

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. M118667
(BALLOT MEASURE 37) OF)	
James Birkemeier, CLAIMANT)	

Claimants: James Birkemeier (the Claimant)

Property: Township 4S, Range 1W, Section 25, Tax lot 300
Township 4S, Range 1E, Section 30, Tax lot 1500
Clackamas 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 James Birkemeier's placement of a dwelling on the 30-acre property: applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted after June 9, 1989. These land use regulations 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 June 9, 1989.
2. The action by the State of Oregon provides the state's authorization to the claimant to use the property for the use described in this report, subject to the standards in effect on June 9, 1989. On that date, the property was subject to compliance with Clackamas County's acknowledged EFU zone, and the applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 5, then 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 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.

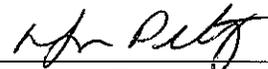
This Order is entered by the Deputy Director of the DLCD as a final order of DLCD and the Land Conservation and Development Commission under ORS 197.352, OAR 660-002-0010(8), and OAR 125, division 145, and by the Deputy Administrator for the State Services Division of the DAS as a final order of DAS under ORS 197.352, OAR 125, division 145, and ORS 293.

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



George Naughton, Deputy Director
DLCD
Dated this 3rd day of May, 2006.

FOR the DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES:



Dugan Petty, Deputy Administrator
DAS, State Services Division
Dated this 3rd day of May, 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 197.352¹, 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)

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.”

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

May 3, 2006

STATE CLAIM NUMBER: M118667

NAME OF CLAIMANT: James Birkemeier

MAILING ADDRESS: 27942 South Meridian Road
Aurora, Oregon 97002

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: Township 4S, Range 1W, Section 25
Tax lot 300
Township 4S, Range 1E, Section 30
Tax lot 1500
Clackamas County

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION: Donald Joe Willis
Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt
1211 Southwest 5th Avenue, Suite 1900
Portland, Oregon 97204

DATE RECEIVED BY DAS: June 23, 2005

180-DAY DEADLINE: May 8, 2006¹

I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM

The claimant, James Birkemeier, seeks compensation in the amount of \$200,000 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 develop a dwelling on the subject 30-acre property. The subject property is located at 27942 South Meridian Road, near Aurora, in Clackamas County. (See claim.)

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)

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).

or the department not apply to James Birkemeier's placement of a dwelling on the 30-acre property: applicable provisions of Statewide Planning Goal 3 (Agricultural Lands), ORS 215 and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 660, division 33, enacted or adopted after June 9, 1989. 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 June 9, 1989. (See the complete recommendation in Section VI. of this report.)

II. SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM

Comments Received

On August 10, 2005, pursuant to Oregon Administrative Rules (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 claimant's use of the subject property reduces the fair market value of the property and whether a state agency may waive state statutes. The comment has been considered by the department in preparing this report.

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 23, 2005, for processing under OAR 125, division 145. The claim identifies OAR 660-033-135(7) and numerous provisions of ORS 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 the 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, James Birkemeier, acquired the subject property on June 9, 1989, as reflected by a deed included with the claim. The Clackamas County Assessor’s Office confirms the claimant’s current ownership of the subject property. (See the department’s claim file.)

Conclusions

The claimant, James Birkemeier, is an “owner” of the subject property as that term is defined by ORS 197.352(11)(C) as of June 9, 1989.

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 build a single-family residence but is prevented from doing so by requirements of ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, particularly income requirements for building a dwelling. The claim identifies OAR 660-033-0135(7) and a list of provisions in ORS 197 and 215 and OAR 660 as the basis for the claim.

With the exception of the reference to ORS 660-033-0135(7), the claim does not assert how these state land use regulations restrict the use of the property in a manner that reduces the fair market value of the property. Several of these statutes and rules are either not applicable to the subject property or do not, on their face, restrict the use of the subject property. Except for the regulations addressed in this report, absent an explanation by the claimant as to how these land use regulations restrict the use of the claimant’s property in a manner that reduces the property’s fair market value, these regulations are not addressed further.

The claim is based generally on Clackamas County's current Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) zone and the applicable provisions of state law that require such zoning. The claimant's property is zoned EFU as required by Goal 3 in accordance with ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, because the claimant's property is "agricultural land" as defined by Goal 3.² Goal 3 became effective on January 25, 1975, and required that agricultural lands as defined by the Goal be zoned EFU pursuant to ORS 215.

Current land use regulations, particularly ORS 215.263 and 215.284 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted pursuant to Goal 3, establish standards for development of dwellings on existing or proposed parcels on that land.

OAR 660-033-0135 (applicable to farm dwellings) became effective on March 1, 1994, and interprets the statutory standard for a primary dwelling in an EFU zone under ORS 215.283(1)(f). OAR 660-033-0130(4) (applicable to non-farm dwellings) became effective on August 7, 1993, and was amended to comply with ORS 215.284(4) on March 1, 1994. The Commission subsequently adopted amendments to comply with House Bill 3326 (Chapter 704, Oregon Laws 2001, effective on January 1, 2002), which were effective on May 22, 2002. (See administrative rule history for OAR 660-033-0100, -0130 and -0135.)

