

Attention Property Owner: A land use proposal has been submitted for property near where you live or near property you own elsewhere. State law requires that the county notify property owners within a certain distance from this property. The proposal and address of the property is described in the "Application" section below. The decision in this case does not directly affect the zoning or use of your property. If you object to the decision, refer to the "Appeal" section. If you have questions, contact the staff person listed at the end of this report.

**NOTICE OF DECISION
CONDITIONAL USE CASE NO.23-035**

APPLICATION: Application of Dominic and Ann Priscilla Meduri for a conditional use to use an existing dwelling as a medical hardship dwelling on a 52.19-acre parcel in an EFU (Exclusive Farm Use) zone located at 8501 Jackson Hill Road SE, Salem (T8S; R3W; Section 34; Tax lot 1000).

DECISION: The Planning Director for Marion County has **APPROVED** the above-described Conditional Use application subject to conditions. **PLEASE READ ALL CONDITIONS BELOW.**

EXPIRATION DATE: This Conditional Use Permit is valid only when exercised by **October 19, 2025** (two years). The effective period may be extended for an additional year subject to approval of an extension (form available from the Planning Division). **Additional extensions may not be granted if the regulations under which this decision was granted have changed since the original approval.**

RENEWAL: This permit may be renewed for successive one-year periods if the applicant submits to the Planning Division, on an annual basis, a new Primary Care Provider Certificate which indicates that the hardship situation continues. The Planning Division will mail renewal forms to the property owner approximately two months prior to permit expiration.

WARNING: A decision approving the proposed use is for land use purposes only. Due to septic, well, and drain field replacement areas, this parcel may not be able to support the proposed use. To ensure the subject property can accommodate the proposed use the applicant should contact the Building Inspection Division, (503) 588-5147.

This decision does not include approval of a building permit.

CONDITIONS: The following conditions must be met before a building permit can be obtained or the approved use established:

1. The applicant shall obtain approval for all required permits, including septic, from the Marion County Building Inspection Division.
2. The applicant shall submit a Manufactured Dwelling/RV Removal or Disconnect Agreement (enclosed) to the Planning Division. This agreement specifies that the manufactured home will be removed within 90 days after the hardship ceases. This statement shall be recorded by the applicant with the Marion County Clerk after it has been reviewed and signed by the Planning Director.
3. The applicant shall sign and submit a Farm/Forest Declaratory Statement (enclosed) to the Planning Division. This serves to notify the current applicant and future property owners that there are farm/forest practices being conducted in the local area. This statement shall be recorded by the applicant with the Marion County Clerk after it has been reviewed and signed by the Planning Director.
4. The hardship (manufactured home) shall be assigned the address of **8491 Jackson Hill Rd SE**. The new primary dwelling (stick built) shall maintain the existing address of **8501 Jackson Hill Rd SE**. This shall be effective when building permits are applied for.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS: Once the approved use is established the following conditions must be continually satisfied:

5. The applicants are advised that this permit is granted for a period of one year **and must be renewed for successive one-year periods** upon submittal of a Physician's Certificate verifying that the hardship conditions continue to exist. In addition, every five years the Marion County Building Inspection Division requires a septic evaluation for shared systems prior to renewal of hardship conditional uses.

OTHER PERMITS, FEES, AND RESTRICTIONS: This approval does not remove or affect covenants or restrictions imposed on the subject property by deed or other instrument. The proposed use may require permits and/or fees from other local, State or Federal agencies. This decision does not take the place of, or relieve the responsibility for, obtaining other permits or satisfying any restrictions or conditions thereon. The applicant is advised of the following:

6. The applicants should contact Marion County Land Development Engineering and Permits (LDEP) regarding point #6 in the Findings and Conclusions below.

APPEAL PROCEDURE: The Marion County Zone Code provides that certain applications be considered first by the County Planning Director. If there is any doubt that the application conforms with adopted land use policies and regulations the Director must condition or deny the application. Anyone who disagrees with the Director's decision may request that the application be considered by a Marion County hearings officer after a public hearing. The applicant may also request reconsideration (one time only and a fee of \$200) on the basis of new information subject to signing an extension of the 150-day time limit for review of zoning applications.

A public hearing is held on appeals subject to the appellant paying a \$250.00 fee. Requests for reconsideration, or consideration by a hearings officer, must be in writing (form available from the Planning Division) and received in the Marion County Planning Division, 5155 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, by 5:00 p.m. on **October 19, 2023**. If you have questions about this decision, contact the Planning Division at (503) 588-5038 or at the office. This decision is effective **October 20, 2023**, unless further consideration is requested.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS: Findings and conclusions on which the decision was based are noted below.

