

Enrolled Senate Bill 8

Sponsored by Senator COURTNEY; Senator MANNING JR, Representatives BYNUM, DEXTER,
FAHEY, KOTEK, KROPF, ZIKA

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to land use planning for housing; creating new provisions; amending ORS 197.830, 197.850, 215.441 and 227.500; and repealing ORS 197.779.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, “affordable housing” means residential property:

(a) In which:

(A) Each unit on the property is made available to own or rent to families with incomes of 80 percent or less of the area median income as determined by the Oregon Housing Stability Council based on information from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development; or

(B) The average of all units on the property is made available to families with incomes of 60 percent or less of the area median income; and

(b) Whose affordability is enforceable, including as described in ORS 456.270 to 456.295, for a duration of no less than 30 years.

(2) A local government shall allow affordable housing, and may not require a zone change or conditional use permit for affordable housing on property if:

(a) The housing is owned by:

(A) A public body, as defined in ORS 174.109; or

(B) A nonprofit corporation that is organized as a religious corporation; or

(b) The property is zoned:

(A) For commercial uses;

(B) To allow religious assembly; or

(C) As public lands.

(3) Subsection (2) of this section:

(a) Does not apply to the development of housing not within an urban growth boundary.

(b) Does not trigger any requirement that a local government consider or update an analysis as required by a statewide planning goal relating to economic development.

(c) Applies on property zoned to allow for industrial uses only if the property is:

(A) Publicly owned;

(B) Adjacent to lands zoned for residential uses or schools; and

(C) Not specifically designated for heavy industrial uses.

(d) Does not apply on lands where the local government determines that:

(A) The development on the property cannot be adequately served by water, sewer, storm water drainage or streets, or will not be adequately served at the time that development on the lot is complete;

(B) The property contains a slope of 25 percent or greater;

(C) The property is within a 100-year floodplain; or

(D) The development of the property is constrained by land use regulations based on statewide land use planning goals relating to:

(i) Natural disasters and hazards; or

(ii) Natural resources, including air, water, land or natural areas, but not including open spaces or historic resources.

(4) A local government shall approve an application at an authorized density level and authorized height level, as defined in ORS 227.175 (4), for the development of affordable housing, at the greater of:

(a) Any local density bonus for affordable housing; or

(b) Without consideration of any local density bonus for affordable housing:

(A) For property with existing maximum density of 16 or fewer units per acre, 200 percent of the existing density and 12 additional feet;

(B) For property with existing maximum density of 17 or more units per acre and 45 or fewer units per acre, 150 percent of the existing density and 24 additional feet; or

(C) For property with existing maximum density of 46 or more units per acre, 125 percent of the existing density and 36 additional feet.

(5)(a) Subsection (4) of this section does not apply to housing allowed under subsection (2) of this section in areas that are not zoned for residential uses.

(b) A local government may reduce the density or height of the density bonus allowed under subsection (4) of this section as necessary to address a health, safety or habitability issue, including fire safety, or to comply with a protective measure adopted pursuant to a statewide land use planning goal. Notwithstanding ORS 197.350, the local government must adopt findings supported by substantial evidence demonstrating the necessity of this reduction.

SECTION 1a. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 197.286 to 197.314.

SECTION 2. (1) The Land Use Board of Appeals shall award attorney fees to an applicant whose application is only for the development of affordable housing, as defined in section 1 of this 2021 Act, or publicly supported housing, as defined in ORS 456.250, if the board affirms a quasi-judicial land use decision approving the application or reverses a quasi-judicial land use decision denying the application.

(2) A party who was awarded attorney fees under this section or ORS 197.850 shall repay the fees plus any interest from the time of the judgment if the property upon which the fees are based is developed for a use other than affordable housing.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Applicant" includes:

(A) An applicant with a funding reservation agreement with a public funder for the purpose of developing publicly supported housing;

(B) A housing authority, as defined in ORS 456.005;

(C) A qualified housing sponsor, as defined in ORS 456.548;

(D) A religious nonprofit corporation;

(E) A public benefit nonprofit corporation whose primary purpose is the development of affordable housing; and

(F) A local government that approved the application of an applicant described in this paragraph.

(b) "Attorney fees" includes prelitigation legal expenses, including preparing the application and supporting the application in local land use hearings or proceedings.

SECTION 2a. Section 2 of this 2021 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 197.830 to 197.845.

