

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. M129539  
(BALLOT MEASURE 37) OF )  
John and Diana West, CLAIMANTS )

Claimants: John and Diana West (the Claimants)

Property: Township 37S Range 2E, Section 04, Tax lot 500, Jackson 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 approved as to laws administered by DLCD and the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) for the reasons set forth in the DLCD Report, and 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 John and Diane West's division of a 17-acre portion of the 28.91-acre subject property into 2-acre parcels: applicable provisions of Goals 3 and 5, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33. 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 December 30, 1971.
2. The action by the State of Oregon provides the state's authorization to the claimants to use the subject property for the use described in this report, subject to the standards in effect on December 30, 1971.
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).

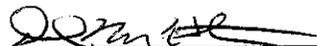
5. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing terms and conditions, in order for the claimants to use the subject property, it may be necessary for them to obtain a decision under ORS 197.352 from a city and/or county and/or metropolitan service district that enforces land use regulations applicable 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.

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 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 125, division 145, and ORS 293.

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

  
Cora R. Parker, Deputy Director  
DLCD  
Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2006.

FOR the DEPARTMENT OF  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

  
David Hartwig, Administrator  
DAS, State Services Division  
Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2006.

## **NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL OR OTHER JUDICIAL RELIEF**

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

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)

### **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The Oregon Department of Justice has advised the Department of Land Conservation and Development that "[i]f the current owner of the real property conveys the property before the new use allowed by the public entity is established, then the entitlement to relief will be lost."

**ORS 197.352 (BALLOT MEASURE 37) CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION**

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

December 11, 2006

**STATE CLAIM NUMBER:** M129539

**NAMES OF CLAIMANTS:** John and Diana West

**MAILING ADDRESS:** 5075 South Fork Little Butte Creek Road  
Eagle Point, Oregon 97524

**PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION:** Township 37S Range 2E, Section 04  
Tax lot 500  
Jackson County

**OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION:** Mark Bartholomew  
Hornecker, Cowling,  
Hassen & Heysell, LLP  
717 Murphy Road  
Medford, Oregon 97504

**DATE RECEIVED BY DAS:** June 19, 2006

**180-DAY DEADLINE:** December 16, 2006

**I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM**

The claimants, John and Diane West, seek compensation in the amount of \$1,411,000 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 compensation or the right to divide a 17-acre portion of the 28.91-acre subject property into 2-acre parcels.<sup>1</sup> The subject property is located at 5075 South Fork Little Butte Creek Road, near Eagle Point, in Jackson County. (See claim.)

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<sup>1</sup> The claim also indicates that the claimants desire to transfer or sell the newly created parcels for development. In effect, the claimants request that a decision of the department to “not apply” (waive) certain laws as set forth in this report be transferable with the property. ORS 197.352 only authorizes a state agency to waive a law in order to allow the current owner a use of the property permitted at the time that owner acquired the property. A determination of transferability is beyond the scope of relief that the department may grant under ORS 197.352. The Oregon Department of Justice has advised the department that “[i]f the current owner of the real property conveys the property before a new use allowed by the public entity is established, then the entitlement to relief will be lost.”

## 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 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 John and Diane West's division of a 17-acre portion of the 28.91-acre subject property into 2-acre parcels: applicable provisions of Statewide Planning Goals 3, (Agricultural Lands) and 5 (Open Space), ORS 215 and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 660, division 33. 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 December 30, 1971. (See the complete recommendation in Section VI. of this report.)

## III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM

### Comments Received

On September 26, 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 subject 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 June 19, 2006, for processing under OAR 125, division 15. The claim summarily identifies Goals 3, 4, 5, 6, 11 and 14; ORS 92, 195, 197 and 215; and OAR 660 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, John and Diane West, acquired the subject property on December 30, 1971, as reflected by a contract of sale and a fulfillment warranty deed included with the claim. The Jackson County Assessor’s Office confirms the claimants’ current ownership of the subject property.

## **Conclusions**

The claimants, John and Diane West, are “owners” of the subject property as that term is defined by ORS 197.352(11)(C), as of December 30, 1971.

### **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 the right to divide a 17-acre portion of the 28.91-acre subject property into 2-acre parcels, and that the desired use is not allowed under current land use regulations.<sup>2</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 assert or establish how any particular land use regulation may apply to the claimants’ desired use of the subject property or

The claim is based generally on the applicable provisions of state law that require Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) zoning and restrict uses on EFU-zoned land. The claimants' property is zoned EFU by Jackson County, 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 Goal 3 be zoned EFU pursuant to ORS 215.

Current land use regulations, particularly ORS 215.263 and 215.780 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted pursuant to Goal 3, prohibit the division of EFU-zoned land into parcels less than 80 acres. ORS 215.780 establishes an 80-acre minimum size for the creation of new lots or parcels in EFU zones and became effective on November 4, 1993 (Chapter 792, Oregon Laws 1993). ORS 215.263 (2005 edition) establishes standards for the creation of new parcels for non-farm uses and dwellings allowed in an EFU zone.

