



**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT**

**ORS 195.300 to ORS 195.336 (MEASURE 49) SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW
OF MEASURE 37 CLAIM
Preliminary Evaluation**

October 13, 2009

STATE ELECTION NUMBER:

E130667

CLAIMANTS:

Ernest L. and Juanita J. Dickson
PO Box 841
Sutherlin, OR 97479

**MEASURE 37 PROPERTY
IDENTIFICATION:**

Township 25S, Range 5W
Section 4, Tax lot 1900¹
Section 4DA, Tax lot 2400
Douglas County

I. ELECTION

The claimants, Ernest and Juanita Dickson, filed a claim with the state under ORS 197.352 (2005) (Measure 37) on November 13, 2006, for property located near Oakland, in Douglas County. ORS 195.300 to ORS 195.336 (Measure 49) entitles claimants who filed Measure 37 claims to elect supplemental review of their claims. The claimants have elected supplemental review of their Measure 37 claim under Section 6 of Measure 49, which allows the Department of Land Conservation and Development (the department) to authorize up to three home site approvals to qualified claimants.

II. SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY EVALUATION

Based on the department's preliminary analysis, it appears that the claimants are qualified for two home site approvals on the Measure 37 claim property. The claimants' property, including both the Measure 37 claim property and all contiguous property in the same ownership, currently appears to consist of four lots or parcels, which are developed with one dwelling. After taking into account the number of lots, parcels and dwellings currently located on the Measure 37 claim property and the contiguous property under the same ownership, it appears that the home site approvals will allow the claimants to establish two additional dwellings on the two lots or parcels that comprise tax lot 1900.

¹ In the Douglas County Measure 37 report, the county states that tax lot 1900 of the Measure 37 claim property consists of two legal parcels, a 5.3-acre parcel and a 10-acre parcel. In reliance on that report, this preliminary evaluation considers tax lot 1900 of the Measure 37 claim property as two legal parcels and the entire Measure 37 claim property as three legal parcels.

The claimants are not eligible for relief on tax lot 2400 of the Measure 37 claim property because the claimants would not have been lawfully permitted to establish a dwelling on that tax lot at the time they acquired the property.

III. THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF HOME SITE APPROVALS FOR WHICH THE CLAIMANTS MAY QUALIFY

Under Section 6 of Measure 49, the number of home site approvals authorized by the department cannot exceed the lesser of the following: three; the number stated by the claimants in the election material; or the number described in a Measure 37 waiver issued by the state, or if no waiver was issued, the number of home sites described in the Measure 37 claim filed with the state. The claimants have requested three home site approvals in the election material. The Measure 37 waiver issued for this claim describes three home sites. Therefore, the claimants may qualify for a maximum of three home site approvals under Section 6 of Measure 49.

IV. PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF QUALIFICATION FOR HOME SITE APPROVAL

1. Preliminary Analysis

To qualify for a home site approval under Section 6 of Measure 49, a claimants must have filed a Measure 37 claim for the property with either the state or the county in which the property is located on or before June 28, 2007, and must have filed a Measure 37 claim with both the state and the county before Measure 49 became effective on December 6, 2007. If the state Measure 37 claim was filed after December 4, 2006, the claim must also have been filed in compliance with the provisions of OAR 660-041-0020 then in effect.

The claimants, Ernest and Juanita Dickson, filed a Measure 37 claim, M130667, with the state on November 13, 2006. The claimants filed Measure 37 claims, M37-84 and M37-85, with Douglas County on November 9, 2006. The state claim was filed prior to December 4, 2006.

It appears that the claimants timely filed a Measure 37 claim with both the state and Douglas County.

In addition to filing a claim with both the state and the county in which the property is located, to qualify for a home site approval under Section 6 of Measure 49 the claimants must establish each of the following:

(a) The Claimants is an Owner of the Property

Measure 49 defines "Owner" as: "(a) The owner of fee title to the property as shown in the deed records of the county where the property is located; (b) The purchaser under a land sale contract, if there is a recorded land sale contract in force for the property; or (c) If the property is owned by the trustee of a revocable trust, the settlor of a revocable trust, except that when the trust becomes irrevocable only the trustee is the owner."

