



**Agenda for Gig Harbor Planning Commission
Gig Harbor Civic Center
Thursday, April 18, 2024 5:30 P.M.**

This meeting may also be accessed through Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/95353411299> or by calling (253) 215- 8782 and entering Meeting ID 953 5341 1299. Please see the Public Comment & Decorum section at the end of this agenda for information on options to make public comment.

This meeting may also be viewed live in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Approval of Minutes: March 21, 2024

Public Comment:

Agenda Items:

- 1) Trees and Landscape Code Update – Presentation Senior Planner, Jeremy Hammar & Commission discussion.

Other Business: Next meeting Thursday, May 2, 2024

Adjournment:

PUBLIC COMMENT & DECORUM

The city desires to allow a maximum opportunity for public comment. However, the business of the Planning Commission must proceed in an orderly, timely manner. The purpose of a Planning Commission meeting is to advise on subjects prescribed by the City Council; it is not a public forum.

Public comment may be made in-person from the microphone, remotely via Zoom or by phone during designated portions of the meeting. To speak during the meeting via Zoom, press the Raise Hand button near the bottom of your Zoom window or press *9 on your phone. Please refrain from raising your hand until the Chair has announced

that the Commission has opened the public comment portion of the meeting. Your name or the last three digits of your phone number will be called out when it is your turn to speak. When using your phone to call in, you may need to press *6 to unmute yourself. Speakers will be allotted 3 minutes per individual, unless revised by the chair. Comments shall be made, first giving the speaker's name and address. Anyone making "out of order" comments may be subject to removal from the meeting.

Instead of making oral comments, written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission at MThomas@gjgharborwa.gov.

All remarks shall be addressed to the commission as a body and not to any specific commissioner. All speakers shall be courteous in their language and deportment and shall not engage in or discuss or comment on personalities or indulge in derogatory remarks or insinuations with regard to any commissioner, or any member of the staff or the public.

There will be no demonstrations during or at the conclusion of any public comment. These guidelines are intended to promote an orderly system of holding public meetings, to give every person an opportunity to be heard and to ensure that no individuals are embarrassed by voicing their opinions.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) ACCOMMODATIONS

ADA accommodations can be provided upon request. Those requiring special accommodations should contact the city clerk at cityclerk@gjgharborwa.gov or (253) 853-7613 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.



**Minutes for Gig Harbor Planning Commission
Gig Harbor Civic Center
Thursday, March 21, 2024, 5:30 P.M.**

Call to Order/Roll Call: Chair Krawczyk called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.
Commissioners attending: Burcar, Bradbury, Martin, Krawczyk, Jordan (left at 7:15 pm), Snodgrass, Tessicini.

Staff: Principal Planner, Robin Bolster-Grant; and Planning Technician, Cindy Andrews

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Move to approve minutes for March 7, 2024 – Bradbury/Jordan all in favor – Motion carried.

Public Comment: Public Comment

Citizen Jenny Wook provided public comment, speaking in opposition of Higher Density and House Bill 1220.

Citizen Mike Shipman provided public comment, Discussed Affordable Housing and ADU's. Discussed House Bill 1110, House Bill 1220 and House Bill 1337.

Agenda Items:

1. Introduction of new Planning Commissioner Julie Martin
 - Ms. Bolster-Grant formally introduced Julie Martin. Ms. Martin provided a brief statement of introduction.
2. Affordable/Workforce Housing Policy Discussion
 - Ms. Bolster-Grant provided a summary and a power point presentation on Affordable/Workforce Housing.
 - Members discussed the points presented in Ms. Bolster-Grant's power point presentation.

Other Business: Next meeting Thursday, April 4, 2024 - Cancelled

Adjournment: 7:41 P.M.

Cindy Andrews

Cindy Andrews
Planning Technician



TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Jeremy Hammar, Senior Planner
Planning Division

SUBJECT: Tree removal, retention, and preservation code - Introduction

DATE: April 18, 2024

At the upcoming Planning Commission meeting on April 18, 2024, staff will provide the planning commission with an introduction to a code update focused on tree removal, retention, and preservation.