The claimants' property is also subject to a Big Game Wildlife Habitat Overlay zone, in accordance with Goal 5. Goal 5 also became effective on January 25, 1975. The administrative rule implementing Goal 5, OAR 660, division 16 (Requirements and Application Procedures for Complying with Goal 5), became effective on May 18, 1981, but did not apply to landowners until local jurisdictions implemented the Goal 5 process. Jackson County's Big Game Habitat Overlay zone was applied to the subject property in 1986 and generally requires a minimum parcel size of 40 acres for a non-farm dwelling.<sup>4</sup>

The claimants acquired the subject property on December 30, 1971, prior to the adoption of the statewide planning goals and their implementing statutes and regulations.

## **Conclusions**

The current zoning requirements and minimum lot size established by applicable provisions of Goals 3 and 5, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, were all enacted or adopted after the claimants acquired the subject property in 1971 and do not allow the desired division of the property. These laws restrict the use of the subject property relative to the uses allowed when the claimants acquired the property.

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. There may be other laws that currently apply to the claimants' use of the subject property, and that may continue to apply to the claimants' use of the property, that have not been identified in

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restrict its use with the effect of reducing its fair market value. On their face, most of the regulations either do not apply to the claimants' desired use of the property or do not restrict the claimants' desired use of the property with the effect of reducing its fair market value. This report addresses only those regulations that the department finds are applicable to and restrict the claimants' desired use of the subject property, based on the claimants' description of their desired use. If the claimants believe specific regulations restrict their desired use of the property, the claimants may submit a claim describing how those specific regulations relate to and restrict their desired use of the property.

<sup>3</sup> The claimants' property is "agricultural land" because it contains Natural Resources Conservation Service Class I-IV soils.

<sup>4</sup> OAR 660, division 23 (Procedures and Requirements for Complying with Goal 5) including Section 0110, Wildlife Habitat, became effective on September 1, 1996.

the claim. In some cases, it will not be possible to know which laws apply to a use of the subject property until there is a specific proposal for that use. When the claimants seek a building or development permit to carry out a specific use, it may become evident that other state laws apply to that use.

### **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 \$1,411,000 as the reduction in the subject property's fair market value due to the regulations that restrict the claimants' desired use of the property. This amount is based on a comparative market analysis included with the claim.

#### **Conclusions**

As explained in Section V.(1) of this report, the claimants are John and Diane West who acquired the subject property on December 30, 1971. Under ORS 197.352, the claimants are due compensation for land use regulations that restrict the use of the subject 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 acquired the subject property restrict the claimants' desired use of the property. The claimants estimate that the effect of the regulations on the fair market value of the property is a reduction of \$1,411,000.

Without an appraisal or other documentation, it is not possible to substantiate the specific 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.

### **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, including applicable provisions of Goals 3 and 5, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, which Jackson County has implemented through its current EFU zone. All of these land use regulations were enacted or adopted after the claimants acquired the subject property.

## **Conclusions**

Without a specific development proposal for the subject property, it is not possible for the department to determine all the laws that may apply to a particular use of the property, or whether those laws may fall under one or more of the exemptions under ORS 197.352. It appears that none of the general statutory, goal and rule restrictions on division of the claimants' property were in effect when the claimants acquired it in 1971. As a result, these laws are not exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E).

Laws in effect when the claimants acquired the subject property are exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E) and will continue to apply to the claimants' use of the property. There may be other laws that continue to apply to the claimants' use of the subject property that have not been identified in the claim. In some cases, it will not be possible to know which laws apply to a use of the subject property until there is a specific proposal for that use. When the claimants seek a building or development permit to carry out a specific use, it may become evident that other state laws apply to that use. In some cases, some of these laws may be exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(A) to (D).<sup>5</sup>

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 the 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.

## **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 laws that restrict the use of the subject 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 subject 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

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<sup>5</sup> Jackson County notes that portions of the subject property are located in a wetland and flood plain zone. Based on the claimants' description of the desired use, the department cannot determine whether division of the subject property would impact the area subject to a flood plain or wetland overlay. However, to the extent those zones are implicated, the department notes that ORS 197.352(3)(B) specifically exempts regulations "restricting or prohibiting activities for the protection of public health and safety. . . ." To the extent the county's wetland and flood plain regulations are based on state laws adopted for those purposes, these regulations would be exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(B).

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 \$1,411,000. However, because the claim does not provide an appraisal or other 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 they 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 John and Diane West to use the subject property for a use permitted at the time they acquired the property on December 30, 1971.

### **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 John and Diane West's division of a 17-acre portion of the 28.91-acre subject property into 2-acre parcels: applicable provisions of Goals 3 and 5, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33. 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 December 30, 1971.
2. The action by the State of Oregon provides the state's authorization to the claimants to use the subject property for the use described in this report, subject to the standards in effect on December 30, 1971.
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. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STAFF REPORT**

The department issued its draft staff report on this claim on November 20, 2006. OAR 125-145-0100(3), provided an opportunity for the claimants or the claimants' 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.