



Oregon

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October 10, 2007

To: Claimant and Interested Persons

From: Cora R. Parker, Acting Director



Re: Ballot Measure 37 (ORS 197.352) Claim Number M131564

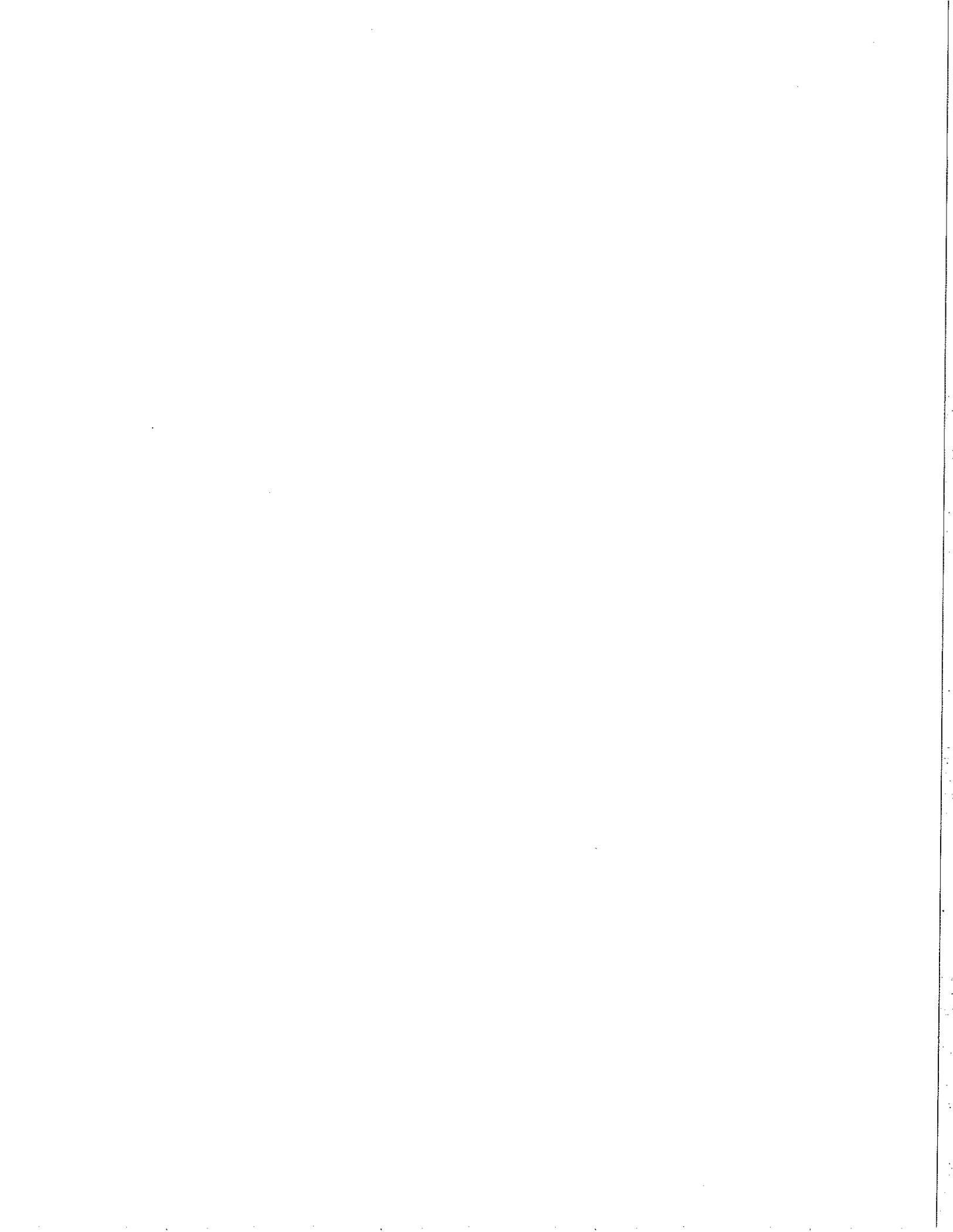
Claimants: D. Michael Vore; Dorothy Ward

Enclosed, in regard to the above-referenced claim for compensation under Ballot Measure 37 (ORS 197.352), is the Department of Land Conservation and Development's Draft Staff Report and Recommendation.

This Draft Staff Report and Recommendation sets forth the department's evaluation of and recommendation on the claim. Oregon Administrative Rule 125-145-0100(3) provides that the claimant (or the claimant's agent) and any third parties who submitted comments on the claim may submit written comments, evidence, and information in response to any third-party comments contained in the report, and to the staff report and recommendation itself. Such response must be filed no more than 15 calendar days after the date of mailing of this report. Any response from you must be delivered to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS), 1225 Ferry Street SE, U160, Salem, Oregon 97301, and will be deemed timely filed if either postmarked on the 15th day or actually delivered to DAS by the close of business on the 15th day.

This department will review any responses submitted, and a Final Order on the claim will be issued after such review.





ORS 197.352 (BALLOT MEASURE 37) CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION

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

October 10, 2007

STATE CLAIM NUMBER: M131564

NAMES OF CLAIMANTS: D. Michael Vore
Dorothy Ward

MAILING ADDRESSES: 1100 Reiten Drive
Ashland, Oregon 97520

81 Deer Court
Sequim, Washington 98382

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: Township 39S, Range 2E, Section 30
Tax lot 1201
Jackson County

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION: Raul Woerner, Craig A. Stone and
Associates, Ltd.
712 Cardley Avenue
Medford, Oregon 97504

DATE RECEIVED BY DAS: November 29, 2006

DEADLINE FOR FINAL ACTION:¹ May 22, 2008

I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM

The claimants, Michael Vore and Dorothy Ward, seek compensation in the amount of \$800,000 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 the 6.3-acre subject property into six approximately 1-acre parcels for residential development. The subject property is located at 1101 Reiten Drive, near Ashland, in Jackson County. (See claim.)