According to the deed submitted by the claimants, Ernest and Juanita Dickson are the owners of fee title to the property as shown in the Douglas County deed records and, therefore, are owners of the property under Measure 49.

(b) All Owners of the Property Have Consented in Writing to the Claim

It appears that the claimants are the sole owners of the property. Therefore, no additional consent is required.

(c) The Measure 37 Claim Property Is Located Entirely Outside Any Urban Growth Boundary and Entirely Outside the Boundaries of Any City

The Measure 37 claim property is located in Douglas County, outside the urban growth boundary and outside the city limits of the nearest city, Oakland.

(d) One or More Land Use Regulations Prohibit Establishing the Dwelling

As stated in Section III above, the claimants may qualify for up to three home site approvals.

The property is currently zoned Farm Forest (FF) by Douglas County, in accordance with Goals 3 and 4, as implemented by OAR 660-006-0050. State land use regulations, including applicable provisions of ORS chapter 215 and OAR 660, divisions 6 and 33, provide standards for the establishment of a dwelling in a mixed farm/forest zone. In general and subject to some exceptions, those standards require that the property be a minimum of 80 acres and generate a minimum annual income from the sale of farm or forest products.

The combined effect of the standards for the establishment of a dwelling in a mixed farm/forest zone is to prohibit the claimants from establishing a dwelling on each of the three lots or parcels that comprise the Measure 37 claim property.

(e) The Establishment of the Dwelling Is Not Prohibited by a Land Use Regulation Described in ORS 195.305(3)

ORS 195.305(3) exempts from claims under Measure 49 land use regulations:

- (a) Restricting or prohibiting activities commonly and historically recognized as public nuisances under common law;
- (b) Restricting or prohibiting activities for the protection of public health and safety;
- (c) To the extent the land use regulation is required to comply with federal law; or
- (d) Restricting or prohibiting the use of a property for the purpose of selling pornography or performing nude dancing.

Based on the documentation submitted by the claimants, it does not appear that the establishment of the three home sites for which the claimants may qualify on the property would be prohibited by land use regulations described in ORS 195.305(3).

(f) On the Claimant's Acquisition Date, the Claimants Lawfully Was Permitted to Establish at Least the Number of Dwellings on the Property That Are Authorized Under Section 6 of Measure 49

A claimant's acquisition date is "the date the claimants became the owner of the property as shown in the deed records of the county in which the property is located. If there is more than one claimant for the same property under the same claim and the claimants have different acquisition dates, the acquisition date is the earliest of those dates."

Douglas County deed records indicate that the claimants acquired the property on November 15, 1974.

On November 15, 1974, the Measure 37 claim property was subject to state statutes and Douglas County's Forest Recreation (FR) zone. Douglas County's Forest Recreation zone required at least five acres for the establishment of a dwelling on an established vacant lot or parcel. The Measure 37 claim property consists of three lots or parcels that are .75-, 5.33- and 10-acres in size. Therefore, under the local zoning then in effect, the claimants lawfully could only have established two home sites, one each on the 5.33- and 10-acre lots or parcels, on the Measure 37 claim property on their date of acquisition.

However, state law in effect when the claimants acquired the property, specifically ORS 197.175(1) and 197.280 (1973 edition), required that counties exercise their planning responsibilities in accordance with the interim land use planning goals set forth in ORS 215.515 (1973 edition). Those interim land use planning goals included: "To preserve the quality of the air, water and land resources of the state"; "To conserve prime farm lands for the production of crops"; "To provide for the orderly and efficient transition from rural to urban land use"; "To protect life and property in areas subject to floods, landslides and other natural disasters"; and "To develop a timely, orderly and efficient arrangement of public facilities and services to serve as a framework for urban and rural development" ORS 215.515 (1973 edition).

The applicable provisions of the interim goals are furthered by provisions of Section 6 of Measure 49, which limits the number of home sites authorized, and by Section 11(3), which regulates the size and location of lots or parcels on high-value farm or forest land. Measure 49 Section 11(3) requires new parcels on high-value farm or forest land to be no larger than two acres and "clustered so as to maximize suitability of the remnant lot or parcel for farm or forest use."