SECTION 3. ORS 197.830 is amended to read:

197.830. (1) Review of land use decisions or limited land use decisions under ORS 197.830 to 197.845 shall be commenced by filing a notice of intent to appeal with the Land Use Board of Appeals.

(2) Except as provided in ORS 197.620, a person may petition the board for review of a land use decision or limited land use decision if the person:

(a) Filed a notice of intent to appeal the decision as provided in subsection (1) of this section; and

(b) Appeared before the local government, special district or state agency orally or in writing.

(3) If a local government makes a land use decision without providing a hearing, except as provided under ORS 215.416 (11) or 227.175 (10), or the local government makes a land use decision that is different from the proposal described in the notice of hearing to such a degree that the notice of the proposed action did not reasonably describe the local government's final actions, a person adversely affected by the decision may appeal the decision to the board under this section:

(a) Within 21 days of actual notice where notice is required; or

(b) Within 21 days of the date a person knew or should have known of the decision where no notice is required.

(4) If a local government makes a land use decision without a hearing pursuant to ORS 215.416 (11) or 227.175 (10):

(a) A person who was not provided notice of the decision as required under ORS 215.416 (11)(c) or 227.175 (10)(c) may appeal the decision to the board under this section within 21 days of receiving actual notice of the decision.

(b) A person who is not entitled to notice under ORS 215.416 (11)(c) or 227.175 (10)(c) but who is adversely affected or aggrieved by the decision may appeal the decision to the board under this section within 21 days after the expiration of the period for filing a local appeal of the decision established by the local government under ORS 215.416 (11)(a) or 227.175 (10)(a).

(c) A person who receives notice of a decision made without a hearing under ORS 215.416 (11) or 227.175 (10) may appeal the decision to the board under this section within 21 days of receiving actual notice of the nature of the decision, if the notice of the decision did not reasonably describe the nature of the decision.

(d) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection, a person who receives notice of a decision made without a hearing under ORS 215.416 (11) or 227.175 (10) may not appeal the decision to the board under this section.

(5) If a local government makes a limited land use decision which is different from the proposal described in the notice to such a degree that the notice of the proposed action did not reasonably describe the local government's final actions, a person adversely affected by the decision may appeal the decision to the board under this section:

(a) Within 21 days of actual notice where notice is required; or

(b) Within 21 days of the date a person knew or should have known of the decision where no notice is required.

(6) The appeal periods described in subsections (3), (4) and (5) of this section:

(a) May not exceed three years after the date of the decision, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection.

(b) May not exceed 10 years after the date of the decision if notice of a hearing or an administrative decision made pursuant to ORS 197.195 or 197.763 is required but has not been provided.

(7)(a) Within 21 days after a notice of intent to appeal has been filed with the board under subsection (1) of this section, any person described in paragraph (b) of this subsection may intervene in and be made a party to the review proceeding by filing a motion to intervene and by paying a filing fee of \$100.

(b) Persons who may intervene in and be made a party to the review proceedings, as set forth in subsection (1) of this section, are:

(A) The applicant who initiated the action before the local government, special district or state agency; or

(B) Persons who appeared before the local government, special district or state agency, orally or in writing.

(c) Failure to comply with the deadline or to pay the filing fee set forth in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall result in denial of a motion to intervene.

(8) If a state agency whose order, rule, ruling, policy or other action is at issue is not a party to the proceeding, it may file a brief with the board as if it were a party. The brief shall be due on the same date the respondent's brief is due and shall be accompanied by a filing fee of \$100.

(9) A notice of intent to appeal a land use decision or limited land use decision shall be filed not later than 21 days after the date the decision sought to be reviewed becomes final. A notice of intent to appeal plan and land use regulation amendments processed pursuant to ORS 197.610 to 197.625 shall be filed not later than 21 days after notice of the decision sought to be reviewed is mailed or otherwise submitted to parties entitled to notice under ORS 197.615. Failure to include a statement identifying when, how and to whom notice was provided under ORS 197.615 does not render the notice defective. Copies of the notice of intent to appeal shall be served upon the local government, special district or state agency and the applicant of record, if any, in the local government, special district or state agency proceeding. The notice shall be served and filed in the form and manner prescribed by rule of the board and shall be accompanied by a filing fee of \$200 and a deposit for costs to be established by the board. If a petition for review is not filed with the board as required in subsections (10) and (11) of this section, the filing fee and deposit shall be awarded to the local government, special district or state agency as cost of preparation of the record.

