



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Land Conservation and Development

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August 28, 2007



To: Interested Persons

From: Lane Shetterly, Director

Re: *Ballot Measure 37 (ORS 197.352) Claim Number M130769*

Claimant: Leonard Aubert

Enclosed, in regard to the above-referenced claim for compensation under Ballot Measure 37 (ORS 197.352), is the Final Staff Report and Recommendation of the Department of Land Conservation and Development, and the Final Order.

This Final Staff Report and Recommendation and the Final Order constitute the final decision on this claim. No further action will be taken on this matter.

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES,
THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF
THE STATE OF OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM FOR) FINAL ORDER
COMPENSATION UNDER ORS 197.352) CLAIM NO. M130769
(BALLOT MEASURE 37) OF)
Leonard Aubert, CLAIMANT)

Claimant: Leonard Aubert (the Claimant)

Property: Township 1N, Range 10E, Section 33, Tax lots 101 and 201
Hood River County (the Property)

Claim: The demand for compensation and any supporting information received
from the Claimant by the State of Oregon (the Claim).

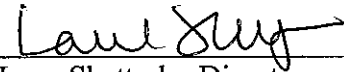
Claimant submitted the Claim to the State of Oregon under ORS 197.352. Under OAR 125-145-0010 *et seq.*, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) referred the Claim to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) as the regulating entity. This order is based on the record herein, including the Findings and Conclusions set forth in the Final Staff Report and Recommendation of DLCD (the DLCD Report) attached to and by this reference incorporated into this order.

ORDER

The Claim is denied as to laws administered by DLCD and the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) for the reasons set forth in the DLCD Report.

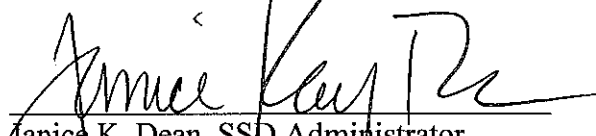
This Order is entered by the Director of the DLCD as a final order of DLCD and the Land Conservation and Development Commission under ORS 197.352, OAR 660-002-0010(8), and OAR chapter 125, division 145, and by the Administrator for the State Services Division of the DAS as a final order of DAS under ORS 197.352, OAR chapter 125, division 145, and ORS chapter 293.

FOR DLCDD AND THE LAND
CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:



Lane Shetterly, Director
DLCDD
Dated this 27th day of August, 2007.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:



Janice K. Dean, SSD Administrator
DAS, State Services Division
Dated this 27th day of August, 2007.

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL OR OTHER JUDICIAL RELIEF

You are entitled, or may be entitled, to the following judicial remedies:

1. Judicial review under ORS 183.484: Judicial review under ORS 183.484 may be obtained by filing a petition for review within 60 days from the service of this order. A petition for judicial review under ORS 183.484 may be filed in the Circuit Court for Marion County or the Circuit Court in the county in which you reside.
2. A cause of action under ORS 197.352 (Measure 37 (2004)): If a land use regulation continues to apply to the subject property more than 180 days after the present owner of the property has made written demand for compensation under ORS 197.352, the present owner of the property, or any interest therein, shall have a cause of action in the circuit court in which the real property is located.

(Copies of the documents that comprise the record are available for review at the Department's office at 635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150, Salem, Oregon 97301-2540)

ORS 197.352 (BALLOT MEASURE 37) CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Final Staff Report and Recommendation

August 27, 2007

STATE CLAIM NUMBER: M130769

NAME OF CLAIMANT: Leonard Aubert

MAILING ADDRESS: 6950 Highway 35
Mt. Hood Parkdale, Oregon 97041

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: Township 1N, Range 10E, Section 33
Tax lots 101 and 201
Hood River County

DATE RECEIVED BY DAS: November 15, 2006

DEADLINE FOR FINAL ACTION:¹ May 8, 2008

I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM

The claimant, Leonard Aubert, seeks compensation in the amount of \$4.5 million for the reduction in fair market value as a result of land use regulations that are alleged to restrict the use of certain private real property.² The claimant desires compensation or the right to divide the 53.26-acre subject property into twenty-one 2.5-acre parcels and to develop a dwelling on each parcel. The subject property is located at 6950 Highway 35, near Parkdale, in Hood River County. (See claim.)

II. SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings and conclusions set forth below, the Department of Land Conservation and Development (the department) has determined that this claim is not valid because the claimant is not an owner of the property. (See the complete recommendation in Section VI. of this report.)

¹ ORS 197.352, as originally enacted, required that final action on claims made under Measure 37 be made within 180 days of the date the claim was filed. In response to the large volume of claims filed in late 2006, the Oregon legislature passed House Bill 3546, which became effective on May 10, 2007. This legislation increased the amount of time state and local governments have to take final action on Measure 37 claims filed on or after November 1, 2006, by 360 days, to a total of 540 days.

² On July 12, 2007, in response to the draft staff report dated June 26, 2007, the claimant submitted a request to amend the claim, changing the claimant from Leonard Aubert to George Aubert Orchards, Inc. The department cannot accept substantive amendments to previously filed claims. If the claimant desires to submit a new claim with a different claimant than set forth in his original claim, he may file a new demand for compensation in accordance with the requirements of ORS 197.352.

