OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT
ORS 195.300 to ORS 195.336 (MEASURE 49) SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW
OF MEASURE 37 CLAIM
Final Order and Home Site Authorization

January 16, 2009

STATE ELECTION NUMBER: E130606

CLAIMANTS: Ronald and Violet Brown
6246 Bellfountain Road
Corvallis, Oregon 97333

MEASURE 37 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: Township 12S, Range 5W, Section 30A
Tax lot 100
Benton County

The claimants, Ronald and Violet Brown, filed a claim under ORS 197.352 (2005) (Measure 37) on November 7, 2006 for property located west of Bellfountain Road and north of Airport Avenue, near Corvallis, in Benton. ORS 195.300 to ORS 195.336 (Measure 49) entitles claimants who filed Measure 37 claims to elect supplemental review of their claims. The claimants elected supplemental review of their Measure 37 claim under Section 6 of Measure 49, which allows the Department of Land Conservation and Development (the department) to authorize up to three home site approvals to qualified claimants. This Final Order and Home Site Authorization is the conclusion of the supplemental review of this claim.

I. ANALYSIS OF CLAIM

A. Maximum Number of Home Sites for Which the Claimants May Qualify

Under Section 6 of Measure 49, the number of home site approvals authorized by the department cannot exceed the lesser of the following: three; the number stated by the claimant in the election materials; or the number described in a Measure 37 waiver issued by the state, or if no waiver was issued, the number of home sites described in the Measure 37 claim filed with the state. The claimants have requested one home site approval in the election material. The Measure 37 waiver issued for this claim describes one home site. Therefore, the claimants may qualify for a maximum of one home site approval under Section 6 of Measure 49.
B. Qualification Requirements

To qualify for a home site approval under Section 6 of Measure 49 the claimants must meet each of the following requirements:

1. Timeliness of Claim

A claimant must have filed a Measure 37 claim for the property with either the state or the county in which the property is located on or before June 28, 2007, and must have filed a Measure 37 claim with both the state and the county before Measure 49 became effective on December 6, 2007. If the state Measure 37 claim was filed after December 4, 2006, the claim must also have been filed in compliance with the provisions of OAR 660-041-0020 then in effect.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions

The claimants, Ronald and Violet Brown, filed a Measure 37 claim, M130606, with the state on November 7, 2006. The claimants filed a Measure 37 claim, M37-06-026, with Benton County on November 6, 2006. The state claim was filed prior to December 4, 2006. The claimants timely filed a Measure 37 claim with both the state and Benton County.

2. The Claimant Is an Owner of the Property

Measure 49 defines “Owner” as: “(a) The owner of fee title to the property as shown in the deed records of the county where the property is located; (b) The purchaser under a land sale contract, if there is a recorded land sale contract in force for the property; or (c) if the property is owned by the trustee of a revocable trust, the settlor of a revocable trust, except that when the trust becomes irrevocable only the trustee is the owner.”

Findings of Fact and Conclusions:

According to the deed and trust documents submitted by the claimants, Ronald Brown is the settlor of a revocable trust into which he conveyed the Measure 37 claim property and, therefore, is an owner of the property under Measure 49. Benton County has confirmed that the claimants are the current owner of the property.

According to the information submitted by the claimants, Violet Brown has not established her ownership of the property for the purposes of Measure 49. Violet Brown is not a settlor of a revocable trust into which she conveyed the Measure 37 claim property and therefore is not an owner of the claim property for purposes of Measure 49.

3. All Owners Have Consented in Writing to the Claim

All owners of the property must consent to the claim in writing.
Findings of Fact and Conclusions:

All owners of the property have consented to the claim in writing.

4. The Property Is Located Entirely Outside Any Urban Growth Boundary and Entirely Outside the Boundaries of Any City

The Measure 37 claim property must be located entirely outside any urban growth boundary and entirely outside the boundaries of any city.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions:

The Measure 37 claim property is located in Benton County, at outside the urban growth boundary and outside the city limits of the nearest city, Corvallis.