¹ ORS 197.352, as originally enacted, required that final action on claims made under Measure 37 be made within 180 days of the date the claim was filed. In response to the large volume of claims filed in late 2006, the Oregon legislature passed House Bill 3546, which became effective on May 10, 2007. This legislation increased the amount of time state and local governments have to take final action on Measure 37 claims filed on or after November 1, 2006, by 360 days, to a total of 540 days.

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 Michael Vore and Dorothy Ward's division of the 6.3-acre subject property into six approximately 1-acre parcels for their residential development: applicable provisions of Statewide Planning Goals 11 (Public Facilities) and 14 (Urbanization) and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 660, division 11, and 660-004-0040. These land use regulations 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 April 20, 1972. (See the complete recommendation in Section VI. of this report.)

III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM

Comments Received

On July 27, 2007, 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 15-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 November 29, 2006, for processing under OAR 125, division 145. The claim identifies Goals 3, 11 and 14 and provisions of 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, Michael Vore and Dorothy Ward, acquired the subject property on April 20, 1972, as reflected by a recorded real estate contract included with the claim. The Jackson County Assessor’s Office confirms the claimants’ current ownership of the subject property.

Conclusions

The claimants, Michael Vore and Dorothy Ward, are owners of the subject property as that term is defined by ORS 197.352(11)(C), as of April 20, 1972.

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 divide the 6.3-acre subject property into approximately six 1-acre parcels for residential development, and that the property’s current zoning prevents the desired use.²

² The claimants identify Goal 3 as restricting their desired use. However, the claimants have not established how Goal 3, which regulates EFU-zoned land, applies to the subject rural residentially-zoned property. This report

The claim is based on the provisions of state law that regulate rural residential zoning. The claimants' property is zoned RR-5 by Jackson County. The RR-5 zone is a rural residential zone, in accordance with Goal 14, which prohibits urban use of rural lands. The county's RR-5 zone requires 5 acres for the creation of any new lot or parcel and was in effect and applied to the subject property on or before October 4, 2000.

Goal 14 became 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 then in effect (OAR 660-004-0040(7)(c)).⁴ Because Jackson 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 all new lots or parcels must equal or exceed five acres.

Goal 11, which became effective on January 25, 1975, generally prohibits urban levels of public facilities and services on lands that are outside an Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). Goal 11 and its implementing rules have two components: one that prohibits an owner from utilizing urban-level facilities or services to serve the property, and another that prohibits service providers from extending their facilities to serve property outside a UGB. The former can restrict a claimant's use of property. The latter is a restriction on service providers. Goal 11 and OAR 660, division 11, apply to the claimant's use of the property only to the extent that they would restrict the claimant's development of urban-level public or community sewer or water facilities on the subject property.

The claimants acquired the subject property in 1972, prior to the adoption of the statewide planning goals and their implementing statutes and rules. At that time, the subject property was not zoned by the county.

Conclusions

The minimum lot size requirements for rural residential lots or parcels established by Goals 11, 14 and OAR 660, division 11, and 660-004-0040 were adopted since the claimants acquired the subject property in 1972 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 claimants acquired it.

addresses only those regulations that the department finds are applicable to and restrict the claimants' desired use of the subject property, based on the property's zoning and the claimants' description of their desired use.

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

⁴ 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)).

Those elements of Goal 11 that prohibit a public service provider from extending or establishing public facilities or services outside of a UGB restrict the actions of local government rather than the claimant's use of the property. That component of Goal 11 is not subject to ORS 197.352 and will continue to apply to those service providers. Only the general prohibition under Goal 11 on the claimant's establishment of an urban level of public facilities and services is subject to ORS 197.352 and restricts the claimant's desired use of their 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 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 \$800,000 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 the claimants' assessment of the subject property's value.

Conclusions

As explained in Section V.(1) of this report, the claimants are Michael Vore and Dorothy Ward who acquired the subject property on April 20, 1972. 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 subject property is a reduction of \$800,000.

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 Goals 11 and 14 and OAR 660, division 11, and 660-004-0040, which Jackson County has implemented through its RR-5 zone. Both of these land use regulations were 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 goal and rule restrictions on division of rural residential land were in effect when the claimants acquired the subject property in 1972. As a result, these laws are not exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E).

Other laws in effect when the claimants acquired the subject property are also exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E) and will continue to apply to the claimants' use of the property. In addition, Jackson County notes that a portion of the property is located in a flood plain zone. 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 flood plain regulations are based on state law, these regulations would be exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(B).

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 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).

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.

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 \$800,000. 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 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 Michael Vore and Dorothy Ward to use the subject property for a use permitted at the time they acquired the property on April 20, 1972.

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 Michael Vore and Dorothy Ward's division of the 6.3-acre subject property into six approximately 1-acre parcels for their residential development: applicable provisions of Goals 11 and 14 and OAR 660, division 11, and 660-004-0040. These land use regulations 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 April 20, 1972.

Goal 11 will not apply only to the extent that it prohibits the claimant from establishing an urban level of public facilities and services to serve the development of the property. Goal 11 will continue to apply to public service providers seeking to extend or establish public facilities to serve the subject property.

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 April 20, 1972.

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.

6. Nothing in this report or the state's final order for this claim constitutes any determination of ownership by the State of Oregon as to submerged or submersible lands, or as to public rights to the use of waters of the state.

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 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. Such response must be filed no more than 15 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 15th day, or actually delivered to DAS by the close of business on the 15th 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.