



## Legislation Text

---

File #: 19-5505, Version: 1

---

### Title:

**Donation of Tree Service Contractor - Shuffletown Prairie Nature Preserve**

### Summary

#### ACTION:

**Recognize and receive the donation of a tree service contractor valued at \$14,445 and funded by Friends of Plant Conservation and the US Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Staff Contact: Chris Matthews - Division Director of Nature Preserves and Natural Resources**

**Presentation: No**

#### BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

Shuffletown Prairie Nature Preserve is a State significant natural heritage area purchased by Mecklenburg County in 1998. The ecologically significant portion of this preserve is a 7-acre powerline right-of-way which supports a piedmont prairie community considered to be one of the most ecologically intact remnants in the southeast. This preserve contains two federally endangered species, *Helianthus schweinitzii* and *Echinacea laevigata* and one federal candidate species, *Symphyotrichum georgianum*.

The proposed project for this site is thinning of the overstory trees along the southwest edge of the prairie remnant. The goal of this treatment is to promote a soft or feathered forest/prairie edge and provide more sunlight for the imperiled flora. Sixty overstory trees have been marked by Mecklenburg County natural resources staff for removal. This will be achieved by hiring a contractor who will use the right-of-way road for access and remove the trees using a bucket truck with crane. Funding for the contractor will be provided by Friends of Plant Conservation and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

#### PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND:

N/A

#### POLICY IMPACT:

N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Mecklenburg County has no financial obligation to this project.**