During the discussions for Ordinance 1523 related to code changes to support the City's Code Compliance Program, city council expressed a desire to see additional penalties and enforcement requirements specific to illegal removal of trees within the city. After discussions with the City's Code Compliance Officer, it was determined that the appropriate place for illegal tree removal penalties and tree related enforcement, should be a chapter specific to trees.

Under the current code, the city regulates trees through a combination of GHMC Chapter 17.78 *Trees, Landscaping and Screening* and 17.99 *Design Manual*. The standards of GHMC 17.78 generally pertain to landscape plans associated with development projects while the Design Manual generally covers tree retention and replacement.

The intent of this draft code is to provide a more comprehensive approach to regulation of trees within the City that can be found in a singular location. Staff hopes that the code will provide flexibility to property owners while also prioritizing retention of significant trees in a manner that is consistent with the newly adopted Urban Forestry Management plan.

While reviewing, please keep in mind that this is a very preliminary draft and staff is looking for any and all feedback from planning commission that will help guide the development of this code.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 253-853-7606. Thank you.

17.XX.010 Intent

The intent of this chapter is to protect the functions and services that trees provide as a collective asset to Gig Harbor and to meet the following statements related to the protection, preservation, care and planting of trees.

- A. Protect, preserve, and enhance the quality of life and general welfare of Gig Harbor, its residents, and property owners;
- B. Conserve and enhance the natural, physical, and aesthetic environment of Gig Harbor.
- C. Preserve, protect, and enhance the urban forest to ensure that trees are properly planted and maintained so that trees can protect, enhance, and preserve the quality of life for people within Gig Harbor.
- D. Recognize that trees are an integral part of the infrastructure of Gig Harbor and as such should be preserved, protected, and cared for as other critical infrastructure.
- E. Recognize the trees provide collective benefits to the community that extend across property boundaries.
- F. Recognize that larger trees provide the greatest benefits. When a large tree is removed and replaced with a smaller tree the benefits and services are reduced, and it can take up to 25 years for a replacement tree to provide substantial benefits.

17.XX.015 Definitions

See attached document

17.XX.030 Exemptions

The following activities are exempt from the provisions of this chapter and do not require a permit:

- A. Routine landscaping and maintenance of vegetation, such as pruning and planting, removal of invasive/exotic species, management of brush and seedling trees. Pruning should comply with ANSI A300, Tree, Shrub and Other Woody Plant Management – Standard Practices, to maintain long term health. This

includes maintenance of trees and vegetation required to be retained or planted under the provisions of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code.

- B. Removal of trees by the public works department, parks department, fire department and/or franchised utilities for one of the following purposes:
 - 1. Installation and maintenance of public utilities or motorized or nonmotorized streets or paths.
 - 2. In response to situations involving danger to life or property, substantial fire hazards, or interruption of services provided by a utility.
- C. Franchised utilities shall provide notification to the city prior to tree maintenance or removal. A separate right-of-way permit may be required.
- D. Removal and maintenance of trees within city of Gig Harbor parks at the direction of the parks department.

17.XX.040 Tree Removal – General Requirements

- A. Tree removal is prohibited in the following circumstances:
 - 1. Protected Trees. Removal of protected trees is prohibited, except as provided for in GHMC 17.XX.040(B)(1)(e) through (g) dead, diseased, hazard and nuisance trees, or through an approved modification of a landscape plan.
 - 2. Vacant Lots. Removal of trees from a vacant lot prior to a project development is prohibited except as provided for in GHMC 17.XX.040(B)(1)(e) through (g) dead, diseased, hazard and nuisance trees.
 - 3. Demolition of Structures. Tree removal shall be prohibited as part of a permitted demolition except as required to reasonably conduct demolition activities subject to approval of the director. Tree replacement shall be required for removed trees.
 - 4. In critical areas, critical area buffers, and in all native growth protection easements, tree removal is prohibited except as allowed per Chapter 18 GHMC.
- B. Permits required.