1. The subject property is designated Primary Agriculture in the Marion County Comprehensive Plan. The major purpose of this designation and the corresponding Exclusive Farm Use zone is to promote the continuation of commercial farm and forestry operations.
2. The property is located on the west side of Jackson Hill Rd SE approximately one half mile north of its intersection with Shasta St SE. The property contains two dwellings currently. A stick built home completed in 2022 resides on the property and is the replacement dwelling for a 1978 double wide Barrington manufactured home, which was granted in Farm Dwelling case 96-011. The manufactured home has not been removed as yet and is the dwelling which the applicants are wishing to use for the caregiver in this application. The subject property is only allowed one permanent legal dwelling. Farm/accessory structures are also located on the property. Miller Creek runs through a portion of the property and there is a small portion of the parcel located in the southeast quarter which is identified as a 3-point value for geologic hazards.
3. The parcel has been subject to several land use cases, two of which were approved by Planning (Farm Dwelling 96-011 and Property Line Adjustment 21-051) and the subject property's configuration has not changed since. Therefore, per the definitions in Marion County Code 17.110.427 and 17.110.680, the parcel is considered legal for land use purposes.
4. Surrounding properties to the south, west, and north are medium to large sized parcels in commercial farm use zoned EFU. Parcels to the east, across Jackson Hill Rd SE, are small to medium sized properties zoned SA (Special Agriculture) and do not appear to be in farm use.
5. Soil Survey of Marion County, Oregon indicates approximately 98.6% of the subject property is composed of high-value soils.
6. Various agencies were contacted about the proposal and given an opportunity to comment.

Marion County Land Development Engineering and Permits (LDEP) commented:

ENGINEERING REQUIREMENT

A. At the time of application for building permits it will be required to obtain an Access Permit to close or possibly improve and relocate the secondary field access. It should be noted that the access is located at a low point in the road where vision is not optimized, and in the direct path of mapped Miller Creek ephemeral drainage way.

Marion County Building Division commented: “No Building Inspection concerns. If any development and/or utilities are proposed, permits may be required to be obtained prior to installation.”

All other contacted agencies either failed to comment or stated no objection to the proposal.

7. In order to approve a manufactured home/RV under medical hardship the applicant must demonstrate compliance with the specific criteria listed in MCC 17.120.040. These include:

A. This subsection contains definitions for the section and is not applicable as a criterion.

B. This subsection contains various requirements for application submission, including “*a signed statement from a licensed medical professional indicating whether the aged or infirm person has a hardship as defined in subsection (A) of this section. The statement shall also attest whether the licensed medical professional is convinced the person(s) with the hardship must be provided the care so frequently or in such a manner that the caregiver(s) must reside on the same premises*” and “*identify whether the aged or infirm person(s) and/or caregiver(s) will be residing in the hardship permit dwelling.*”

The applicant has submitted a signed Medical Care Provider Certificate for Luca Meduri indicating that he has a medical condition that precludes him from maintaining a complete separate and detached dwelling apart from his family. Dominic and Ana Priscilla Meduri, the applicants and property owners, are Luca’s parents. They will reside in the new primary farm dwelling built in 2022 with Luca. Bekah Lovejoy, the caregiver, will live in the existing manufactured home. The manufactured home’s use will be altered from that of a primary farm dwelling to a medical hardship. The criterion is met.

C. *In the EFU, SA, FT and TC zones, occupancy of a hardship permit dwelling is limited to the term of the hardship suffered by the existing resident or a relative as defined in ORS 215.283(2)(L).*

The subject property is in an EFU zone. The hardship is for the property owner’s child, who is also an existing resident. The criterion is met.

D. *When the aged or infirm person must be provided care so frequently or in such a manner that caregiver(s) must reside on the same premises, the aged or infirm person and/or those caregivers providing care for the aged or infirm person may temporarily reside in the hardship permit dwelling for the term necessary to provide care.*

1. *Those providing the care must show that they will be available and have the skills to provide the care required, as described by the licensed medical professional.*
2. *Caregivers may reside within a hardship permit dwelling during periods of absence and medically necessary absence.*
3. *Caregivers shall not have any financial or expense obligation increased for residing in the hardship dwelling during periods of absence and medically necessary absence.*

Dominic and Ana Priscilla have stated that Bekah Lovejoy will oversee Luca’s daily care such as assisting with mobility and overseeing medication. The criterion is met.

