

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. M 118565
(BALLOT MEASURE 37) OF)
Norman and Dorothy Pratt, CLAIMANTS)

Claimants: Norman and Dorothy Pratt (the Claimants)

Property: Tax lot 3400, Township 1S, Range 45E, Section 33, Wallowa County
(the property)

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

Claimants 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 Deputy 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 Deputy 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.

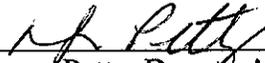
FOR DLCD AND THE LAND
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION:
Lane Shetterly, Director



George Naughton, Deputy Director
DLCD

Dated this 14th day of April, 2006.

FOR the DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:



Dugan Petty, Deputy Administrator
DAS, State Services Division

Dated this 14th day of April, 2006.

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 197.352¹, 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)

¹ By order of the Marion County Circuit Court, "all time lines under Measure 37 [were] suspended indefinitely" on October 25, 2005. This suspension was lifted on March 13, 2006 by the court. As a result, a period of 139 days (the number of days the time lines were suspended) has been added to the 180-day time period under ORS 197.352(6) for claims that were pending with the state on October 25, 2005.

ORS 197.352 (BALLOT MEASURE 37) CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION

**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Final Staff Report and Recommendation**

April 14, 2006

STATE CLAIM NUMBER: M118565

NAMES OF CLAIMANTS: Norman and Dorothy Pratt

MAILING ADDRESS: 66715 Replinger Lane
Enterprise, Oregon 97828

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: Township 1S, Range 45E, Section 33
Tax lot 3400
Wallowa County

DATE RECEIVED BY DAS: June 6, 2005

180-DAY DEADLINE: April 21, 2006¹

I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM

The claimants, Norman and Dorothy Pratt, seek compensation in the amount of \$2.4 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. The claimants desire compensation or the right to divide the 160-acre property into 32 five-acre parcels and to develop a dwelling on each parcel. The subject property is located at 66715 Replinger Lane, near Enterprise, in Wallowa 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 claimants have not established their ownership of the property. (See the complete recommendation in Section VI. of this report.)

¹ 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).

III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM

Comments Received

On August 24, 2005, 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, evidence or information was received in response to the 10-day notice.

The comment is relevant to whether the restriction of the claimants' use of the subject property reduces the fair market value of the property. The comment has been considered by the department in preparing this report. (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 criterion 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 criterion, whichever is later.

Findings of Fact

This claim was submitted to DAS on June 6, 2005, for processing under OAR 125, division 145. The claim identifies ORS 215 and the prohibition on dividing land into less than 80 acres 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

At the time the claim was submitted, the claimants were the owners of the property and acquired the property by deed on November 1, 1974. However, on December 29, 2005, the claimants conveyed the property to Shell Natural Resources Area, LLC, a limited liability company, by deed.² (See the deed in the claim file.)

Conclusions

A transfer of property to a limited liability company results in a change in ownership for the purposes of ORS 197.352. The claimants, Norman and Dorothy Pratt, are not “owners” 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 claimants or a family member acquired the property.

As explained in Section V.(1) above, the claimants, Norman and Dorothy Pratt, are not “owners” of the subject property as that term is defined in ORS 197.352(11)(C). As such, they are not eligible for relief under ORS 197.352.

3. Effect of Regulations on Fair Market Value

In order to establish a valid claim, ORS 197.352(1) requires that any land use regulation 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 claimants, Norman and Dorothy Pratt, are not “owners” of the subject property as that term is defined in ORS 197.352(11)(C) and are not entitled to relief.

² The deed was submitted to the department by Wallowa County along with the county’s analysis of the claimants’ demand for compensation to the county.

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 claimants, Norman and Dorothy Pratt, are not "owners" of the subject property as that term is defined in ORS 197.352(11)(C) and are not entitled to relief.

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 current 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 claimants are not the owners of the subject property.

Conclusions

Based on the record before the department, the claimants, Norman and Dorothy Pratt, are not "owners" of the subject property and therefore are not entitled to relief under ORS 197.352(1). Accordingly, this claim is denied.

VII. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STAFF REPORT

The department issued its draft staff report on this claim on March 28, 2006. 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. Comments received have been taken into account by the department in the issuance of this final report.