No person, corporation or other entity shall remove or destroy, or cause to be removed or destroyed, a significant tree on developed property without first having obtained a tree removal permit from the City unless exempted by GHMC 17.XX.030:

1. Tree permit. Tree removal may be permitted by the director under the following circumstances:

- a. When any major development activity is proposed;
- b. When tree removal is proposed on a property with major development activity in the last five years;
- c. When any minor development activity is proposed within the critical root zone (CRZ) of significant trees;
- d. A dead tree, or a tree that is substantially diseased or damaged, provided a report and/or statement from a qualified arborist is provided to the city.
- e. Nuisance tree with documentation of the damage and any tree work that has been attempted to rectify the nuisance, and/or a statement from the applicant's qualified arborist explaining why no arboricultural practices can safely rectify the nuisance.
- f. Hazard tree located outside a critical area with a tree risk assessment prepared by the applicant's qualified arborist documenting how the tree meets the definition of a hazard tree.
- g. Hazard tree removal in a critical area or critical area buffers consistent with the provisions of Chapter 18.08 GHMC.
- h. When a significant tree is removed subject to this section, the tree shall be replaced as a condition for the removal of the tree, in accordance with GHMC 17.XX.070

2. Minor Tree Removal Activities:

Removal of up to two (2) significant trees within a one-year period, but no more than five (5) significant trees within a five (5) year period is allowable, provided the removal is conducted in accordance with the following requirements:

- a. There is no active development permit, or submitted application for said permit, for the subject site;
- b. The tree proposed for removal is not a protected tree or a landmark tree, as defined in GHMC 17.XX.015;
- c. The tree proposed for removal is not located within ten feet (10') of a surface parking lot with ten (10) or more parking spaces;
- d. The tree proposed for removal is not one of the only two (2) significant trees remaining on the lot, unless identified as a hazard tree, consistent with subsection (B)(1)(h) of this Section; and
- e. In conducting minor tree removal activities, rights-of-way shall remain unobstructed unless a right-of-way use permit is obtained.

C. Application requirements.

- 1. All tree removal applications shall include the following:
 - a. The name address, email, and phone number of the applicant and owner of the property;
 - b. A site plan to scale showing adjacent streets, structures, driveways, critical areas and associated buffers, groves or open-grown single or clusters of significant trees, and other relevant site features;
 - c. The locations of any off-site trees that may be impacted by tree removal, excavation, grading, or other proposed development activity;
 - d. The locations of tree(s) to be removed;
 - e. The locations of any critical areas and associated buffers;
 - f. Authorization for the City to access the site for the purpose of evaluating the proposal and viability of replacement trees;
 - g. A tree inventory prepared by a qualified arborist.
 - h. When a significant tree is removed subject to this section, the tree shall be replaced as a condition for the removal of the tree, in accordance with GHMC 17.XX.070
 - i. A tree replacement plan if required by GHMC 17.XX..

D. Emergency Removal

1. Any number of hazardous protected and nonprotected trees may be removed under emergency conditions. Emergency conditions include immediate danger to life or dwellings or similar stationary and valuable property. Emergency removal may occur, and all the following conditions shall be met:
 - i. The City is notified the following business day of the unpermitted action;
 - ii. Visual documentation (i.e., photographs, video, etc.) is made available; and
 - iii. The felled tree remains on site for City inspection.
 - iv. Non-single-family use: The property owner will be required to provide replacement trees as established in GHMC 17.XX.XXX, Replacement.
 - v. Single-family use: The property owner will not be required to provide replacement trees.
2. Should the City determine that the tree(s) did not pose an emergency condition, the owner shall be cited for a violation of the terms of this chapter.

E. Tree Removal Not Associated with Development Activity

1. An arborist report or tree risk assessment report should be submitted and approved by the Director and a Tree Removal Permit issued prior to any tree removal activities. If the tree is determined to be an imminent hazard to life or property (per 17.XX.040(D)(1)) a Tree Risk Assessment Report shall be submitted to the City retroactively. It is recommended that the Tree Risk Assessment Report be completed by a qualified arborist that will not be contracted to complete the removal or maintenance of the tree.