The claimants seek through this process only to develop dwellings on previously existing lots or parcels. The relevant provisions of ORS chapter 197 and ORS 215.515 would not have prohibited the county from approving development of one dwelling on the 5.33- and 10-acre lots or parcels that comprise the Measure 37 claim property on the claimants' acquisition date.

2. Preliminary Conclusion

Based on the preliminary analysis, it appears that the claimants, Ernest and Juanita Dickson, qualify for two home site approvals on the two lots or parcels comprising tax lot 1900 under Section 6 of Measure 49.

The claimants are not eligible for relief on tax lot 2400 of the Measure 37 claim property because the claimants would not have been lawfully permitted to establish a dwelling on that tax lot at the time they acquired the property.

V. NUMBER OF LOTS, PARCELS OR DWELLINGS ON OR CONTAINED WITHIN THE PROPERTY

The number of dwellings that a claimant is authorized to establish pursuant to a home site authorization is reduced by the number of dwellings currently in existence on the Measure 37 claim property and any contiguous property under the same ownership according to the methodology stated in Section 6(2)(b) and 6(3) of Measure 49. However, if a claimant otherwise qualifies for relief under Section 6 of Measure 49, the claimant will be able to establish one additional dwelling, regardless of the number of dwellings currently in existence.

Based on the documentation provided by the claimants and information from Douglas County, the Measure 37 claim property appears to currently include three lots or parcels and no dwellings. As demonstrated by deed cards obtained by the department, the claimants also own tax lot 2200 (T25S R5W S4) which is contiguous to the Measure 37 claim property. The contiguous property under the same ownership appears to include one lot or parcel and one dwelling. Together, it appears that the Measure 37 claim property and the contiguous property in the same ownership include four lots or parcels and one dwelling. Therefore, the two home site approvals the claimants appear to qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49 will allow the claimants to establish two additional dwellings, one on each of the lots or parcels comprising tax lot 1900. The number of dwellings the claimants may be able to establish on the Measure 37 claim property pursuant to the two home site approvals is not reduced by the contiguous lot or parcel and dwelling in the same ownership because it appears that the total number of lots, parcels with dwellings that would exist on the Measure 37 claim property and the contiguous property in the same ownership would not exceed three if the claimants established two additional dwellings on the Measure 37 claim property. Therefore, the two home site approvals the claimants appear to qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49 will allow the claimants to establish up to two additional dwellings on the two lots or parcels that comprise tax lot 1900 of the Measure 37 claim property.

VI. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF PROPOSED LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS ON THE NUMBER AND SCOPE OF HOME SITE APPROVALS

The department has identified the following limitations and conditions that may affect the number or scope of the home site approvals that the claimants would otherwise be entitled to under Section 6 of Measure 49. This list may not be comprehensive and does not preclude the

possibility that other considerations, not yet identified by the department, may affect the establishment of a dwelling authorized by a home site approval.

1. The establishment of a dwelling based on a Measure 49 home site authorization must comply with all applicable standards governing the siting or development of the dwelling. However, those standards must not be applied in a manner that prohibits the establishment of the dwelling, unless the standards are reasonably necessary to avoid or abate a nuisance, to protect public health or safety, or to carry out federal law.
2. A home site authorization will not authorize the establishment of a dwelling in violation of a land use regulation described in ORS 195.305(3) or in violation of any other law that is not a land use regulation as defined by ORS 195.300(14).
3. A claimant is not eligible for more than 20 home site approvals under Sections 5 to 11 of Measure 49 regardless of how many properties a claimants owns or how many claims a claimants filed.
4. The number of dwellings a claimant may be eligible to establish under a Measure 49 home site authorization is reduced by the number of dwellings currently in existence on the Measure 37 claim property and contiguous property in the same ownership, regardless of whether evidence of their existence has been provided to the department. If, based on the information available to the department, the department has calculated the number of currently existing dwellings to be either greater than or less than the number of dwellings actually in existence on the Measure 37 claim property or contiguous property under the same ownership, then the number of additional dwellings a claimants may establish pursuant to this home site authorization must be adjusted according to the methodology stated in Section 6(2)(b) and 6(3) of Measure 49.
5. Temporary dwellings are not considered in determining the number of existing dwellings currently on the property. The claimants may choose to convert any temporary dwelling currently located on the property on which the claimants are eligible for Measure 49 relief to an authorized home site pursuant to a Measure 49 home site approval. Otherwise, any temporary dwelling is subject to the terms of the local permit requirements under which it was approved, and is subject to removal at the end of the term for which it is allowed.
6. A home site approval only authorizes the establishment of a new dwelling on the property on which the claimants are eligible for Measure 49 relief. No additional development is authorized on contiguous property for which no Measure 37 claim was filed.
7. The claimants may use a home site approval to convert a dwelling currently located on the property on which the claimants are eligible for Measure 49 relief to an authorized home site. If the number of dwellings existing on the property on which the claimants are eligible for Measure 49 relief exceeds the number of home site approvals the claimants qualify for under a home site authorization, the claimants may select which existing dwellings to convert to authorized home sites.