- E. *A temporary absence or medically necessary absence from the property by the aged or infirm person(s) will not result in the revocation or denial of a hardship permit.*
1. *When a medically necessary absence results in the aged or infirm person(s) living off of the property for more than 165 days in one calendar year or 165 consecutive days they must provide notice of the medically necessary absence to prevent the absence from being considered an extended absence.*
 2. *Notice of a medically necessary absence that will result in the aged or infirm person(s) living off of the property for more than 165 days in one calendar year or 165 consecutive days must be provided within 14 days of learning that the absence from the property will result in the aged or infirm person having to live away from the property for more than 165 days in one calendar year or 165 consecutive days.*
 3. *Notice of a medically necessary absence must:*
 - a. *Be submitted in writing;*
 - b. *Include a statement from a licensed medical provider outlining that the absence from the property is necessary for the care or medical treatment of the aged or infirm person;*
 - c. *Provide an estimate as to when the aged or infirm person(s) will return to the property;*
 - d. *Include an assessment from the licensed medical professional on whether or not the aged or infirm person(s) will be able to reside on the property again.*
 - i. *If a licensed medical professional cannot provide an assessment on whether the aged or infirm person will be able to return to the property at the time when notice of a medical necessary absence is due, a hardship permit may be approved for the amount of time necessary, not to exceed one year, for the licensed medical professional to make the assessment as to whether the aged or infirm person(s) will be able to return to the property.*
 - ii. *If a licensed medical professional cannot provide an assessment after the period of time described in subsection (E)(3)(d)(i) of this section, then a determination will be made as to whether the hardship permit is still necessary for the care of the aged or infirm person(s).*
 4. *Notice of a medically necessary absence may be submitted by the owner(s), aged or infirm person(s), caregiver(s) of the aged or infirm person(s), or other agent of the aged or infirm person(s).*
 5. *Caregivers may not be charged any rent or otherwise required to provide financial compensation to live in the hardship dwelling during a temporary absence or medically necessary absence.*

If as a part of any agreement to provide caretaking services, the caregiver was required to provide financial compensation or incur a financial obligation in order to reside within the hardship dwelling then that arrangement will not violate this subsection (E)(5); provided, that the arrangement existed prior to the temporary absence or medically necessary absence.

These shall be made a condition of approval.

- F. *Extended absence from the property by the aged or infirm person(s), or caregiver(s) when the hardship permit dwelling is only being inhabited by caregiver(s), creates a rebuttable presumption that the hardship permit is no longer necessary to provide care to the aged or infirm person(s).*

1. *Extended absence from the property may result in revocation of the hardship permit; issuance of a citation pursuant to MCC 1.25.030; and/or initiation of civil action in circuit court pursuant to MCC 1.25.050.*
2. *Notice will be provided to the owner of any substantiated violation of this subsection (F) 30 days prior to the effective date of a revocation of the hardship permit made pursuant to subsection (F)(1) of this section.*

This shall be made a condition of approval. The criteria is met.

G. *A mobile home or recreational vehicle being used as a hardship dwelling shall to the extent permitted by the nature of the property and existing development:*

1. *Be located as near as possible to other residences on the property;*

Per the applicant's site plan and aerial imagery, the new stick built dwelling is a little under one half mile away from the manufactured home. Due to specific circumstances presented in the application, Staff has deemed that, for this case, this distance to be acceptable. The criteria is met.

2. *On EFU, SA, FT and TC zoned property, be located on the portion of the property that is least suitable for farm or forest use, if it is not feasible to locate it near an existing residence;*

Both dwellings already exist. This criterion does not apply.

3. *Not require new driveway access to the street;*

No new driveway or access is required; therefore, the criterion is met.

4. *Be connected to the existing wastewater disposal system if feasible. The disposal system shall be approved by the county sanitarian.*

The proposed medical hardship dwelling already exists and has its own septic system. Approval of said septic system will be a condition of approval. The criterion is met.

H. *For an existing building to be used as a hardship dwelling it must:*

1. *Be suitable for human habitation;*
2. *Comply with all building and specialty codes (for example, but not limited to, electrical, plumbing, and sanitation) applicable to dwellings;*
3. *Not require new driveway access to the street; and*
4. *Be connected to the existing wastewater disposal system if feasible. The disposal system shall be approved by the county sanitarian.*

The applicants are not proposing to convert an existing structure. They are proposing to use the existing legal dwelling, a manufactured home, and to change its status with Planning from that of a primary farm dwelling to a medical hardship, with removal once the hardship is no longer valid. The criterion does not apply.

I. *One of the residences shall be removed from the property within 90 days of the date the person(s) with the hardship or the care provider no longer reside on the property.*

1. *In the case of a recreational vehicle, it shall be rendered uninhabitable by disconnection from services.*

- a. *An agreement to comply with this requirement shall be signed by the applicant, and the owner of the recreational vehicle if different than the applicant.*
 - b. *Oregon Department of Environmental Quality removal requirements also apply.*
2. *In the case of an existing building, the renovations or modifications made to an existing building to be used for inhabitation must be removed.*
- a. *The existing building shall be returned to similar conditions as its previous use; or*
 - b. *If the existing building is not going to be returned to its previous use then the building must be used for either a permitted use or a new use application for the existing building must be obtained.*
3. *In the case where an agricultural exemption is sought for an existing building, a new application must be approved regardless of any previously approved agricultural exemption.*

The proposed medical hardship is a manufactured home. An approved Manufactured Home Removal Hardship Agreement, recorded with the Marion County Clerk's Office, shall be made a condition of approval. The criteria is met.

