Historic Preservation Council (HPC)
Ada County, Idaho
2017 Operating Plan /2006 Preservation Plan for Cultural and Historic Resources

I. Purpose of Operating Plan

The purpose of the 2006 Preservation Plan for Cultural and Historic Resources* is to “comprehensively assess Ada County’s historic preservation needs, goals, policies and implementation strategies for the next 10 to 20 years and to establish the basis for creating a shorter term strategic plan outlining immediate action Ada County can undertake toward preserving Ada County’s Heritage.”

With that in mind, the purpose of this document is to provide a HPC Operating Plan for 2017 that identifies current annual objectives and strategies. If a conflict exists, this Operating Plan will take precedence.

II. HPC Vision, Mission, and Values Statements

A. Vision
Ada County Historic sites, information, and articles will be identified and preserved and pertinent educational information will be created and presented to the general public for their enrichment and enjoyment.

B. Mission
The Ada County Historic Preservation Council will promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public of Ada County through the identification, evaluation, designation, and protection of those buildings, sites, areas, structures, and objects which reflect significant elements of the county’s, the state’s and the nation’s historic, architectural, archaeological, and cultural heritage.

C. HPC Operations are guided by Values that include:
- Inclusiveness - we respect people, value diversity and are committed to equality in our work.
- Appreciation – we recognize the importance of saving as much our history as practical to give depth and meaning to our communities
- Openness - we are committed to a culture of teamwork and collaboration within the Council and with other agencies.
- Communication – internally in the Council and externally for collaboration with other preservation efforts.

* 2006 Preservation Plan for Cultural and Historic Resources is permanently posted at https://adacounty.id.gov/Historic-Preservation/Documents
III. HPC Resources

A. The Ada County HPC was established on August 25, 1988 by Ordinance 192, currently codified under Section 8-7D of the Ada County Code.

B. The Council is a Certified Local Government (CLG) as described in the National Historic Preservation Act. The Council is eligible to apply for a limited amount of National Park Service grant funds every year. These grant funds are required to be matched with County funds.

C. The 2006 Preservation Plan for Cultural and Historic Resources (also referred to as the Comprehensive Plan) prepared for the Ada County Historic Preservation Council in that year is an invaluable resource. The document contains information regarding past preservation efforts, historic resource surveys, historic preservation law, integration with land use decisions, public sector responsibilities, preservation incentives, preservation education and general Council policies and goals. It is a valuable resource used for planning HPC activities and will be permanently posted on the Council’s website. This Operating Plan simply supplements and updates that Preservation Plan information along with the identification of current objectives and strategies for the coming year. If a conflict exists, this Operating Plan will take precedence.

D. The Council is made up of a group of dedicated volunteers seeking to make a difference in the quality of life in and around Ada County. They are appointed by and serve in an advisory role to the Ada County Board of Commissioners and rely heavily on administrative support from the County Development Services Department staff.

E. Support of the Ada County Development Services Department whose mission is to regulate land use and the physical development of unincorporated Ada County in an efficient manner also interfaces with HPC activities administratively on a continual basis. The interaction that the HPC has with the general role of Development Services is the regulation of land use and the physical development of unincorporated Ada County in order to protect natural resources and to promote and protect the public health, safety, and welfare. Administrative support to the Council consists of:

1. Preparation of and posting the agenda for meetings, communicating with the County Board of Commissioners, other County Departments and staff, as well as outside agencies such as school administrators and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).
2. The coordination of projects and events that the HPC is involved with such as CLG Grant Projects and the Making History Award.
3. Certain Section 106 requests (impact on historical designations by state and federal bodies) are reviewed also on HPC’s behalf.
4. Communication regarding HPC collaboration on activities with other agencies and organizations is typically accomplished through normal communication channels by Development Services and replies are passed on to the HPC for action or information.
IV. HPC Objectives and Activities

A. Support Ada County Priority initiatives and strategies as designated in the Ada County Action Plan to help advance the County’s vision for the immediate future.

B. In order to achieve the objective of preserving Ada County’s Heritage, the Council has authority to conduct surveys of local historic properties, cooperate with outside agencies toward historic preservation objectives, and will make recommendations based on reviews, participate in local planning processes, and promote awareness of the importance of historic preservation through education and outreach.

C. HPC strategies or activities that facilitate goal attainment will be achieved in part by educating the general public of all ages about the economic and intrinsic value of preserving historic sites that are specified under the authority of the Board of Ada County Commissioners. Other activities will include land and structure historic significance reviews, collaboration with other interested agencies with similar objectives, seeking additional preservation methods, making presentations, and preparing materials for distribution.

D. Identified Council Activities for 2017

1. Recurring Activities
   a. CLG Grant Project – Oregon Trail Identification in Ada County 2017-2018. This project is governed by the new two-year CLG grant cycle rules. The dates for FY17:

      | Event                        | Date                  |
      |-------------------------------|-----------------------|
      | Applications Released          | October 1, 2016       |
      | Applications Due               | December 31, 2016     |
      | Announce Award Recipients      | February 16, 2017     |
      | Contracts Mailed               | March 1, 2017         |
      | Project Start Date             | June 1, 2017          |
      | Interim Report Due             | November 1, 2017      |
      | Project Completion Date        | May 31, 2018          |
      | Review and Revision Period     | June – August, 2018   |
      | Final Submission Date          | September 1, 2018     |
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      | Final Submission Date          | September 1, 2018     |

      There are no longer extensions for the CLG Grants, so plan accordingly. Those who do not receive funding in FY17 will be given priority in FY18.

   b. Public School Presentations – Development Services receives requests and seeks volunteer Council Members to make presentations from schools.

   c. Making History Award – Annual honor for people, groups or businesses whose activities today are creating our future history. As part of this program a brochure is compiled that highlights the accomplishments of the award winner. Council presentation.
d. County Treasure Award Program – Council annual award honoring historic sites in various parts of the county. These sites are honored in order to raise public awareness about historic buildings and landmarks. Nominations begin in first quarter of the year. Council presentation occurs in August.

e. Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month (May) support every year. Historic Preservation groups throughout the state are encouraged to provide free opportunities to the general public in order to raise awareness of the important role that archaeology and historic preservation play in enriching our lives.

f. Newspaper articles provided to the media periodically describing council activities and acknowledging the people, organizations, and works that contribute to Ada County historic preservation. A County Treasure recognition is an example of a good subject.

g. Idaho Heritage Conference Attendance September 20-23, 2017. CLG attendance funding is available for eight Council members’ attendance to the Boise event.

h. County Section 106 Permits reviewed as required for possible federal or state infringement on county historic sites.

i. Ada County Strategic Planning Actions where HPC is in as Lead:
   Strategy 1.6c Create a single, searchable database of historic sites
   Strategy 1.6d Support updating the County’s zoning ordinances
   Strategy 1.6e Support development of management plan for historic roads
   Strategy 1.6i Explore and establish a framework for expanded coordination with the cities in the County.

2. Non Recurring Activities
   Attend events (i.e. Ada County Open House).

3. Special Request Activities
   a. Answer inquiries from the public. Provide specific information to the public as requested.
   b. Provide input on development applications, zoning ordinance text amendments, comprehensive plan amendments.

V. Conclusion

The HPC with the administrative assistance of the Ada County Development Services Department promotes the educational, cultural, economic and general wellbeing of the public of Ada County through the identification, evaluation, designation, and protection of historic articles and sites. This is accomplished by conducting surveys of local historic properties, cooperation with outside agencies toward historic preservation objectives, making recommendations based on reviews, participating in local planning processes, and promoting an awareness of the importance of historic preservation through education and outreach to Ada County residents.