III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM

Comments Received

On June 1, 2007, pursuant to Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 125-145-0080, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) provided written notice to the owners of surrounding properties. According to DAS, no written comments were received in response to the 10-day notice.

IV. TIMELINESS OF CLAIM

Requirement

ORS 197.352(5) requires that a written demand for compensation be made:

1. For claims arising from land use regulations enacted prior to the effective date of Measure 37 (December 2, 2004), within two years of that effective date, or the date the public entity applies the land use regulation as an approval criteria to an application submitted by the owner, whichever is later; or
2. For claims arising from land use regulations enacted after the effective date of Measure 37 (December 2, 2004), within two years of the enactment of the land use regulation, or the date the owner of the property submits a land use application in which the land use regulation is an approval criteria, whichever is later.

Findings of Fact

This claim was submitted to DAS on November 15, 2006, for processing under OAR 125, division 145. The claim identifies ORS 215 as the basis for the claim. Only laws that were enacted or adopted prior to December 2, 2004, are the basis for this claim.

Conclusions

The claim has been submitted within two years of the effective date of Measure 37 (December 2, 2004), based on land use regulations enacted or adopted prior to December 2, 2004, and is therefore timely filed.

V. ANALYSIS OF CLAIM

1. Ownership

ORS 197.352 provides for payment of compensation or relief from specific laws for "owners" as that term is defined in ORS 197.352. ORS 197.352 (11)(C) defines "owner" as "the present owner of the property, or any interest therein."

Findings of Fact

The claim does not include any deeds or otherwise establish that the claimant is an owner of the subject property. The claim includes only a tax statement indicating that George Aubert Orchards, Inc. and not the claimant, owns the subject property. The Hood River County Assessor's Office confirms George Aubert Orchards, Inc.'s current ownership of the subject property.³

Conclusions

The claimant, Leonard Aubert, has not established that he is an "owner" of the subject property as that term is defined in ORS 197.352(11)(C).

2. The Laws That are the Basis for This Claim

In order to establish a valid claim, ORS 197.352(1) requires, in part, that a law must restrict the claimant's use of private real property in a manner that reduces the fair market value of the property relative to how the property could have been used at the time the claimant or a family member acquired the property.

The claim indicates that the claimant desires to divide the 53.26-acre subject property into twenty-one 2.5-acre parcels and to develop a dwelling on each parcel, and that current land use regulations prevent the desired use.

As explained in Section V.(1) above, the claimant, Leonard Aubert, is not an "owner" of the subject property as that term is defined in ORS 197.352(11)(C). Therefore, no laws enforced by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (the Commission) or the department restrict the claimant's desired use of the subject property with the effect of reducing the fair market value of the property.

3. Effect of Regulations on Fair Market Value

In order to establish a valid claim, ORS 197.352(1) requires that the land use regulations (described in Section V.(2) of this report) must have "the effect of reducing the fair market value of the property, or any interest therein."

As explained in Section V.(1) of this report, the claimant, Leonard Aubert, is not an owner of the subject property as that term is defined in ORS 197.352(11)(C). Therefore, no laws restrict the claimant's use of the subject property with the effect of reducing the fair market value of the subject property.

³ The claimant states that George Aubert Orchards, Inc. acquired the subject property on July 19, 1974, but provides no supporting documentation. According to the Secretary of State's online business registry, George Aubert Orchards, Inc. is an Oregon corporation. The claimant is not listed as an agent or as an officer for the corporation.

On July 12, 2007, in response to the draft staff report dated June 26, 2007, the claimant submitted documentation concerning George Aubert Orchards, Inc.'s ownership of the subject property. No documentation was submitted supporting the claimant's current ownership of the subject property.

4. Exemptions Under ORS 197.352(3)

ORS 197.352 does not apply to certain land use regulations. In addition, under ORS 197.352(3), certain types of laws are exempt from ORS 197.352.

As explained in Section V.(1) of this report, the claimant, Leonard Aubert, is not an owner of the subject property as that term is defined in ORS 197.352(11)(C). Therefore, the issue of whether any laws are exempt from ORS 197.352 is not relevant to this claim.

VI. FORM OF RELIEF

ORS 197.352(1) provides for payment of compensation to an owner of private real property if the Commission or the department has enforced one or more laws that restrict the use of the property in a manner that reduces its fair market value. In lieu of compensation, the department may choose to not apply the law in order to allow the present owner to carry out a use of the property permitted at the time the present owner acquired the property. The Commission, by rule, has directed that if the department determines a claim is valid, the Director of the department must provide only non-monetary relief unless and until funds are appropriated by the legislature to pay claims.

Findings of Fact

Based on the record, the department finds that the claim is not valid because the claimant is not an owner of the subject property.

Conclusions

Based on the record before the department, the claimant, Leonard Aubert, has not established that he is entitled to relief under ORS 197.352(1) as a result of land use regulations enforced by the Commission or the department because the claimant is not an owner of the subject property. Therefore, the department recommends that this claim be denied.

VII. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STAFF REPORT

The department issued its draft staff report on this claim on June 26, 2007. OAR 125-145 0100(3), provided an opportunity for the claimant or the claimant's authorized agent and any third parties who submitted comments under OAR 125-145-0080 to submit written comments, evidence and information in response to the draft staff report and recommendation.