17.XX.060 Tree Removal – Major Development

Applications for any development defined by this chapter as a major development permit shall include a Tree Preservation Plan for the planting, removal and protection of trees on the subject parcel. Attached to the applicant information and site plan

information required for the development permit applications, the applicant shall include a Tree Preservation Plan.

A. Performance standards. Tree removal on lots undergoing major development shall meet the following:

1. The site shall retain at least 50 percent of existing viable significant trees (GHMC 17.99.240);
2. In addition to the tree retention requirements in subsection (A)(1) of this section, every protected tree that is removed under this chapter must be replaced consistent with the requirements of GHMC 17.XX.070.
3. Site Interior Tree Retention Requirement.
 - i. In addition to the requirements of the perimeter landscape area, at least 25 percent of the cumulative diameter inches of existing significant trees must be retained; provided, that alder and cottonwood trees' diameter inches shall be discounted by a factor of 0.5.
 - ii. The Director may approve retention of trees which do not meet the definition of significant trees as a contribution toward the sum of the diameter inches required under subsection A.3.i of this section if a group of trees and its associated undergrowth can be preserved.
4. Priority of Tree Retention Requirements.

Significant trees to be retained shall be retained in the following order of priority:

- Heritage trees;
- Landmark trees;
- Significant trees which form a continuous canopy;
- Significant trees on slope greater than 15 percent;
- Significant trees adjacent to critical areas and their associated buffers; and
- Significant trees over 60 feet in height or greater than 18 inches DSH.

- Healthy Significant trees located in the interior of a site.
- Healthy tree groupings whose associated undergrowth can be preserved;
- Trees within the required yard setbacks or around the perimeter;
- Trees that have a screening function or provide relief from glare, blight, or commercial development;
- Other significant native evergreen or deciduous trees; and
- Other significant non-native trees.

B. Tree Inventory. A tree inventory shall be conducted by a qualified arborist prior to development plans. The following information shall be collected, at minimum:

1. A numbering system of all significant trees on the subject property (with corresponding tags on trees), and any trees on neighboring properties with a Critical Root Zone extending onto the subject parcel;
2. Tree species, DSH, and size;
3. General health and condition rating of these trees (i.e.: poor, fair, good, excellent, etc.) and rationale for determination;
4. Determination of tree status in municipal code (ie. significant, exceptional, grove, or landmark tree);
5. Any trees requiring pruning or maintenance to improve tree tolerance to construction, clearance or safety on the site prior to construction.

C. Tree Preservation Plan Requirements

1. Tree Inventory data table that includes the tree identification number, species, DSH, average dripline, condition, height, tree type, Tree protection Zone, Critical Root Zone, and Structural Root Zone.
2. Map illustrations of tree locations, property boundaries, tree identification number, tree type, Tree Protection Zone, and proposed action(a separate tree removal permit shall be required prior to the removal of any significant trees);
3. A discussion of timing and installation of tree protection measures in accordance with 17.XX.080 Tree Protection;

4. Any special instructions for tree care when work may be required within the Tree Protection Zone;
5. Any off-site tree with a root protection zone which could be adversely affected by the proposed activity;
6. North arrow, scale, and date of inventory.
7. Appraised value of all the significant trees at the site.

17.XX.070 Tree Replacement Requirements

- A. Replacement Required. If Tree replacement for tree permits required by this chapter and/or for tree removal associated with the development types identified in GHMC 17.XX.XXX(major development). Each significant tree to be removed shall be replaced as follows:
 1. For each significant tree between six inches and 10 inches DSH removed, one replacement tree is required.
 2. For each significant tree between 10.1 inches and 14 inches in DSH removed, two replacement trees are required.
 3. For each significant tree greater than 14 inches and less the 24 inches in DSH removed, three replacement trees are required.
- B. A Replanting Plan shall be completed by a qualified arborist or landscape architect. If planting on-site is not achievable, a fee-in-lieu payment to a tree fund may be considered as a reasonable exception to the replanting requirements defined in this chapter. The Director or other designated representative can make a determination of approval or denial following the review of development plans.
- C. Prior to any tree removal, the applicant shall demonstrate through a tree protection and replacement plan, critical area mitigation plan, or other plans acceptable to the director that tree replacement will meet the minimum standards of this section.
- D. No tree replacement is required in the following cases:
 1. The tree is hazardous, dead, diseased, injured, or in a declining condition with no reasonable assurance of regaining vigor, for reasons not attributable to development.

