

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. M 122273
(BALLOT MEASURE 37) OF)	
Marion and Patricia Rentz, CLAIMANTS)	

Claimants: Marion and Patricia Rentz (the Claimants)

Property: Township 29S, Range 9W, Section 12, Tax lot 1400, Douglas County
(the property)

Claim: The demand for compensation and any supporting information received
from the Claimants by the State of Oregon (the Claim).

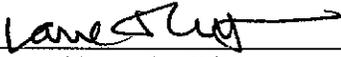
Claimants submitted the Claim to the State of Oregon under ORS 197.352. Under OAR 125-145-0010 *et seq.*, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) referred the Claim to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) as the regulating entity. This order is based on the record herein, 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 denied as to laws administered by DLCD and the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) for the reasons set forth in the DLCD Report.

This Order is entered by the 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 chapter 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 chapter 125, division 145, and ORS chapter 293.

FOR DLCD AND THE LAND
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION:



Lane Shetterly, Director
DLCD

Dated this 21st day of July, 2006.

FOR the DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:



David Hartwig, Administrator
DAS, State Services Division

Dated this 21st day of July, 2006.

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL OR OTHER JUDICIAL RELIEF

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

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)

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**

July 21, 2006

STATE CLAIM NUMBER: M122273

NAMES OF CLAIMANTS: Marion and Patricia Rentz

MAILING ADDRESS: 1548 Wildcat Road
Camas Valley, Oregon 97416

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: Township 29S, Range 9W, Section 12
Tax lot 1400
Douglas County

OTHER INTEREST IN PROPERTY: Jimmy and Kathleen Rentz¹
1542 Wildcat Road
Camas Valley, Oregon 97416

DATE RECEIVED BY DAS: September 12, 2005

180-DAY DEADLINE: July 28, 2006²

I. SUMMARY OF CLAIM

The claimants, Marion and Patricia Rentz, seek compensation in the amount of \$175,000 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 3-acre parcel (on which an existing dwelling is located) from the 270-acre subject property. The subject property is located at 1548 Wildcat Road, near Camas Valley, in Douglas 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 not valid because neither the Land Conservation and Development Commission (the Commission) nor the department has enforced laws that restrict the claimants' use of the private real property. (See the complete recommendation in Section VI of this report.)

¹ According to the claim, these individuals have a 99-year lease over one acre of the subject property.

² 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).

III. COMMENTS ON THE CLAIM

Comments Received

On October 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 was received in response to the 10-day notice.

The comment is relevant to whether the restriction of the claimants' use of the subject property reduces the fair market value of the property and whether a state agency can waive state law. The comment has been considered by the department in preparing this report. (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 September 12, 2005, for processing under OAR 125, division 145. The claim identifies the county's Farm/Forest zone 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 Douglas 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, Marion and Patricia Rentz, acquired the subject property on June 12, 1957, and April 19, 1962, as reflected by deeds included with the claim. The Douglas County Planning Department confirms the claimants’ current ownership of the subject property.

Conclusions

The claimants, Marion and Patricia Rentz, are “owners” of the subject property as that term is defined in ORS 197.352(11)(C), as of June 12, 1957, and April 19, 1962.

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 a 3-acre parcel from the 270-acre subject property to accommodate one of two existing dwellings and that, due to current regulations, “parcels of land less than 160 acres cannot be divided off.”

The subject property is currently zoned Farm/Forest by Douglas County. The Farm/Forest district is a mixed farm-forest zone with a minimum lot size of 80 acres. However, ORS 215.780(2)(e) specifically allows counties “to allow a division of a lot or parcel zoned for forest use or mixed farm and forest use” provided, generally, that at least two dwellings lawfully existed on the lot or parcel prior to November 4, 1993, and that, except for one of the parcels, each lot or parcel created is between two and five acres in size and at least one dwelling is located on each created lot or parcel.

Based on the information in the claim, the claimants’ desired division of a 3-acre parcel from the 270-acre subject property would satisfy the requirements for a partition under ORS 215.780(2)(e). The department has not identified any other state laws enforced by the Commission or the department that restrict the claimants’ desired use of the subject property.

Conclusions

The claim does not establish any state laws that currently restrict the claimants' desired use of their property. Based on the record before the department, neither the Commission nor the department enforces any laws that restrict the claimants' desired use of their real property because the subject property is within a mixed farm-forest zone that permits the claimants' desired division of the property.

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."

As explained in Section V.(2) of this report, the claimants, Marion and Patricia Rentz, have not established that any state laws restrict the use of the subject property. Accordingly, the department cannot determine that any laws enforced by the Commission or the department have had the effect of reducing the fair market value of the subject 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.

As explained in Section V.(2) of this report, the claimants, Marion and Patricia Rentz, have not established that any state laws restrict the desired use of the subject property. Accordingly, the department cannot determine that any exemptions under ORS 197.352(3) apply to this claim.

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 record for this claim, the claimants have not established that any state laws enforced by the Commission or the department restrict the use of the subject property and have the effect of reducing its fair market value. Because ORS 215.780(2)(e) authorizes the county to permit the claimants' desired division of the subject property, neither the Commission nor the department enforces laws that restrict the desired use of the property.

Conclusions

Based on the record before the department, the claimants, Marion and Patricia Rentz, have not established that they are entitled to relief under ORS 197.352(1) as a result of land use regulations enforced by the Commission or the department. Therefore, the department recommends that this claim be denied.

VII. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STAFF REPORT

The department issued its draft staff report on this claim on July 5, 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.