residences to arrive at a Community House and the total value.
- 2. The total property value in 2008 can be based on the application of FFA's \$625/ square feet multiplied by the PBDW sq.footage.

This Appendix II Table applies these assumptions to three cases: the FFA Proposed Development case of the May 13, 2008 submission and the FAA As-of-Right cases, AOR Scheme A and the AOR Scheme C, both dated December 21, 2008.

The lowest return is AOR Scheme C at a Net Profit on the property of \$13.7 million in 2008 dollars, a 1,334% return on equity or 13.7 times CSI's equity investment. The highest Net Profit is \$55.7 million, a 5.388% return on equity investment or 55 times the CSI equity investment. The Proposed Development is in between these returns.

It is believed that the returns are understated since the property has generated income for CSI over the years, in excess of maintenance costs.

Based on the forecast annual revenue from the schools of \$1,000,000, the capitalized value at 7% is \$14,285,714. This amount is not included in the Net Profit of the Appendix II Table but should be added when considering the total benefit to CSI

Since CSI has not provided the revenue or costs of the Community House historically or forecast, more refined analysis cannot be done.

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ESTIMATED RETURN IN INVESTMENT (EQUITY) 1

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AOR Scheme C							† · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
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^{1.} Equity is the sum of the highest tax valuations in Appendix I Table, assumed to be the property value for #6-10 W. 70th. Valuations inflated to 2008 dollars by the CPI index inflator. The sum of the three properties is \$1,033,000.

^{2.} PBDW Sq, ft for Configuration Proposed is dated May 13, 2008, for Configuration AOR Scheme A is dated Aug. 28 2007, and for Configuration AOR

Scheme C is dated Oct 22, 2007. All numbers include the the square feet from Cellar 1 and Cellar 2. 3. Proposed Configuration from FFA is dated May 13, 2008, AOR Scheme A is dated Dec 21, 2007, and AOR Scheme is dated Dec 21 2007.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR APPENDIX I

Supporting documents included in this Appendix are support for the Acquisition Costs in Appendix I, and include the:

- Assessed Valuation of Real Estate-Borough of Manhattan-Section 4, Blocks 1121-1127, page 15 in the year of 1950-1951 of 6-8 W. 70th. See column "Value of Real Estate Unimproved" and "Value of Real Estate with Improvements Thereon".
- Assessed Valuation of Real Estate-Borough of Manhattan-Section 4, Blocks 1121-1128, page 12 in the year of 1966-1967 of 10 W. 70th. See columns "Value of Real Estate Unimproved" and "Value of Real Estate with Improvements Thereon".
- Indenture Agreements between the Trustees of CSI with the seller of 6-8 W. 70th dated August 31, 1949:
 - in consideration of ONE (\$1.00) dollar.....and other good and valuable consideration.....
- The Indenture Agreements between CSI and the seller of 10 W. 70th dated May 28,1965:
 - in consideration of Ten Dollars and other good and other valuable consideration.....
 - SUBJECT to a mortgage recorded in.....in the original amount of \$11,750.00.
- Closing Statement dated June 15, 1948 for 15 W. 70th with the Acquisition Cost (Purchase Price) of \$32,000.
 - The Acquisition Cost (Purchase Price) was about the same as the Assessed Valuation of Real Estate with Improvements. Two years later the tax valuation increased from \$33,000 increased to \$40,000.
- The Consumer Price Index Inflator (CPI) computed by Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis can be found at the end of this Appendix. The CPI was applied to the Acquisition Costs in Appendix I.

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THIS INDENTURE, made the

mineteen hundred and forty-nine , between

70TH ST. HOLDING CO. INC.,

a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York, having its principal place of business at 2 West 70th Street, Borough of Manhattan, Clay and State of New York,

party of the book bace:

and THE TRUSTERS OF THE CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL IN THE CPTY OF HEWYORK, a religious corporation, of 2 West 70th Street, Borough of Manhattan, City and State of New York,

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is wful money of the United States, and other good and valuable consideration and by the part y of he second part, does hereby grant and release unto the part y of the second part, its successors

ALL that lot of land with the buildings thereon in the Borough of Manhattan, City, County and State of New York, bounded and described &s follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the southerly side of 70th Street, distant 129 feet westerly from the corner formed by the intermetation of the southerly side of 70th Street and the westerly side of Central Park West; thence southerly parallel with Central Park West; and part of the way through a party well 105 inches to the middle line of the block; thence westerly along the said kine 21 feet; thence northerly parallel with Central Park West 105 inches to the southerly side of 70th St. and thence easterly slong the southerly side of 70th Street 21 feet to the point or place of BEGINNING.

