

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

July 26, 2006

**STATE CLAIM NUMBER:** M122607

**NAMES OF CLAIMANTS:** Sharon Matts (personal representative,  
Estate of Lois Lucille Curtis)  
Richard Lane Curtis  
Timothy Jack Curtis

**MAILING ADDRESS:** Sharon Matts  
265 NE 36th Street  
Newport, Oregon 97365

Richard Lane Curtis  
PO Box 111042  
Anchorage, Alaska 99511

Timothy Jack Curtis  
8072 Pudding Creek Drive SE  
Salem, Oregon 97317

**PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION:** Township 09, Range 09, Section 33  
Tax lot 601  
Lincoln County

**OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION:** Kurt Carstens  
PO Box 1730  
Newport, Oregon 97365

**DATE RECEIVED BY DAS:** October 3, 2005

**180-DAY DEADLINE:** August 18, 2006<sup>1</sup>

**I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM**

The claimants, Sharon Matts, Richard Lane Curtis and Timothy Jack Curtis, seek compensation in the amount of \$53,000 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. The claimants desire

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<sup>1</sup> This date reflects 180 days from the date the claim was submitted, as extended by the 139 days that all timelines under Measure 37 were suspended during the pendency of *MacPherson v. Dept. of Admin. Svcs.*, 340 Or 117 (2006).

compensation or the right to develop a dwelling on the subject property. The subject property is located at 422 Gibson Lane, near Logsdon, in Lincoln County. (See claim.)

## **II. SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Based on the preliminary findings and conclusions set forth below, the Department of Land Conservation and Development (the department) has determined that the claim is valid. Department staff recommends that, in lieu of compensation, the requirements of the following state laws enforced by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (the Commission) or the department not apply to the claimants' development of a dwelling on the subject property: applicable provisions of Statewide Planning Goal 3 (Agricultural Lands), ORS 215 and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 660, division 33, enacted or adopted after February 6, 2005. These laws will not apply to the claimants only to the extent necessary to allow them to use the subject property for the use described in this report, and only to the extent that use was permitted when they acquired the property on February 6, 2005. The department acknowledges that the relief to which the claimants are entitled under ORS 197.352 will not allow the claimants to use the subject property in the manner set forth in the claim. (See the complete recommendation in Section VI. of this report.)

## **III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM**

### **Comments Received**

On May 23, 2006, pursuant to OAR 125-145-0080, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) provided written notice to the owners of surrounding properties. According to DAS, one written comment was received in response to the 10-day notice.

The comment does not address whether the claim meets the criteria for relief under ORS 197.352. Comments concerning the effects a use of the property may have on surrounding areas are generally not something that the department is able to consider in determining whether to waive a state law. If funds do become available to pay compensation, then such effects may become relevant in determining which claims to pay compensation for instead of waive a state law. (See the comment letter in the department's claim file.)

## **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 October 3, 2005, for processing under OAR 125, division 145. The claim identifies Goal 3, ORS 197.040 and “all statewide planning goals, rules, and statutes adopted or enforced since Lois Lucille Curtis purchased the property” 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 claimants, Sharon Matts, Richard Lane Curtis and Timothy Jack Curtis, acquired the subject property on February 6, 2005, upon the death of their mother, Lois Lucille Curtis, as reflected by the petition for probate of will and appointment of personal representative included with the claim. Lois Lucille Curtis acquired the subject property on April 17, 1978, as evidenced by a real estate contract included with the claim. The Lincoln County Assessor’s Office confirms the claimants’ current ownership of the subject property.

### **Conclusions**

The claimants, Sharon Matts, Richard Lane Curtis and Timothy Jack Curtis, are “owners” of the subject property as that term is defined by ORS 197.352(11)(C), as of February 6, 2005. Lois Lucille Curtis is a “family member” as defined by ORS 197.352(11)(A) and acquired the subject property on April 17, 1978.

### **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 claimants’ 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 claimants or a family member acquired the property.

## Findings of Fact

The claim indicates that the claimants desire to develop a dwelling on the subject property and that Goal 3, ORS 197.040 and “all statewide planning goals, rules and statutes adopted or enforced since Lois Lucille Curtis purchased the property” prevent the desired use.<sup>2</sup>

The claim is based generally on Lincoln County’s current Agricultural Conservation (A-C) zone and the applicable provisions of state law that require such zoning. The claimants’ property is zoned A-C as required by Goal 3, in accordance with ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, because the claimants’ property is “agricultural land” as defined by Goal 3.<sup>3</sup> Goal 3 became effective on January 25, 1975, and required that agricultural lands as defined by the Goal be zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) pursuant to ORS 215.

Current land use regulations, particularly ORS 215.284 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted pursuant to Goal 3, establish standards for the development of dwellings on existing or any proposed parcel on EFU-zoned land.