2. The tree is proposed to be relocated to another suitable planting site; provided, that relocation complies with the standards in this section.

E. Replacement Specifications.

1. Minimum sizes for replacement trees shall be:
 - i. One-and-one-half-inch caliper for deciduous trees;
 - ii. Six feet in height for coniferous trees.
2. The director may consider smaller-sized replacement trees if the applicant can demonstrate that smaller trees are more suited to the species, the site conditions, and the purposes of this section, and that such trees will be planted in sufficient quantities to meet the intent of this section.
3. At least 80 percent of all replacement trees shall be from the preferred species list referenced by GHMC 17.78.050.

F. Tree Replacement Fee In Lieu. After providing clear documentation that all replacement options have been considered and are infeasible, including arborist reports as necessary, the developer shall pay a fee-in-lieu for each replacement tree required but not replaced.

1. The amount of the fee shall be \$1,000 multiplied by the number of trees necessary to satisfy the tree replacement requirements of this section and shall be deposited into the city's tree fund.
2. The fee shall be paid to the city prior to the issuance of a tree removal permit or associated development permit.
3. For each significant tree greater than 24 inches in DSH removed, a fee based on an appraisal of the tree value by a qualified arborist contracted by the city using trunk formula method in the current edition of the Guide for Plant Appraisal shall be required.
4. In no case shall the fee-in-lieu payments required by this subsection exceed \$2.00 per square feet of lot area.

17.XX.080 Tree Protection During Permitted Land Disturbance

- A. Tree Protection Fencing (TPF) shall be installed at the outer extent of Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) of the trees to be retained and remain in place for the entirety of the project. Access into the TPZ should only be allowed when

determined to be necessary by and only under the supervision of the Arborist. The tree protection area may be permanently reduced according to a plan prepared by a certified arborist and approved by the city.

1. TPF shall be a minimum of 4 feet high, constructed of chain link or polyethylene laminar safety fencing or similar material subject to approval by an ISA Certified Arborist.
2. “Tree Protection Area - Keep Out” or similar signs shall accompany the TPZ fencing at regular intervals along with contact information for the Site Arborist.
3. TPF shall be constructed in such a fashion as to not be easily moved or dismantled.
4. TPF shall remain in place for the entirety of the project and only removed, temporarily or otherwise, by an ISA Certified Arborist after submission and approval of intent.
5. Where TPF needs to be temporarily reduced when access to the TPZ is unavoidable, soil compaction should be minimized by using mulch, steel plates, or a combination of other materials. All soil compaction in the TPZ shall be mitigated.

17.XX.090 Violation, enforcement and penalties

- A. Noncompliance with any section of this chapter constitutes a violation of this code.
- B. Penalties.
 1. Aiding or Abetting. Any person who, through an act of commission or omission, procures, aids or abets in the violation shall be considered to have committed a violation for the purposes of the penalty. All persons who have been found to commit a violation under this chapter shall be responsible for an equal share of any penalties imposed under subsection (B)(2) of this section.
 2. Civil Penalties. Any person violating any provisions of this chapter shall have committed a civil infraction and may be subject to civil penalties in

addition to any criminal penalties. Pursuant to Chapter 64.12 RCW, the city may be entitled to triple the amount of civil damages claimed or assessed. The extent of the penalty shall be determined according to one or more of the following:

