

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. 24-033**

**APPLICATION:** Application of Adena Stockton for a conditional use permit to establish a medical hardship dwelling on a 4.8-acre parcel in an TC (Timber Conservation) zone located at 20788 Hazelnut Ridge Rd NE, Scotts Mills (T6S; R1E; Section 25; Tax lot 1300).

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

**EXPIRATION DATE:** This Conditional Use Permit is valid only when exercised by **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**. 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 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 placement of the manufactured home or RV is temporary and it will be removed, or the RV disconnected and no longer used for residential purposes, after the hardship ceases.
3. The hardship dwelling shall use the address of 20786 Hazelnut Ridge Rd NE, effective when building permits are applied for.

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

4. The proposed manufactured home shall use the existing septic system if it is feasible.
5. The manufactured home shall be located as shown on the applicant's site plan.
6. 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. It is recommended that the agencies mentioned in the findings below be contacted to identify restrictions or necessary permits. The applicant is advised of the following:

7. The applicants should contact the Silverton Fire District to obtain a copy of the District's Recommended Building Access and Premise Identification regulations and the Marion County Fire Code Applications Guide. Fire District access standards may be more restrictive than County standards.

**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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**. If you have questions about this decision, contact the Planning Division at (503) 588-5038 or at the office. This decision is effective **October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**, 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 Forest in the Marion County Comprehensive Plan and zoned TC (Timber Conservation). A temporary manufactured home/RV under hardship conditions may be approved as a conditional use provided the need is justified and the residence will not have a detrimental impact upon the existing or potential farming and timber activity in the area.
2. The property is located on the southern side of Hazelnut Ridge Rd NE in the 20,000 block. The property contains a manufactured home placed in 2004 to replace a 1972 manufactured home. The 1972 manufactured home still sits on the parcel, unoccupied at this time. The property was the subject of AR04-008 which approved the replacement of this dwelling, therefore this parcel is considered legal for land use purposes.
3. Surrounding uses are a mix of residential, farm and forest in all directions.
4. A signed Primary Care Provider Certificate has been submitted for Shyann Morgan indicating they have medical conditions that preclude them from maintaining a complete separate and detached dwelling apart from their family.
5. Marion County Building Department commented:  
"According to permit history for the subject address, it appears a new manufactured home was placed in 2004 to replace an existing 1972 manufactured home. The 1972 manufactured home was not removed after the new manufactured home was placed in 2004, and this medical hardship application appears to propose the existing 1972 manufactured home as the medical hardship dwelling. No other permits were obtained to change the use of the existing 1972 manufactured home to a use other than a single-family dwelling. No Building Inspection concerns with conditional use application 24-033 to use the existing 1972 manufactured home as a medical hardship dwelling."

Marion County Septic Department commented that an authorization is required to connect the medical hardship to the existing system. Authorizations are effective up to 5 years, but not exceeding the cessation of the hardship.

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

## **ENGINEERING REQUIREMENT**

- A. At the time of application for building permits for the proposed medical hardship dwelling, an Access Permit will be required to abate overgrown vegetation on either side of the driveway approach within the public Right-of-Way in support of adequate Intersection Sight Distance.

All other commenting agencies stated no objection to the proposal.

6. 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. Those that apply to this case include:

- 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).*
- 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.*
- 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 maybe 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 Section E.3.b.ii 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.
    - a. 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 Section E.4, provided that the arrangement existed prior to the temporary absence or medically necessary absence.
- 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 Section F. 30 days prior to the effective date of a revocation of the hardship permit made pursuant to Section F.1.
- 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;
  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;
  3. Not require new driveway access to the street;
  4. Be connected to the existing wastewater disposal system if feasible. The disposal system shall be approved by the county sanitarian.
- 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.
- 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.

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.*

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.*

a. *If the aged or infirmed person does not return to the property within the time period described in Section A.6., then the aged or infirm person's absence will be deemed an extended absence*

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.*

8. Based on the available evidence, Shyann's physical circumstances constitute a hardship condition relating to the aged, the infirm, or persons otherwise incapable of maintaining a complete, separate and detached residence apart from their family. The evidence also indicates the proposed manufactured home would be relatively temporary in nature. The requirements that a Manufactured Dwelling/RV Removal or Disconnect Agreement be filed by the applicant ensures that the manufactured home will be removed from the property when the hardship ceases.

9. 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 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.*

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

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

(d) *Any noise associated with the use will not have a significant adverse impact on nearby land uses.*

(e) *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.*

10. This use is not expected to force or create any change in accepted farm/forest practices, criteria #9 (a) is met. This parcel is served by Silverton Fire District; criteria #9 (b) is met. This use will not have any adverse effect on surrounds groundwater or wildlife, criteria #9 (c) is met. The use is not expected to create any noise that would have a negative impact on nearby lands; criteria #9 (d) is met. The use is not expected to have any effect on potential water impoundments and will not create any conflicts, criteria #9 (e) is met.

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

11. 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: September 16, 2024

If you have any questions regarding this decision contact Austin Barnes at (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.