Said premises now being known as and by the street No.8 West 70th Street.

SUBJECT to existing tenencies and occupancies, if any.

SUBJECT to restrictive covenants of record, if any.

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The party of the first part, in compliance with Section 13 of the Lien Law, covenants that receive the consideration for this conveyance and will hald the right to receive such consideration trust fund to be applied first for the purpose of paying the cost of the improvement and that it will be the the same first to the payment of the cost of the improvement before using any part of the total at the same for any other purpose. IN WITNESS WHEREOR, the party of the first part has caused its corporate seal to be hereunts the day and year first above affixed and these presents to be signed by its duly authorized officer HOLDING CO.INC. STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK On the day 30 of Aug one thousand nine hundred and for ty-mine before me came EPHRAIN BERLINER, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose And May that he resides at No. 365 West End Avenue, Gity of New Jork that he is the Vice Pres. of 70TH ST. HOLDING CO. INC., in Boro of Manhattan the corporation described in and which executed the foregoing instrument; that I said corporation; that the seal affixed to said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed ander of the Board of Directors of said comporation, and that

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THIS INDENTURE, and be the

3. day of Higgist "

7078 ST. HOLD 140 CO. 1.3.,

From parallel organized under the base of the State of New York, having its principal place of business at 2 West 70th Street, Borough of Manhattan, Filty of New York, State of New York,

party of the first part, and THE TRUSTEES OF THE CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, a religious corporation, of 2 West 70th Street, Borough of Manhattan, Sity and State of New York,

, part y of the accord part.

WITNESSETH, that the party of the first part, in consideration of

ONE (\$1.00) - - - dollary.

Inwise money of the United States, and other good and valuable consideration, paid
by the part y of the second part, does hereby grant and release unto the part y of the second part,

its successors and assigns forever,

ALL that lot or percel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon, in the Borough of Manhattan, City, County and State of New York, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the scatnerly side of Seventieth Street distant one hundred and eight feet westerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the southerly side of Seventieth Street and the westerly side of Central Fark West (formerly Eighth Avenue); running thence southerly, parallel with said dentral Fark West, one hundred feet five inches to the center line of the black; thence westerly along as id benefit into the southerly again parallel with said dentral Fark West, and part of the way through a party wall, one hundred feet five inches to the southerly side of Seventieth Street, and thence easterly along said southerly side of Seventieth Street, twenty-one feat to the point or place of BEGINNING.

Said premises being known as and by the street number 81x West Seventieth Street.

SUBJECT to existing tensucies and occupancies, if any, it subject to restrictive obvenients of record, if any.

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The party of the first part, in compliance with Section 13 of the Lien Law, covenants of receive the consideration for this conveyance and will hold the right to receive such equ trust fund to be applied first for the purpose of paying the cost of the improvement and that it will apply the same first to the payment of the cost of the improvement before using any part of the total same for any other purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the party of the first part has caused its corporate soul so be been affixed and these presents to be signed by its duly authorized officer the day and year fact

70TH ST. HOLDING CO. LHC

STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

On the day 30 , one thousand nine hundred and for ty-nine before me came BPHRAIM BERLINER to me known, who; being by me duly eworn, did depose and say that he resides at No. 365 West End Avenue City of New Egra; that he is the Vice Pres. of 70TH ST. HOLDING CO. INC., in Boro. of Men.

the corporation described in and which executed the foregoing instrument; that of said corporation; that the seal effixed to said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so ger of the Board of Diropore of said corporation, and that

THIS INDENTURE, made the 28th day of , nineteen hundred and sixty-five

PARKSEVENTY IMPROVEMENT CORP., a domestic corporation, having its principal office at 237 East 24th Street, New York City.

party of the first part, and

THE CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL in the City of New York, having its principal office at 8 West 70th Street. New York City, New York,

party of the second part,

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WITNESSETH, that the party of the first part, in consideration of Ten Dollars and other valuable consideration paid by the party of the second part, does hereby grant and release unto the party of the second part, the heirs or successors and assigns of the party of the second part forever,

ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Manhattan, City, County and State of New York, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the southerly side of 70th Street distant 150 feet westerly from the southwesterly corner of 70th Street and Central Park West; running thence southerly and parallel with Central Park West 100 feet 5 inches; thence westerly and parallel with 70th street 22 feet; thence northerly and parallel with Central Park West and through a party wall 100 feet 5 inches to the southerly side of 70th Street; thence easterly along the southerly side of 70th Street 22 feet to the point or place of BEGINNING.