- a. An amount reasonably determined by the director to be equivalent to the costs estimated by the city to investigate and administer the infraction;
- b. The economic benefit that the violator derives from the violation (as measured by the greater of the resulting increase in market value of the property or the value received by the violator or savings of construction costs realized by the violator performing any act in violation of this chapter);
- c. Removal of existing 12-inch diameter or larger trees in violation of this chapter will require an appraisal of the tree value by a tree protection professional contracted by the city using trunk formula method in the current edition of the Guide for Plant Appraisal. The cost of the appraisal shall be paid by the person(s) who removed existing trees in violation of this chapter;
- d. Penalty for illegal removal of trees shall be \$1,500 per tree less than 12 inches in diameter and the appraised value of trees 12 inches or more in diameter. Penalties shall be paid into the city tree fund. If diameter of removed tree is unknown, determination of the diameter size shall be made by the city arborist by comparing size of stump and species to similar trees in similar growing conditions;
- e. The cost of replacing and replanting the trees and restoring the disturbed area according to a specific plan approved by the city. Violators of this chapter or of a permit issued thereunder shall be responsible for restoring unlawfully damaged areas in conformance with a plan, approved by the director, that provides for repair of any environmental and property damage, and restoration of the site; and which results in a site condition that, to the greatest extent

practical, is equivalent to the site condition that would have existed in the absence of the violation(s);

- f. If illegal tree topping has occurred, the property owner shall be required to have a certified arborist develop and implement a five-year pruning schedule in addition to monetary fines and/or required tree replacement.
3. Civil penalties under this section shall be imposed by a notice in writing, either by certified mail with return receipt requested or by personal service, to the person incurring the same from the city. The notice shall describe the violation, the approximate date(s) of violation, and shall order the acts constituting the violation to cease and desist, or, in appropriate cases, require necessary corrective action within a specific time.
4. Any fiscal penalty recovered under this section shall be deposited in the city's tree fund as established in Tree fund.

17.xxx - ANSI

The American National Standards Institute. ANSI maintains national performance standards for tree care operations (A300), safety (Z133), and nursery stock (Z60.1). All performed tree maintenance on significant trees should be completed in accordance with ANSI standards.

17.04.065 - ARBORIST, QUALIFIED

Qualified arborist means an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist with a current Tree Risk Assessment Qualification, or similar equivalent certification and qualification. (Ord. 1347 § 9, 2016).

17.xxx - ARBORIST, REPORT

A report containing the following information, at a minimum:

1. Name and certification number of the inspecting arborist;
2. Significant tree(s) requiring permit on the subject property identified by a numbering system that is consistent throughout the Arborist Report, site plan and onsite trees.
3. Tree species and/or common name;
4. DSH of significant tree(s) requiring permit;
5. Tree Condition;
6. Proposed tree maintenance.
7. Identification of Landmark Trees, Heritage Tree and Groves.
8. Appraised value of the inspected trees using an industry approved method;

17.xxx - CRITICAL ROOT ZONE (CRZ)

An area on the ground extending out from the trunk of the tree equal to one (1) foot of radius for every inch of trunk diameter measured at 4.5 feet from grade.

17.xxx - DAMAGE

Impact or loss of function to any tree including but not limited to: removal, root compaction, root removal, girdling, soil contamination, topping, excessive removal of the live foliage in one growing season such as, canopy removal, bark removal, poisoning or any actions resulting in the decline or death of a tree.

17.xxx - DIAMETER AT STANDARD HEIGHT (DSH)

The diameter of the trunk of the tree measured at a point 4.5 feet above grade. This forestry standard measurement is used for established and mature trees and is referred to as "DSH". All reference to diameter size shall be to the DSH. When limbs or deformities occur at standard height, the measurement is taken below 4.5 ft. The DSH of multi-trunk trees is determined by taking the square root of the sum of the DSH for each individual stem squared.

17.xxx - DRIPLINE

The area defined by the outermost circumference of a tree canopy where water drips from and onto the ground.