(10)(a) Within 21 days after service of the notice of intent to appeal, the local government, special district or state agency shall transmit to the board the original or a certified copy of the entire record of the proceeding under review. By stipulation of all parties to the review proceeding the record may be shortened. The board may require or permit subsequent corrections to the record; however, the board shall issue an order on a motion objecting to the record within 60 days of receiving the motion. If the board denies a petitioner's objection to the record, the board may establish a new deadline for the petition for review to be filed that may not be less than 14 days from the later of the original deadline for the brief or the date of denial of the petitioner's record objection.

(b) Within 10 days after service of a notice of intent to appeal, the board shall provide notice to the petitioner and the respondent of their option to enter into mediation pursuant to ORS 197.860. Any person moving to intervene shall be provided such notice within seven days after a motion to intervene is filed. The notice required by this paragraph shall be accompanied by a statement that mediation information or assistance may be obtained from the Department of Land Conservation and Development.

(11) A petition for review of the land use decision or limited land use decision and supporting brief shall be filed with the board as required by the board under subsection (13) of this section.

(12) The petition shall include a copy of the decision sought to be reviewed and shall state:

(a) The facts that establish that the petitioner has standing.

(b) The date of the decision.

(c) The issues the petitioner seeks to have reviewed.

(13)(a) The board shall adopt rules establishing deadlines for filing petitions and briefs and for oral argument.

(b) At any time subsequent to the filing of a notice of intent and prior to the date set for filing the record, or, on appeal of a decision under ORS 197.610 to 197.625, prior to the filing of the respondent's brief, the local government or state agency may withdraw its decision for purposes of reconsideration. If a local government or state agency withdraws an order for purposes of reconsideration, it shall, within such time as the board may allow, affirm, modify or reverse its decision.

If the petitioner is dissatisfied with the local government or agency action after withdrawal for purposes of reconsideration, the petitioner may refile the notice of intent and the review shall proceed upon the revised order. An amended notice of intent is not required if the local government or state agency, on reconsideration, affirms the order or modifies the order with only minor changes.

(14) The board shall issue a final order within 77 days after the date of transmittal of the record. If the order is not issued within 77 days the applicant may apply in Marion County or the circuit court of the county where the application was filed for a writ of mandamus to compel the board to issue a final order.

(15) Upon entry of its final order, the board:

(a) May, in its discretion, award costs to the prevailing party including the cost of preparation of the record if the prevailing party is the local government, special district or state agency whose decision is under review. The board shall apply the deposit required by subsection (9) of this section to any costs charged against the petitioner.

(b) Shall award reasonable attorney fees and expenses to the prevailing party against any other party who the board finds presented a position or filed any motion without probable cause to believe the position or motion was well-founded in law or on factually supported information.

[(c) Upon affirming a quasi-judicial land use decision approving an application that is only for the development of publicly supported housing, as defined in ORS 456.250, shall award reasonable attorney fees and expenses to a prevailing respondent that is the applicant or local government.]

(c) Shall award costs and attorney fees to a party as provided in section 2 of this 2021 Act.

(16) Orders issued under this section may be enforced in appropriate judicial proceedings.

(17)(a) The board shall provide for the publication of its orders that are of general public interest in the form it deems best adapted for public convenience. The publications shall constitute the official reports of the board.

(b) Any moneys collected or received from sales by the board shall be paid into the Board Publications Account established by ORS 197.832.

(18) Except for any sums collected for publication of board opinions, all fees collected by the board under this section that are not awarded as costs shall be paid over to the State Treasurer to be credited to the General Fund.

(19) The board shall track and report on its website:

(a) The number of reviews commenced, as described in subsection (1) of this section, the number of reviews commenced for which a petition is filed under subsection (2) of this section and, in relation to each of those numbers, the rate at which the reviews result in a decision of the board to uphold, reverse or remand the land use decision or limited land use decision. The board shall track and report reviews under this paragraph in categories established by the board.

(b) A list of petitioners, the number of reviews commenced and the rate at which the petitioner's reviews have resulted in decisions of the board to uphold, reverse or remand the land use decision or limited land use decision.

(c) A list of respondents, the number of reviews involving each respondent and the rate at which reviews involving the respondent have resulted in decisions of the board to uphold, reverse or remand the land use decision or limited land use decision. Additionally, when a respondent is the local government that made the land use decision or limited land use decision, the board shall track whether the local government appears before the board.

