

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SANDPOINT, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, AMENDING SANDPOINT CITY CODE TITLE 7, CHAPTER 15, SECTION 13, PROTECTION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HISTORIC AND HERITAGE TREES; ESTABLISHING HERITAGE TREE DESIGNATION CRITERIA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS: The City of Sandpoint adopted the Urban Forestry Ordinance to encourage, promote, preserve, expand, protect, and properly maintain the community forest;

WHEREAS: Section 7-15-13 of the Sandpoint City Code provides for the designation and protection of historic and heritage trees;

WHEREAS: The current code references criteria contained within the Arboricultural Manual;

WHEREAS: The Urban Forestry Commission has determined that the Arboricultural Manual does not presently define Historic or Heritage Tree criteria; and

WHEREAS: The Urban Forestry Commission unanimously approved Heritage Tree categories and definitions on November 21, 2025, and recommended their incorporation into the Sandpoint City Code;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Sandpoint, Idaho that:

ORDINANCE SECTION 1 – AMENDMENT TO CITY CODE 7-15-13:

Sandpoint City Code 7-15-13, Protection of Public and Private Historic and Heritage Trees, is hereby amended as follows:

7-15-13: - Protection of Public and Private ~~Historic and Heritage~~ Trees:

~~The historic and heritage tree preservation designation recognizes the significance of trees to the city. A tree may be retained beyond its useful life because of its contribution to the environment and city character. A heritage or historical tree may be designated by the Urban Forestry Commission tree committee, in coordination with the historic preservation committee based on the criteria as described in the arboricultural manual.~~ based on the following criteria:

1. Historical - A tree which by virtue of its association with or contribution to a historical structure or district, or its association with a historical event.
2. Specimen - Age, size, health, or aesthetic factors may qualify the tree as unique among the species in Sandpoint, Idaho.
3. Rare- One or very few of a kind, or is unusual in some form of growth or species.
4. Significant Grove- Outstanding or significant groups of trees that impact the city's landscape.
5. Ecological- A tree that provides a unique ecological benefit or service to the urban environment.

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ORDINANCE SECTION 2 - REPEAL AND SEVERABILITY:

- A. Any provision of the *Sandpoint City Code* found to be inconsistent with this Ordinance is hereby repealed.
- B. Should any provision of this Ordinance be deemed unlawful or unconstitutional, such finding shall not affect the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

ORDINANCE SECTION 3 – PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE:

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, and publication according to law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED AS AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SANDPOINT, IDAHO, AT A REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANDPOINT CITY COUNCIL ON _____, 2026.

Jeremy Grimm, Mayor

Attest: _____
Meri Jane Bohn, City Clerk