OAR 660-033-0135 (applicable to farm dwellings) became effective on March 1, 1994, and interprets the statutory standard for a primary dwelling in an EFU zone under ORS 215.283(1)(f). OAR 660-033-0130(4) (applicable to non-farm dwellings) became effective on August 7, 1993, and was amended to comply with ORS 215.284(4) on March 1, 1994. The Commission subsequently adopted amendments to comply with House Bill 3326 (Chapter 704, Oregon Laws 2001, effective on January 1, 2002), which were effective on May 22, 2002. (See administrative rule history for OAR 660-033-0100, -0130 and 0135.)

The claimants’ family member acquired the subject property in 1978, after the adoption of the statewide planning goals, but before the Commission acknowledged Lincoln County’s land use regulations to be in compliance with the statewide planning goals pursuant to ORS 197.250 and 197.251<sup>4</sup>. Because the Commission had not acknowledged the county’s plan and land use regulations when the claimants’ family member acquired the subject property on April 17, 1978, the statewide planning goals, and Goal 3 in particular, applied directly to the subject property when the claimants’ family member acquired it.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> The claimants summarily cite numerous state land use laws as applicable to this claim, but do not establish how the laws either apply to the claimants’ desired use of the subject property or restrict its use with the effect of reducing its fair market value. On their face, most of these regulations either do not apply to the claimants’ property or do not restrict the claimants’ desired use of the property in a manner that reduces its fair market value. This report addresses only those regulations that the department finds are applicable to and restrict the claimants’ use of the subject property, based on the claimants’ asserted desired use.

<sup>3</sup> The claimants’ property is “agricultural land” because it contains National Resources Conservation Service Class I-IV soils.

<sup>4</sup> Lincoln County’s comprehensive plan was acknowledged on January 18, 1983.

<sup>5</sup> The statewide planning goals became effective on January 25, 1975, and were applicable to legislative land use decisions and some quasi-judicial land use decisions prior to the Commission’s acknowledgment of each county’s comprehensive plan and implementing regulations. *Perkins v. City of Rajneeshpuram*, 300 Or 1 (1985); *Alexanderson v. Polk County*, 289 Or 427, rev. den 290 Or 137 (1980); *Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn. v. Clackamas County*, 280 Or 3 (1977); *Jurgenson v. Union County*, 42 Or App 505 (1979); and *1000 Friends of Oregon v. Benton County*, 32 Or App 413 (1978). After the county’s plan and land use regulations were acknowledged by the Commission, the statewide planning goals and implementing rules no longer applied directly to such local land use decisions. *Byrd v. Stringer*, 295 Or 311 (1983). However, statutory requirements continue to apply, and insofar as

As adopted on January 25, 1975, Goal 3 required that agricultural land be preserved and zoned for EFU pursuant to ORS 215. Under the Goal 3 standards in effect on April 17, 1978, farm dwellings were allowed if they were determined to be "customarily provided in conjunction with farm use" under ORS 215.213(1)(e) (1973 edition). Non-farm dwellings were subject to compliance with ORS 215.213(3) (1973 edition).

No information has been presented in the claim to establish that the claimants' desired development of a dwelling on the subject property satisfies the standards for farm or non-farm dwellings under ORS 215.213 (1973 edition).

### **Conclusions**

The current zoning requirements, minimum lot size and dwelling standards established by Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, do not allow the claimants' desired development of the subject property. However, the claim does not establish whether or the extent to which the claimants' desired use of the subject property complies with the standards for development under the requirements of Goal 3 and ORS 215 in effect when the claimants' family member acquired the subject property on April 17, 1978.

### **3. Effect of Regulations on Fair Market Value**

In order to establish a valid claim, ORS 197.352(1) requires that the land use regulation(s) (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."

### **Findings of Fact**

The claim includes an estimate of \$53,000 as the reduction in the subject property's fair market value due to the regulation(s). This amount is based on an appraisal report.

### **Conclusions**

As explained in Section V.(1) of this report, the claimants are the Sharon Matts, Richard Lane Curtis and Timothy Jack Curtis whose family member acquired the subject property in 1978. Under ORS 197.352, the claimants are due compensation for land use regulations that restrict the use of the property and have the effect of reducing its fair market value. Based on the findings and conclusions in Section V.(2) of this report, laws enacted or adopted since the claimants' family member acquired the subject property restrict the claimants' desired use of the property. The claimants estimate that the effect of the regulations(s) on the fair market value of the subject property is a reduction of \$53,000.

Without additional documentation, and without verification of whether or the extent to which the claimants' desired use of the subject property was allowed under the standards in effect when the claimants' family member acquired the property, it is not possible to substantiate the specific

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the state and local provisions are materially the same, the local provisions must be interpreted consistent with the substance of the goals and implementing rules. *Forster v. Polk County*, 115 Or App 475 (1992) and *Kenagy v. Benton County*, 115 Or App 131 (1992).

dollar amount by which the land use regulations have reduced the fair market value of the subject property. Nevertheless, based on the evidence in the record for this claim, the department determines that the fair market value of the subject property has been reduced to some extent as a result of land use regulations enforced by the Commission or the department since the claimants' family member acquired the 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.