17.xxx - INVASIVE SPECIES

An introduced or exotic species that significantly modifies or disrupts the ecosystem in which it colonizes. Invasive species are determined based on guidelines from Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

17.XXX - STRUCTURAL ROOT ZONE (SRZ)

The Structural Root Zone (SRZ) is based upon tree DSH and considered as a minimum distance that any disruption should occur during construction. Significant risk of catastrophic tree failure exists if structural roots within this given radius are destroyed or severely damaged. Development plans should ensure that no root damage or impact occurs within this zone. Root damage/impact can occur from any disturbance to the natural state of the soil within the Structural Root Zone, including the addition of fill soil to levels above existing grade. If root damage is expected within this zone, then the tree should be removed.

17.04.805 - TREE

~~A tree shall mean any living woody plant characterized by one main stem or trunk and many branches, and which has a minimum diameter of six inches as measured 54 inches above the ground. (Ord. 752 § 4, 1997).~~ A self-supporting woody plant, together with its root system, trunk, and canopy; growing upon the earth usually with one trunk, or a multi-stemmed trunk system, supporting a formed crown, and has a mature height of at least 15 feet.

17.xxx - TREE, CONIFEROUS

A woody plant bearing seeds and cones oftentimes, but not always, retaining foliage throughout the year.

17.xxx - TREE, DECIDUOUS

A deciduous tree is one that loses most or all of its leaves for part of the year.

17.xxx - TREE, HERITAGE

A culturally significant tree. Considering Puyallup Tribe Culture (i.e. Large Western Red Cedars).
A tree or group of trees that because of its unique historical, ecological, or aesthetic value constitutes an important community resource. A heritage tree or grove is designated by the City by virtue of its size, species, condition, cultural/historic importance, age, etc. Heritage trees have the highest retention value.

17.xxx - TREE, LANDMARK

A healthy significant tree measuring greater than or equal 30 inches in DSH.

17.xxx – Tree, PROTECTED

means a tree identified for retention and protection on an approved tree retention and protection plan, landscape plan, replacement in relation to a permit or plan, and/or permanently protected by easement, tract, or covenant restriction.

17.xxx - TREE, SIGNIFICANT

A healthy tree measuring six (6) inches or greater in diameter at standard height (DSH). ~~A tree growing with multiple stems shall be considered significant if at least one of the stems, measured at a point six inches from the point where the stems digress from the main trunk, is at least four inches in diameter. Alders (Alnus rubra), Cottonwood (Populus algeiros), and trees in the Poplar species shall not be considered a significant tree.~~ A dead tree, a tree that has been identified by a qualified arborist as substantially diseased or damaged, invasive, or nuisance shall not be considered a significant tree.

17.xxx - TREE FUND

An account established by the City to receive and hold deposits for trees which were damaged and/or removed. These funds, if not returned to the Applicant, may be used to purchase, and care for trees throughout the City.

17.xxx - TREE PRESERVATION PLAN (TPP)

A document required by a permit which identifies trees of a specified DSH within a particular area. The plan shall list all existing significant trees and shall specifically state how each tree is proposed to be destroyed, relocated, replaced, preserved at its present location, and whether the tree is to receive remediated actions due to construction impacts, e.g., root pruning.

17.xxx - TREE PROTECTION FENCING

Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) fencing should be installed at the outer extent of Tree Protection Zone of the trees to be retained and remain in place for the entirety of the project.

17.XXX - TREE PROTECTION ZONE (TPZ)

Area surrounding a retained tree equal to the Critical Root Zone or 5 feet outside the average dripline, whichever is greater. Reductions may be granted based on mitigation recommendations by a qualified Arborist.

17.XXX - TREE REMOVAL

The direct or indirect removal of a tree(s) or vegetation through actions including, but not limited to: clearing, cutting, girdling, topping, or causing irreversible damage to roots or stems; destroying the structural integrity of trees through improper pruning, unless pruning back to the point where the tree has been previously topped; poisoning; filling, excavating, grading, or trenching within the dripline that results in the loss of more than 20 percent of the tree's root system; or the removal through any of these processes of greater than 50 percent of the live crown of the tree.