The claimant acquired the subject property on June 9, 1989. At that time, the property was subject to Clackamas County's EFU zone, which was acknowledged by the Commission for compliance with the Goal on December 31, 1981. When the claimant acquired the subject property, development of the property would have been governed by the county's EFU zone and the applicable provisions of ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 5, then in effect.

Conclusions

The current zoning requirements and dwelling standards established by applicable provisions Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, were all enacted or adopted after the claimant acquired the subject property in 1989 and do not allow the claimant's desired development of the subject property. However, the claim does not establish whether or to what extent the claimant's desired use of the property complies with the standards for development under Clackamas County's EFU zone and Comprehensive Plan in effect when the claimant acquired the property on June 9, 1989.

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 use that the claimant has identified. There may be other laws that currently apply to the claimant's use of the subject property, and that may continue to apply to the claimant's 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 claimant seeks a building or development permit to carry out a specific use, it may become evident that other state laws apply to that use.

² The claimant's property is "agricultural land" because it contains Natural Resources Conservation Service Class I-IV soils.

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.”

Findings of Fact

The claim includes an estimate of \$200,000 as the reduction in the subject property’s fair market value due to current regulations that prevent the approval of a dwelling on the property. The claimant believes these restrictive land use regulations reduce the value of the property “because a parcel which cannot have a dwelling constructed on it is worth less than a parcel which can.” Although the claim does not include any information that directly supports the \$200,000 estimate for the reduction in value, the claimant relies on Clackamas County’s findings with regard to his claim with them. The claimant cites the following from the county’s report: “Staff reviewed the tax assessor’s records of real market value for residentially developed lots in the area that are of comparable size. This information is sufficient to verify that the inability to establish a single family residence results in a loss in fair market value. . . .” Further, the report notes, “While it is not known that a residence would have been approved under the 1989 standards, it is more likely than not that it could have been easier to obtain approval of a residence, and therefore, enforcement of current land use regulations has resulted in a loss of real market value.”

Conclusions

As explained in Section V.(1) of this report, the claimant, James Birkemeier who acquired the subject property on June 9, 1989. Under ORS 197.352, the claimant is due compensation for land use regulations that restrict the use of the subject property in a manner that reduces its fair market value. Based on the findings and conclusions in Section V.(2) of this report, laws enacted or adopted since the claimant acquired the subject property may restrict the desired development of the property. The claimant estimates the reduction in value due to the restrictions to be \$200,000.

Without an appraisal or other documentation and without verification of whether or the extent to which the claimant’s desired use of the subject property was allowed under the standards in effect when he acquired the property, it is not possible to substantiate the specific dollar amount the claimant demands for compensation. Nevertheless, based on the submitted information, the department determines that it is more likely than not 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 Goal 3 and applicable provisions of ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, which Clackamas County has implemented through its current EFU zone. With the exception of provisions of Goal 3 and ORS 215 in effect when the claimant acquired the property on June 9, 1989, these land use regulations were not in effect when the claimant acquired the property.

Conclusions

Without a specific development proposal for the 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(3). It appears that the statutory, goal and rule restrictions on residential development of the claimant's property are not exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E) to the extent they were enacted or adopted after the claimant acquired the property on June 9, 1989. Provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 5, in effect when the claimant acquired the property in 1989, are exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E).

Other laws in effect when the claimant acquired the subject property are also exempt under ORS 197.352(3)(E), and will continue to apply to the claimant's use of the property. There may be other laws that continue to apply to the claimant's 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 subject property until there is a specific proposal for that use. When the claimant seeks 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 use 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.

VI. FORM OF RELIEF

ORS 197.352 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 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 findings and conclusions set forth in this report, laws enforced by the Commission or the department restrict the claimant's ability to place a dwelling on the property. The claim asserts that the laws enforced by the Commission or the department reduce the fair market value of the subject property by \$200,000. However, because the claim does not provide an appraisal or other specific documentation establishing how the specified restrictions reduce the fair market value of the subject property, and without verification of whether or the extent to which the claimant's desired use of the property was allowed under the standards in effect when he acquired the property, a specific amount of compensation cannot be determined. Nevertheless, based on the record for this claim, the department acknowledges that the laws on which the claim is based likely 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 James Birkemeier to use the subject property for a use permitted at the time he acquired the property on June 9, 1989.

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 James Birkemeier's placement of a dwelling on the 30-acre property: applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted after June 9, 1989. These land use regulations 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 June 9, 1989.
2. The action by the State of Oregon provides the state's authorization to the claimant to use the property for the use described in this report, subject to the standards in effect on June 9, 1989. On that date, the property was subject to compliance with Clackamas County's acknowledged EFU zone, and the applicable provisions of Goal 3, ORS 215 and OAR 660, division 5, then 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 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 April 17, 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. Comments received have been taken into account by the department in the issuance of this final report.