#### **Findings of Fact**

The claim is based on state land use regulations that restrict the use of the subject property relative to the uses permitted when the claimants' family member acquired the property, including applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, which Lincoln County has implemented through its current A-C zone. With the exception of Goal 3 and ORS 215 in effect in 1978, these land use regulations were enacted or adopted after the claimants' family member acquired the subject property.

#### **Conclusions**

It appears that with the exception of provisions of Goal 3 and ORS 215 in effect in 1978, the statutory, goal and rule restrictions on development of the claimants' property were not in effect when the claimants' family member acquired it, and therefore, these laws are not exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E). Provisions of Goal 3 and ORS 215 in effect when the claimants' family member acquired the subject property in 1978 are exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E) and do not provide a basis for compensation. In addition, other land use laws enacted or adopted for a purpose set forth in ORS 197.352(3)(A) to (D) are also exempt and would not provide a basis for compensation.

### **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 findings and conclusions set forth in this report, laws enforced by the Commission or the department restrict the claimants' desired use of the subject property. The claim asserts that existing state land use regulations enforced by the Commission or the department have the effect of reducing the fair market value of the subject property by \$53,000. However, without

additional documentation or relevant evidence demonstrating that the land use regulations described in Section V.(2) reduce the fair market value of the subject property, a specific amount of compensation cannot be determined. In order to determine a specific amount of compensation due for this claim, it would also be necessary to verify whether or the extent to which the claimants' desired use of the subject property was allowed under the standards in effect when the claimants' family member acquired the property. Nevertheless, based on the record for this claim, the department has determined that the laws on which the claim is based have reduced the fair market value of the subject property to some extent.

No funds have been appropriated at this time for the payment of claims. In lieu of payment of compensation, ORS 197.352 authorizes the department to modify, remove or not apply all or parts of certain land use regulations to allow Sharon Matts, Richard Lane Curtis and Timothy Jack Curtis to use the subject property for a use permitted at the time they acquired the property on February 6, 2005.

At the time the claimants acquired an interest in the subject property, it was zoned EFU by Lincoln County and subject to the current lot size and dwelling standards under Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, and as described in Section V.(2) of this report.

This report addresses only those state laws that are identified in the claim, or that the department is certain apply to the subject property based on the uses that the claimants have identified. Similarly, this report only addresses the exemptions provided for under ORS 197.352(3) that are clearly applicable given the information provided to the department in the claim. The claimants should be aware that the less information they have provided to the department in their claim, the greater the possibility that there may be additional laws that will later be determined to continue to apply to their use of the subject property.

### **Conclusions**

Based on the record, the department recommends that the claim be approved, subject to the following terms:

1. In lieu of compensation under ORS 197.352, the State of Oregon will not apply the following laws to the claimants' development of a dwelling on the parcel: applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted after February 6, 2005. The department acknowledges that the relief to which the claimants are entitled under ORS 197.352 will not allow the claimants to use the subject property in the manner set forth in the claim.
2. The action by the State of Oregon provides the state's authorization to the claimants to use the property subject to the standards in effect on February 6, 2005. At that time, the property was subject to applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, currently in effect.
3. To the extent that any law, order, deed, agreement or other legally enforceable public or private requirement provides that the subject property may not be used without a permit, license or other form of authorization or consent, the order will not authorize the use of the property unless the claimants first obtain that permit, license or other form of authorization or consent. Such requirements may include, but are not limited to: a building permit, a land use decision, a

“permit” as defined in ORS 215.402 or 227.160, other permits or authorizations from local, state or federal agencies and restrictions on the use of the subject property imposed by private parties.

4. Any use of the subject property by the claimants under the terms of the order will remain subject to the following laws: (a) those laws not specified in (1) above; (b) any laws enacted or enforced by a public entity other than the Commission or the department; and (c) those laws not subject to ORS 197.352 including, without limitation, those laws exempted under ORS 197.352(3).

5. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing terms and conditions, in order for the claimants to use the subject property, it may be necessary for them to obtain a decision under ORS 197.352 from a city and/or county and/or metropolitan service district that enforces land use regulations applicable to the property. Nothing in this order relieves the claimants from the necessity of obtaining a decision under ORS 197.352 from a local public entity that has jurisdiction to enforce a land use regulation applicable to a use of the subject property by the claimants.

## **VII. NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT**

This staff report is not a final decision by the department and does not authorize any use of the property that is the subject of this report. OAR 125-145-0100 provides an opportunity for the claimants 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. Such response must be filed no more than 10 calendar days after the date this report is mailed to the claimants and any third parties. Responses to this draft staff report and recommendation will be considered only as comments related to the claim described in this report. All responses must be delivered to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Measure 37 Unit, Risk Management–State Services Division, 1225 Ferry Street SE, U160, Salem, Oregon 97301-4292 and will be deemed timely filed if either postmarked on the tenth day, or actually delivered to DAS by the close of business on the tenth day. Note: Please reference the claim number, claimant name and clearly mark your comments as “Draft Staff Report comments.” Comments must be submitted in writing only. Those comments submitted electronically or by facsimile will not be accepted.