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. M129732
(BALLOT MEASURE 37) OF	)	
Don A. West, CLAIMANT	)	

Claimant: Don A. West (the Claimant)

Property: Township 4N, Range 2W, Section 13, Tax lot 2800
Columbia 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 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 Don West's division of the 6.95-acre subject property into two-acre parcels for his residential development: applicable provisions of Goal 14 and OAR 660-004-0040 adopted after February 5, 2003. These land use regulations will not apply to the claimant only to the extent necessary to allow him to use the property for the use described in this report, and only to the extent that the use was permitted when he acquired the property on February 5, 2003. The department acknowledges that the relief to which the claimant is entitled under ORS 197.352 will not allow the claimant 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 Don West to use the subject property for the use described in this report, subject to the standards in effect on February 5, 2003. At that time, the property was subject to applicable provisions of Goal 14 and OAR 660-004-0040, 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 claimant first obtains 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 claimant 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 claimant to use the subject property, it may be necessary for him 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 claimant 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 claimant.

This Order is entered by the Manager for the Measure 37 Services Division 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

Michael Morrissey, Manager
DLCD, Measure 37 Services Division
Dated this 19th day of January, 2007.

FOR the DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

David Hartwig, Administrator
DAS, State Services Division
Dated this 19th day of January, 2007.

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

January 19, 2006

STATE CLAIM NUMBER:	M129732
NAME OF CLAIMANT:	Don A. West
MAILING ADDRESS:	33578 Bennett Road Warren, Oregon 97053
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION:	Township 4N, Range 2W, Section 13 Tax lot 2800 Columbia County
OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION:	Harold L. Olsen, attorney PO Box 688 St. Helens, Oregon 97051
DATE RECEIVED BY DAS:	July 24, 2006
180-DAY DEADLINE:	January 20, 2007

I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM

The claimant, Don West, seeks compensation in the amount of $384,000 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 claimant desires compensation or the right to divide the 6.95-acre subject property into two-acre parcels for residential development.[1] The subject property is located at 33578 Bennett Road, near Warren, in Columbia 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 the claim is valid. Department staff recommends that, in lieu of compensation, the requirements of the following state laws enforced

[1] The claim also indicates that the claimant desires to sell or transfer the newly created parcels for development. In effect, the claimant requests 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."

by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (the Commission) or the department not apply to Don West's division of the 6.95-acre subject property into two-acre parcels for his residential development: applicable provisions of Statewide Planning Goal 14 (Urbanization) and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 660-004-0040 adopted after February 5, 2003. These laws will not apply to the claimant only to the extent necessary to allow him to use the subject property for the use described in this report, and only to the extent that use was permitted when he acquired the property on February 5, 2003. The department acknowledges that the relief to which the claimant is entitled under ORS 197.352 will not allow the claimant 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 November 17, 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, 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 July 24, 2006, for processing under OAR 125, division 145. The claim identifies Goal 14, OAR 660-015-0000(14) and House Bill 3661 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 claimant, Don West, acquired the subject property following the death of his father, Harold Melvin West, on February 5, 2003, as reflected by a death certificate and an August 28, 2003, bargain and sale deed included with the claim. The claimant's parents, Harold M. West and Helen West, originally acquired the subject property on November 11, 1961, as evidenced by a warranty deed included with the claim. On December 27, 1992, Harold West transferred the subject property to the Harold M. West Revocable Living Trust with himself as trustee and with Don West as successor trustee, as reflected by a quitclaim deed included with the claim.[2] However, there is no indication in the claim that the claimant was named trustee of the trust prior to his father's death. The Columbia County Assessor's Office confirms the claimant's current ownership of the subject property.

Conclusions

The claimant, Don West, is an "owner" of the subject property as that term is defined by ORS 197.352(11)(C), as of February 5, 2003. Harold and Helen West are "family members" as defined by ORS 197.352(11)(A) and acquired the subject property on November 11, 1961.

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.

Findings of Fact

The claim indicates that the claimant desires to divide the 6.95-acre subject property into two-acre parcels for residential development, and that current land use regulations prevent the desired use.