SAID PREMISES now being known as and by the Street Number 10 West 70th Street.

SUBJECT to a mortgage recorded in Liber 5812 of Mortgages. Page 486. in the original amount of \$11,750.00.

THIS CONVEYANCE is executed with the unanimous consent of all stockholders of PARKSEVENTY IMPROVEMENT CORP.

SUBJECT to covenants, easements, reservations and restrictions, if any, of record.

TOGETHER with all right, title and interest, if any, of the party of the first part in and to any streets and roads abutting the above described premises to the center lines thereof; TOGETHER with the appurtenances and all the estate and rights of the party of the first part in and to said premises; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the premises herein granted unto the party of the second part, the heirs or successors and assigns of the party of the second part forever. .

AND the party of the first part covenants that the party of the first part has not done or suffered anything whereby the said premises have been encumbered in any way whatever, except as aforesaid.

AND the party of the first part, in compliance with Section 13 of the Lien Law, covenants that the party of the first part will receive the consideration for this conveyance and will hold the right to receive such consideration as a trust fund to be applied first for the purpose of paying the cost of the improvement and will apply the same first to the payment of the cost of the improvement before using any part of the total of the same for

The word "party" shall be construed as if it read "parties" whenever the sense of this indenture so requires. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the party of the first part has duly executed this deed the day and year first mhove

IN PRESENCE OF:

PARKSEVENTY IMPROVEMENT CORP 61

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CLOSING STATEMENT of closing of title to premises 15 West 70th Street, Manhattan Borough, New York City, pursuant to agreement dated April 9th, 1948, between Hose Brill and Edmund Brill, both residing at 15 West 70th Street, New York City, N. Y., as Transfer and Fitlip 6. Bernheim and Gicia Bernheim, both residing at 49 Kest 86th Street, New York City, N. Y., as Transfer, index the Last Will and Testament of Abraham A. Brill, decembed as Sellers and Alice Meltzoff and Blanche L. Breen, as Pullonasers, which agreement was assigned to Stanley Weltzoff and Wilton W. Brown by assignment dated April 9th, 1948.

Title number 632903 of Lawyers Title Corporation of New York, on sale transaction.

Title number 632902 of Lawyers Title Corporation of New York, on martgage transaction.

Closing of both transactions at office of Barry, Wainwright, Thacher & Symmers, 72 Wall Street, New York City, N. Y., attorneys for The Seamen's Bank for Savings in the City of New York.

Present: Stanley Weltzelf and Milton W. Brown, purchase and borrowers; Mortimer De Groot, a torney for sellers; Max Welss, for Lawyers Title Corporation; Henry W. Proffitt and John J. Schaefer, for attorneys for the Bank.

Paid on contract \$3200.00

Price \$32,000.00
Adjustment of insurance, (see below) 63.99
Water adjustment (\$45) 24.38
100 gallons of fuel on premises at 12.30 per gallon, 12.30
Real estate taxes paid to June 30th, 1948,
(\$496.65) 41.39

Total Credits
Paid on closing

3,200,00

Received from the sellers executor's deed to the purchasers as tenants in common, which deed was delivered to the title company representative for recording.

The sellers expected and delivered to the bank a bond and mortgage in the amount of \$15,000.00, and received a check from the bank for \$15,000.00 made to the order of Rose Brill individually and as executrix and Edmand as Executrix of Abraham Brill, deceased which was delivered over to the attorney for the relieves.

follows:

Check of The Seamn's Sevings Bank aforemention -

ed,

\$15,000.00

Check of Metuchen National Bank, #17941 to the order of Milton

W. brown, and endersed by him
to sellers, 4,225.00

Certified check of Milton W.

Brown, drawn on Manufacturer's

Trust Company, 100 Park Row,

N. Y. C., to his order and
endorsed by him to sellers, 4,346.03

Check of Alice Forder Meltzoff,
certified, and drawn on Chemical
Bank & Trust Company, to the order
of Stanley Meltzoff and endorsed
by him to sellers, 5,371.03

Total paid on closing,

328,942,06

The excess of \$1600.00 paid by Brown on the closing, represents a repayment to Weltzoff of \$1600.00 advanced by Heltzoff for Brown on the payment of \$3800.00 on signing of the contract of purchase.