5. One or More Land Use Regulations Prohibit Establishing the Lot, Parcel or Dwelling

One or more land use regulations must prohibit establishing the requested lot, parcel or dwelling.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions:

The property is currently zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) by Benton County, in accordance with ORS chapter 215 and OAR 660, division 33, because the property is “agricultural land” as defined by Goal 3. Goal 3 requires agricultural land to be zoned exclusive farm use. Applicable provisions of ORS chapter 215 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted pursuant to Goal 3, provide standards for the establishment of a dwelling in an EFU zone. In general and subject to some exceptions, those standards require that the property be a minimum of 80 acres and generate a minimum annual income from the sale of farm products.

The combined effect of the standards for the establishment of a dwelling in an EFU zone is to prohibit the claimants from establishing a dwelling on the Measure 37 claim property.

6. The Establishment of the Lot, Parcel or Dwelling Is Not Prohibited by a Land Use Regulation Described in ORS 195.305(3)

ORS 195.305(3) exempts from claims under Measure 49 land use regulations:

(a) Restricting or prohibiting activities commonly and historically recognized as public nuisances under common law;
(b) Restricting or prohibiting activities for the protection of public health and safety;
(c) To the extent the land use regulation is required to comply with federal law; or
(d) Restricting or prohibiting the use of a property for the purpose of selling pornography or performing nude dancing.
Findings of Fact and Conclusions

Based on the documentation submitted by the claimants, the establishment of the one home site for which the claimants may qualify on the property is not prohibited by land use regulations described in ORS 195.305(3).

7. On the Claimant’s Acquisition Date, the Claimant Lawfully Was Permitted to Establish at Least the Number of Lots, Parcels or Dwellings on the Property That Are Authorized Under Section 6 of Measure 49

A claimant’s acquisition date is “the date the claimant became the owner of the property as shown in the deed records of the county in which the property is located. If there is more than one claimant for the same property under the same claim and the claimants have different acquisition dates, the acquisition date is the earliest of those dates.”

Findings of Fact and Conclusions

Benton County deed records indicate that the claimant, Ronald Brown, acquired the property on June 25, 1973.

On June 25, 1973, the Measure 37 claim property was not subject to any local or state laws that would have prohibited the claimant, Ronald Brown, from establishing one dwelling on a vacant lot or parcel. Therefore, the claimant, Ronald Brown, lawfully could have established the one home site the claimant, Ronald Brown, qualifies for under Section 6 of Measure 49.

II. COMMENTS ON THE PRELIMINARY EVALUATION

The department issued its Preliminary Evaluation for this claim on December 1, 2008. Pursuant to OAR 660-041-0090, the department provided written notice to the owners of surrounding properties. No written comments were received in response to the 28-day notice.

III. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis above, the claimant Ronald Brown qualifies for up to one home site. However, the number of lots, parcels or dwellings that a claimant may establish pursuant to a home site authorization is reduced by the number of lots, parcels or dwellings currently in existence on the Measure 37 claim property and any contiguous property under the same ownership. If a claimant otherwise qualifies for relief under Section 6 of Measure 49, the claimant will be able to establish one additional dwelling, regardless of the number of dwellings currently in existence.

Based on the documentation provided by the claimants and Benton County, the Measure 37 claim property includes one lot or parcel and no dwellings. There is no contiguous property under the same ownership. Therefore, the one home site approval the claimant, Ronald Brown, qualifies for under Section 6 of Measure 49 will authorize him to establish up to one dwelling on the Measure 37 claim property.
A claimant is not eligible for more than 20 home site approvals under Sections 5 to 11 of Measure 49 regardless of how many properties a claimant owns or how many claims a claimant filed. If the claimant has developed the limit of twenty home sites under Measure 49, the claimant is no longer eligible for the home site approval that is the subject of this order.

IV. HOME SITE AUTHORIZATION

Based on the analysis set forth above, this claim is approved, and the claimant, Ronald Brown, qualifies for one home site approval. As a result, the claimant is authorized for one dwelling on the Measure 37 claim property, subject to the following terms:

1. Each dwelling must be on a separate lot or parcel, and must be contained within the property on which the claimant is eligible for Measure 49 relief. The establishment of a dwelling based on this home site authorization must comply with all applicable standards governing the siting or development of the dwelling. However, those standards must not be applied in a manner that prohibits the establishment of the dwelling, unless the standards are reasonably necessary to avoid or abate a nuisance, to protect public health or safety, or to carry out federal law.