(d) A list of reviews, and a brief summary of the circumstances in each review, under which the board exercises its discretion to require a losing party to pay the attorney fees of the prevailing party.

SECTION 3a. ORS 197.850 is amended to read:

197.850. (1) Any party to a proceeding before the Land Use Board of Appeals under ORS 197.830 to 197.845 may seek judicial review of a final order issued in those proceedings.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 183.480 to 183.540, judicial review of orders issued under ORS 197.830 to 197.845 is solely as provided in this section.

(3)(a) Jurisdiction for judicial review of proceedings under ORS 197.830 to 197.845 is conferred upon the Court of Appeals. Proceedings for judicial review are instituted by filing a petition in the Court of Appeals. The petition must be filed within 21 days following the date the board delivered or mailed the order upon which the petition is based.

(b) Filing of the petition, as set forth in paragraph (a) of this subsection, and service of a petition on all persons identified in the petition as adverse parties of record in the board proceeding is jurisdictional and may not be waived or extended.

(4) The petition must state the nature of the order the petitioner desires reviewed. Copies of the petition must be served by first class, registered or certified mail on the board and all other parties of record in the board proceeding.

(5) Within seven days after service of the petition, the board shall transmit to the court the original or a certified copy of the entire record of the proceeding under review, but, by stipulation of all parties to the review proceeding, the record may be shortened. The court may tax a party that unreasonably refuses to stipulate to limit the record for the additional costs. The court may require or permit subsequent corrections or additions to the record when deemed desirable. Except as specifically provided in this subsection, the court may not tax the cost of the record to the petitioner or any intervening party. However, the court may tax such costs and the cost of transcription of record to a party filing a frivolous petition for judicial review.

(6) Petitions and briefs must be filed within time periods and in a manner established by the Court of Appeals by rule.

(7)(a) The court shall hear oral argument within 49 days of the date of transmittal of the record.

(b) The court may hear oral argument more than 49 days from the date of transmittal of the record provided the court determines that the ends of justice served by holding oral argument on a later day outweigh the best interests of the public and the parties. The court may not hold oral argument more than 49 days from the date of transmittal of the record because of general congestion of the court calendar or lack of diligent preparation or attention to the case by any member of the court or any party.

(c) The court shall set forth in writing a determination to hear oral argument more than 49 days from the date the record is transmitted, together with the reasons for its determination, and shall provide a copy to the parties. The court shall schedule oral argument as soon as practicable thereafter.

(d) In making a determination under paragraph (b) of this subsection, the court shall consider:

(A) Whether the case is so unusual or complex, due to the number of parties or the existence of novel questions of law, that 49 days is an unreasonable amount of time for the parties to brief the case and for the court to prepare for oral argument; and

(B) Whether the failure to hold oral argument at a later date likely would result in a miscarriage of justice.

(8) Judicial review of an order issued under ORS 197.830 to 197.845 must be confined to the record. The court may not substitute its judgment for that of the board as to any issue of fact.

(9) The court may affirm, reverse or remand the order. The court shall reverse or remand the order only if it finds:

(a) The order to be unlawful in substance or procedure, but error in procedure is not cause for reversal or remand unless the court finds that substantial rights of the petitioner were prejudiced thereby;

(b) The order to be unconstitutional; or

(c) The order is not supported by substantial evidence in the whole record as to facts found by the board under ORS 197.835 (2).

(10) The Court of Appeals shall issue a final order on the petition for judicial review with the greatest possible expediency.

(11) If the order of the board is remanded by the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court, the board shall respond to the court's appellate judgment within 30 days.

(12) A party must file with the board an undertaking with one or more sureties insuring that the party will pay all costs, disbursements and attorney fees awarded against the party by the Court of Appeals if:

(a) The party appealed a decision of the board to the Court of Appeals; and

(b) In making the decision being appealed to the Court of Appeals, the board awarded attorney fees and expenses against that party under ORS 197.830 (15)(b) or (c).

(13) Upon entry of its final order, the court shall award attorney fees and expenses to a party who:

(a) Prevails on a claim that an approval condition imposed by a local government on an application for a permit pursuant to ORS 215.416 or 227.175 is unconstitutional under section 18, Article I, Oregon Constitution, or the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution; or

(b) Is entitled to attorney fees under [ORS 197.830 (15)(c)] **section 2 of this 2021 Act.**

(14) The undertaking required in subsection (12) of this section must be filed with the board and served on the opposing parties within 10 days after the date the petition was filed with the Court of Appeals.