8. The claimants may not implement the relief described in a Measure 49 Home Site Authorization if a claimant has been determined to have a common law vested right to a use described in a Measure 37 waiver for the property. Therefore, if a claimant has been determined in a final judgment or final order that is not subject to further appeal to have a common law vested right as described in section 5(3) of Measure 49 to any use on the Measure 37 claim property, then any Measure 49 Home Site Authorization for the property will be void. However, so long as no claimants has been determined in such a final judgment or final order to have a common law vested right to a use described in a Measure 37 waiver for the property, a use that has been completed on the property pursuant to a Measure 37 waiver may be converted to an authorized home site.
9. A home site approval does not authorize the establishment of a new dwelling on a lot or parcel that already contains one or more dwellings.
10. Because the property is located in a mixed farm and forest zone, the owner must comply with the requirements of ORS 215.293 before beginning construction.
11. If an owner of the property is authorized by other home site approvals to subdivide, partition, or establish dwellings on other Measure 37 claim properties, Measure 49 authorizes the owner to cluster some or all of the authorized lots, parcels or dwellings that would otherwise be located on land in an exclusive farm use zone, a forest zone or a mixed farm and forest zone on a single Measure 37 claim property that is zoned residential use or is located in an exclusive farm use zone, a forest zone or a mixed farm and forest zone but is less suitable for farm or forest use than the other Measure 37 claim properties.
12. Once the department issues a final home site authorization, a home site approval granted under that authorization will run with the property and will transfer with the property. A home site approval will not expire, except that if a claimants who received a home site authorization later conveys the property to a party other than the claimant's spouse or the trustee of a revocable trust in which the claimants is the settlor, the subsequent owner of the property must establish the authorized dwellings within 10 years of the conveyance. A dwelling lawfully created based on a home site approval is a permitted use.

VII. NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

A claimant or a claimant's authorized agent, a county and any third party may submit written comments, evidence and information in response to the preliminary evaluation. The comments, evidence and information must be filed with the department no more than twenty-eight (28) calendar days after the date this evaluation is mailed to the claimants and the claimants' agent and notice of this evaluation is mailed to third parties.

The department will mail a copy of all materials timely filed by a county or a third party with the department to the claimants and the claimants' agent. A claimants or a claimants' authorized agent may then file written comments, evidence or information in response to the materials filed by the third party or county. That response must be filed no more than twenty-one (21) calendar days after the date the department mails the materials to the claimants and the claimants' authorized agent.

All comments, evidence and information in response to the preliminary evaluation and all responses to materials filed by a third party or a county shall be delivered to Supplemental Measure 49 Claim Review, 635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150, Salem, Oregon 97301-2540 and will be deemed timely filed either (1) if actually delivered to the department before the close of business on the final eligible calendar day, or (2) if mailed on or before the final eligible calendar day.

Note: Please reference the claim number and claimants name and clearly mark your comments as "Preliminary Evaluation Comments." Comments must be submitted in original written form only. Comments submitted electronically or by facsimile will not be accepted.