2. This home site authorization will not authorize the establishment of a dwelling in violation of a land use regulation described in ORS 195.305(3) or in violation of any other law that is not a land use regulation as defined by ORS 195.300(14).

3. The number of dwellings a claimant may establish under this home site authorization is reduced by the number of dwellings currently in existence on the Measure 37 claim property and contiguous property in the same ownership, regardless of whether evidence of their existence has been provided to the department. If dwellings currently exist on the Measure 37 claim property or on contiguous property under the same ownership and the dwellings have not been disclosed to the department, then the number of additional dwellings a claimant may establish pursuant to this home site authorization must be reduced according to the methodology stated in Section 6(2)(b) and 6(3) of Measure 49.

4. Temporary dwellings are not considered in determining the number of existing dwellings currently on the property. The claimant, Ronald Brown, may choose to convert any temporary dwelling currently located on the property on which the claimant is eligible for Measure 49 relief to an authorized home site pursuant to a home site approval. Otherwise, any temporary dwelling is subject to the terms of the local permit requirements under which it was approved, and is subject to removal at the end of the term for which it is allowed.

5. A home site approval only authorizes the establishment of a new dwelling on the property on which the claimant is eligible for Measure 49 relief. No additional development is authorized on contiguous property for which no Measure 37 claim was filed.

6. The claimant, Ronald Brown, may use a home site approval to convert a dwelling currently located on the property on which the claimant is eligible for Measure 49 relief to an authorized home site. If the number of dwellings existing on the property on which the
claimant is eligible for Measure 49 relief exceeds the number of home site approvals the
claimant qualifies for under a home site authorization, the claimant may select which
existing dwellings to convert to authorize home sites.

7. A home site approval does not authorize the establishment of a new dwelling on a lot or
   parcel that already contains one or more dwellings.

8. If the claimant, Ronald Brown, transferred his ownership interest in the Measure 37 claim
   property prior to the date of this order, this order is rendered invalid and authorizes no home
   site approvals. Provided this order is valid when issued, a home site approval authorized
   under this order runs with the property and transfers with the property. A home site approval
   will not expire, except that if a claimant who received this home site authorization later
   conveys the property to a party other than the claimant’s spouse or the trustee of a revocable
   trust in which the claimant is the settlor, the subsequent owner of the property must establish
   the authorized dwellings within 10 years of the conveyance. A dwelling lawfully created
   based on a home site approval is a permitted use.

9. Because the property is located in an exclusive farm use zone, the owner must comply with
   the requirements of ORS 215.293 before beginning construction.

10. If an owner of the property is authorized by other home site authorizations to subdivide,
    partition, or establish dwellings on other Measure 37 claim properties, Measure 49
    authorizes the owner to cluster some or all of the authorized lots, parcels or dwellings that
    would otherwise be located on land in an exclusive farm use zone, a forest zone or a mixed
    farm and forest zone on a single Measure 37 claim property that is zoned residential use or
    is located in an exclusive farm use zone, a forest zone or a mixed farm and forest zone but is
    less suitable for farm or forest use than the other Measure 37 claim properties.

11. 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, this home site authorization 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.
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this Final Order and Home Site Authorization is entered by the Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development as a final order of the department and the Land Conservation and Development Commission under ORS 197.300 to ORS 195.336 and OAR 660-041-0000 to 660-041-0160.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND THE LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:

__________________________/S/________________________
Cora R. Parker, Deputy Director
Dept. of Land Conservation and Development
Dated this ____ day of January, 2009.

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 is available to anyone who is an owner of the property as defined in Measure 49 that it the subject of this final determination, or a person who timely submitted written evidence or comments to the department concerning this final determination.

2. 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 must be filed in the Circuit Court in the county in which the affected property is located. Upon motion of any party to the proceedings, the proceedings may be transferred to any other county with jurisdiction under ORS 183.484 in the manner provided by law for change of venue.

3. Judicial review of this final determination is limited to the evidence in the record of the department at the time of its final determination. Copies of the documents that comprise the record are available for review at the department’s office at 635 Capitol St. NE, Suite 150, Salem, OR 97301-2540. Judicial review is only available for issues that were raised before the department with sufficient specificity to afford the department an opportunity to respond.