The insurance premium adjusted on closing represents policy of United States Fire Insurance Company, amount \$45000.00, No. 45855, dated 5/8/47, expires 5/8/50. This policy was delivered to the attorney for the bank to have same changed to the bank as mortgages and the owners, as their interests may appear, and a certificate thereof will be delivered to purchasers upon issuance thereof.

The purchasers also delivered and executed affidavits of citizenship, and an authorization to the bank to pay the aforementioned sum of \$15000,00 direct to the sellers.

Received from attorney for sellers affidavit of Rose Brill that no posthumous child or children has or have been or will be born of her marriage to Abraham A. Brill.

Received from attorney for sellers, receipted tax bill for 1947-1948 real estate taxes, receipted water bill for 1948 water, blue print of survey, keys, and letter of Petroleum Heat & Power Co, inc., as to fuel on premises.

The following expenses were paid by checks of Stanley Meltzoff issued on the closing:

Charges of Lawyers Title Corp., a Examination of title to ree,	s follows:
Unecking survey,	40,00
Mortgage tax on mortgage, Examination of title for	78.00
mortgage policy, Recording deed,	171.00 4.00
"ecording mortgage.	13.00
Total,	\$413.75
Charge of attorneys for bank, Charge of attorney for sellers	¥50,00
for attendance at office of	

15.00

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The bond and mortgage made to the bank is payable as follows, and runs with interest at 45% from June 15th, 1948:

July 1st, 1948, for interest and amortization \$72.08

August 1st, 1948, for interest and amortization, and monthly thereafter, \$\\$135.15\$

June 15th, 1960, balance of mortgage due.

Privilege to pay off mortgage at any time after June 14th, 1933, upon giving 30 days notice and paying 60 days additional interest.

Real estate taxes are due October let and April 1st.

Water rates are due January 1st, 1940 and yearly thereafter and may be paid without penalty during the month of January in each year.

The mortgage also provides that you are to install two kitchens, convert the building to two-family use, and decorate same for use as a doctors offices on the ground floor, all to be completed by Pecember 15th, 1948.

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis 🕕

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What is a dollar worth?

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a market basket of goods and services. The <u>Bureau of Labor Statistics</u> releases CPI data monthly.



- · Consumer Price Index and Inflation Rates, 1913-
- Consumer Price Index and Inflation Rates (Estimate), 1800-
- How the CPI is used to make these calculations

Directions: Enter years as 4 digits (i.e. 1913) through 2008. Enter dollar amount without commas or \$ sign in box on first line. Click Calculate button to compute dollar amount shown on second line.

If in 1965 (year)

I bought goods or services for \$ 1 , then in 2008 (year)

the same goods or services would cost \$ 6.84

(Calculate) (Reset)

Notes:

- · Limited to years from 1913 to 2008.
- Data from consumer price indexes for all major expenditure class items
- An estimate for 2008 is based on the change in the CPI from fourth quarter 2006 to fourth quarter 2007.
- Base year is chained; 1982-1984 = 100
- JavaScript-enabled browsers only.

How the CPI is used to make these calculations.

 What would an item or service purchased in 2008 be worth in 19?? dollars?

Example:

The CPI is used to calculate how prices have changed over the years. Let's say you have \$7 in your pocket to purchase some goods and services today. How much money would you have needed in 1950 to buy the same amount of goods and services?

The CPI for 1950 = 24.1The CPI for 2008 = 215.6Use the following formula to compute the calculation: 1950 Price = 2008 Price × (1950 CPI / 2008 CPI) $$0.78 = $7.00 \times (24.1 / 215.6)$

What would an item or service purchased in 19?? be worth in 2008

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dollars?

Example:

Let's say your parents told you that in 1950 a movie cost 25 cents. . How could you tell if movies have increased in price faster or slower than most goods and services? To convert that price into today's 🔗 dollars, use the CPI.

The CPI for 1950 = 24.1The CPI for 2008 = 215.6A movie in 1950 = \$0.25Use the following formula to compute the calculation: 2008 Price = 1950 Price x (2008 CPI / 1950 CPI) $$2.24 = $0.25 \times (215.6/24.1)$

A full-price movie at a Minneapolis theater costs between \$6.00 and \$9.00. Looks like movies have increased in price faster than most other goods and services.

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Directions: Enter years as 4 digits (i.e. 1913) through 2008. Enter dollar amount without commas or \$ sign in box on first line. Click Calculate button to compute dollar amount shown on second line.

If in 1965 (year)

I bought goods or services for \$ 24500 , then in 2008 (year)

the same goods or services would cost \$ 167688.89

Calculate Reset

Notes:

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