SECTION 4. ORS 215.441 is amended to read:

215.441. (1) If a church, synagogue, temple, mosque, chapel, meeting house or other nonresidential place of worship is allowed on real property under state law and rules and local zoning ordinances and regulations, a county shall allow the reasonable use of the real property for activities customarily associated with the practices of the religious activity, including:

(a) Worship services.

(b) Religion classes.

(c) Weddings.

(d) Funerals.

(e) Meal programs.

(f) Child care, but not including private or parochial school education for prekindergarten through grade 12 or higher education.

[(g) Providing housing or space for housing in a building or buildings that are detached from the place of worship, provided:]

[(A) At least 50 percent of the residential units provided under this paragraph are affordable to households with incomes equal to or less than 60 percent of the median family income for the county in which the real property is located;]

[(B) The real property is in an area zoned for residential use that is located within the urban growth boundary; and]

[(C) The housing or space for housing complies with applicable land use regulations and meets the standards and criteria for residential development for the underlying zone.]

(2) A county may:

(a) Subject real property described in subsection (1) of this section to reasonable regulations, including site review or design review, concerning the physical characteristics of the uses authorized under subsection (1) of this section; or

(b) Prohibit or restrict the use of real property by a place of worship described in subsection (1) of this section if the county finds that the level of service of public facilities, including transportation, water supply, sewer and storm drain systems is not adequate to serve the place of worship described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a county may allow a private or parochial school for prekindergarten through grade 12 or higher education to be sited under applicable state law and rules and local zoning ordinances and regulations.

[(4) Housing and space for housing provided under subsection (1)(g) of this section must be subject to a covenant appurtenant that restricts the owner and each successive owner of a building or any residential unit contained in a building from selling or renting any residential unit described in subsection (1)(g)(A) of this section as housing that is not affordable to households with incomes equal to

or less than 60 percent of the median family income for the county in which the real property is located for a period of 60 years from the date of the certificate of occupancy.]

SECTION 5. ORS 227.500 is amended to read:

227.500. (1) If a church, synagogue, temple, mosque, chapel, meeting house or other nonresidential place of worship is allowed on real property under state law and rules and local zoning ordinances and regulations, a city shall allow the reasonable use of the real property for activities customarily associated with the practices of the religious activity, including:

- (a) Worship services.
- (b) Religion classes.
- (c) Weddings.
- (d) Funerals.
- (e) Meal programs.

(f) Child care, but not including private or parochial school education for prekindergarten through grade 12 or higher education.

[(g) Providing housing or space for housing in a building or buildings that are detached from the place of worship, provided:]

[(A) At least 50 percent of the residential units provided under this paragraph are affordable to households with incomes equal to or less than 60 percent of the median family income for the county in which the real property is located;]

[(B) The real property is in an area zoned for residential use that is located within the urban growth boundary; and]

[(C) The housing or space for housing complies with applicable land use regulations and meets the standards and criteria for residential development for the underlying zone.]

(2) A city may:

(a) Subject real property described in subsection (1) of this section to reasonable regulations, including site review and design review, concerning the physical characteristics of the uses authorized under subsection (1) of this section; or

(b) Prohibit or regulate the use of real property by a place of worship described in subsection (1) of this section if the city finds that the level of service of public facilities, including transportation, water supply, sewer and storm drain systems is not adequate to serve the place of worship described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a city may allow a private or parochial school for prekindergarten through grade 12 or higher education to be sited under applicable state law and rules and local zoning ordinances and regulations.

[(4) Housing and space for housing provided under subsection (1)(g) of this section must be subject to a covenant appurtenant that restricts the owner and each successive owner of a building or any residential unit contained in a building from selling or renting any residential unit described in subsection (1)(g)(A) of this section as housing that is not affordable to households with incomes equal to or less than 60 percent of the median family income for the county in which the real property is located for a period of 60 years from the date of the certificate of occupancy.]

SECTION 6. ORS 197.779 is repealed.

Passed by Senate April 21, 2021

Repassed by Senate June 8, 2021

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Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Passed by House June 3, 2021

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

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Kate Brown, Governor

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Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State