- J. *Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all caregivers and/or other persons residing in the hardship dwelling are removed from the hardship dwelling within 90 days of the date that the person with the hardship or the care provider no longer resides in the hardship dwelling or on the property.*
- 1. *Applications for a hardship dwelling must include a description of how the applicant will ensure this condition is met.*

This shall be made a condition of approval. The criterion is met.

- K. *At the time of renewal of a hardship dwelling permit, if the aged or infirm person has been on a temporary absence or medically necessary absence from the property for at least 30 consecutive days prior to submission of the renewal application, the application must include:*
- 1. *In the event of a medically necessary absence, an assessment by a licensed medical professional stating that it is reasonably likely that the aged or infirm person will return to the property within the renewal period; or*
 - 2. *In the event of a temporary absence, a statement from the owner or aged or infirmed person setting forth the date on which the aged or infirm person will return to the property.*
- If the aged or infirmed person does not return to the property within the time period described in subsection (A)(5) of this section, then the aged or infirm person's absence will be deemed an extended absence.*

This will be made a condition of approval. The criterion is met.

- L. *The use of a hardship permit dwelling is intended to be temporary, shall be subject to review every year, and shall continue to meet the above criteria in order to qualify for renewal.*

This will be made a condition of approval. The criterion is met.

- M. *For hardships in a resource zone based on a natural hazard event, the temporary residence may include a recreational vehicle or the temporary residential use of an existing building when the temporary residence is established within an existing building if the hardship is located within 100 feet of the primary residence or the temporary residence is located further than 250 feet from adjacent lands planned and zoned for resource use under Goals 3, 4, or both.*

This hardship is not related to a natural hazard event. The criterion does not apply.

8. Since the property is located in an EFU zone, the proposal must also satisfy the conditional use criteria in MCC 17.136.060(A). Those requirements are:

A. The following criteria apply to all conditional uses in the EFU zone:

- 1. The use will not force a significant change in, or significantly increase the cost of, accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm or forest use. Land devoted to farm or forest use does not include farm or forest use on lots or parcels upon which a non-farm or non-forest dwelling has been approved and established, in exception areas approved under ORS 197.732, or in an acknowledged urban growth boundary.*

The proposed dwelling, already existing and within the existing homesite area, will not impact accepted farm practices in the area. Approval of the application shall be conditioned on the applicant submitting an approved Farm/Forest Declaratory Statement acknowledging the local farm/forest use. The criterion is met.

- 2. Adequate fire protection and other rural services are, or will be, available when the use is established.*

The existing homes are served by the county Sheriff's Department and the Turner Fire District, therefore rural services are available, and the criterion is met.

- 3. The use will not have a significant adverse impact on watersheds, groundwater, fish and wildlife habitat, soil and slope stability, air and water quality.*

Both dwellings already exist, and neither is located near Miller Creek. The existing homes are not expected to have an impact on any nearby watersheds, groundwater, fish or wildlife habitats, nor are they expected to degrade soil, slope stability or air and water quality. The criterion is met.

- 4. Any noise associated with the use will not have a significant adverse impact on nearby land uses.*

The change in use from a primary farm dwelling to a non-permanent dwelling will not cause any additional noise beyond that of a residence, which is already a use on the property. The criterion is met.

- 5. The use will not have a significant adverse impact on potential water impoundments identified in the Comprehensive Plan, and not create significant conflicts with operations included in the Comprehensive Plan inventory of significant mineral and aggregate sites.*

The dwellings are not near any mineral or aggregate sites and will not cause conflicts. The criterion are met.

9. MCC 17.136.050(B) requires that a declaratory statement meeting the requirements of MCC 17.136.100(C) be filed. This serves to notify the applicant and subsequent owners that there are farm or timber operations in the area and shall be made a condition of approval.

10. Based on the above findings, it has been determined that the applicants' request meets all applicable criteria for placing a temporary manufactured home/RV for medical hardship purposes and is, therefore, **APPROVED**.

Brandon Reich
Planning Director/Zoning Administrator

Date: October 4, 2023

If you have any questions regarding this decision contact Nicole Inman (503) 588-5038.

Notice to Mortgagee, Lienholder, Vendor or Seller: ORS Chapter 215 requires that if you receive this Notice, it must promptly be forwarded to the purchaser.