The claim is based on the provisions of state law that regulate rural residential zoning. The claimant's property is zoned Rural Residential (RR-5) by Columbia County. The RR-5 zone is consistent with Goal 14, which generally requires that land outside of urban growth boundaries be used for rural uses. Columbia County's RR-5 zone was adopted in July 1984 and requires a minimum of five acres for the creation of a new lot or parcel.

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[2] Transfer of property to a revocable trust does not result in a change of ownership for purposes of ORS 197.352.

Goal 14 was effective on January 25, 1975, and requires that local comprehensive plans identify and separate urbanizable land from rural land in order to provide for an orderly and efficient transition from rural to urban land use. In 2000, as a result of a 1986 Oregon Supreme Court decision,[3] the Commission amended Goal 14 and adopted OAR 660-004-0040 (Application of Goal 14 to Rural Residential Areas), which was effective on October 4, 2000.

The rule states that if a county rural residential zone in effect on October 4, 2000, specifies a minimum lot size of two acres or more, the area of any new lot or parcel shall equal or exceed the minimum lot size that is already in effect (OAR 660-004-0040(7)(c)). Some relief from this provision is available for lots or parcels having more than one permanent habitable dwelling pursuant to OAR 660-004-0040(7)(h). The rule also provides that a county's minimum lot size requirement in a rural residential zone shall not be amended to allow a smaller minimum lot size without approval of an exception to Goal 14 (OAR 660-004-0040(6)). Because Columbia County's rural residential zone was in effect on October 4, 2000, and requires a minimum lot size of five acres, the minimum lot size for any new lot or parcel must equal or exceed five acres.

The West family acquired the subject property in 1961, prior to the adoption of the statewide planning goals and their implementing statutes and rules. No county zoning applied to the subject property in 1961.

Conclusions

The minimum lot size requirements for rural residential lots or parcels established by Goal 14 and OAR 660-004-0040 were adopted since the claimant's family acquired the subject property in 1961 and do not allow the desired division of the property. These regulations restrict the use of the subject property relative to uses permitted when the claimant's family originally acquired it.

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."

Findings of Fact

The claim includes an estimate of $384,000 as the reduction in the subject property's fair market value due to the regulations that restrict the claimant's 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 claimant is Don West whose family members acquired the subject property in 1961. Under ORS 197.352, the claimant is 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

[3] *1000 Friends of Oregon v. LCDC (Curry County)*, 301 Or 447 (1986).

enacted or adopted since the claimant's family acquired the subject property restrict the claimant's desired use of the property. The claimant estimates that the effect of the regulations on the fair market value of the subject property is a reduction of $384,000.

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 since the West family 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, including Goal 14 and OAR 660-004-0040, which Columbia County has implemented through its RR-5 zone. Both of these land use regulations were adopted after the claimant's family acquired the subject property.

Conclusions

It appears that none of the general goal and rule restrictions on residential division of the subject property were in effect when the claimant's family acquired the property on November 11, 1961. As a result, these laws are not exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E). Laws in effect when the claimant's family acquired the subject property 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 claimant's 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 $384,000. 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 claimant's desired use of the subject property was allowed under the standards in effect when the claimant's family first 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 Don West to use the subject property for a use permitted at the time he acquired the property on February 5, 2003.

At the time the claimant acquired the subject property, it was zoned RR-5 by Columbia County and subject to provisions of Goal 14 and OAR 660-004-0040, 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 claimant has 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 claimant should be aware that the less information he has 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 his 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 Don West's division of the 6.95-acre subject property into two-acre parcels for his residential development: applicable provisions of Goal 14 and OAR 660-004-0040 adopted after February 5, 2003. These land use regulations will not apply to the claimant only to the extent necessary to allow him to use the property for the use described in this report, and only to the extent that the use was permitted when he acquired the property on February 5, 2003. The department acknowledges that the relief to which the claimant is entitled under ORS 197.352 will not allow the claimant 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 Don West to use the subject property for the use described in this report, subject to the standards in effect on February 5, 2003. At that time, the property was subject to applicable provisions of Goal 14 and OAR 660-004-0040, 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 claimant first obtains 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 claimant 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 claimant to use the subject property, it may be necessary for him 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 claimant 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 claimant.

VII. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STAFF REPORT

The department issued its draft staff report on this claim on December 26, 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.