



MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** July 17, 2023  
**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
Dave Perrault, City Administrator  
**FROM:** Mark Kelliher – PTRC member  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Buckthorn Removal within Chatham Trails Park

Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount:	Funding Source:
\$0	\$4,500	Park Maintenance – General Fund

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**Council Should Consider**

Council should consider the presentation from PTRC member, Mark Kelliher, related to proposed buckthorn removal within Chatham Trails Park.

**Background/Discussion**

Attachment A describes the proposed project background and shows the project (three pages of the same geographical area around the swamp). The purpose of this item is to discuss with City Council the proposed project and requesting \$4,500 to cover the goat-grazing and the grass seed to remediate this specific area of Chatham Trails (7.2 acres total).

If we wait until the next grant cycle using Great River Greening as an intermediary, there will be a two-year hiatus and the buckthorn will resurge into the area that we have worked. Thus, I believe it is important to keep the momentum going from what Bob, Steve, and I have already accomplished and not lose ground to the buckthorn’s inevitable resurgence. The rest of Chatham Trails can be addressed later using grant monies, with Great River Greening’s help.

**Budget Impact**

The \$4,500 is not specifically budgeted for in the 2023 Budget but there should be sufficient funds to cover the cost.

**Attachments**

Attachment A – Project Background and Proposal from Mark Kelliher  
Attachment B – Presentation Slides