



BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION AGENDA

CITY OF NOVI

February 18, 2026 | 6:30 PM

Mayor's Conference Room

Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road

(248) 347-0460

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL - Gareth Crawford, Yogesh Kumar, Nicole Rumao, Dinesh Seksaria, Tracy Wick, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[January](#) 21, 2026 Minutes

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

[Review](#) 2026 Project Plan

Signage Options for Native Plants/Pollinator Spaces Update

[Community Impact Day](#) (Wednesday, May 13, 1pm – 4pm)

Arbor Day (Saturday, April 25, 9am - 12pm)

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE: People with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk (248) 347-0456 at least two working days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.



CITY OF NOVI
Beautification Commission
Wednesday, January 21, 2026 6:30 pm
Manager's Conference Room
Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road

Call to Order: 6:34 p.m.

Roll Call – Gareth Crawford, Yogesh Kumar, Nicole Rumao, Dinesh Seksaria, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

Present – Gareth Crawford, Yogesh Kumar, Dinesh Seksaria, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

Late Arrival – Commissioner Rumao arrived at 6:50 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Winter; Seconded: Seksaria; Approved: 5:0

Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2025

Motion: Yu ; Seconded: Kumar; Approved: 5:0

Chair – Gareth Crawford

Secretary – Torry Yu

City Liaison – Kate Oppermann

Purpose of the Meeting

Staff Liaison Oppermann briefly shared that a new Commission, Tracey Wick, be in attendance at the next meeting and that there is currently a plan from the Environmental Sustainability Committee for a new food composting program that may be of interest should it be adopted.

1. Review 2026 Project Plan

Staff Liaison Oppermann noted that at the last meeting it was requested that a review of the project plan be added as a standing item for the Commission and shared the current version with the commissioners for any suggested edits or comments. It was suggested that the Commissioners be informed of when their

suggested social media posts are planned to go out and, when viable, that they receive a preview of what is going out ahead of it going public. This way they can plan ahead for their own responses to the posts. Commissioner Winter asked about the potential of a Beautification Award program, Ms. Oppermann said that they can look at options for a program of that type.

2. Preview Discussion for Entryway Enhancement Grant 2026 Cycle

Ms. Oppermann shared that at this stage one application has been officially received, for Beckenham subdivision, primarily for an overhaul of their existing trees. She has also had communication from a few other subdivisions which may still plan on submitting, such as Carlton Forest.

Roundtable Discussion

1. Signage Options for Native Plants/Pollinator Spaces, etc.

Commissioner Seksaria shared several images of signs in support of pollinators, native plants, pesticide free zones, etc. He suggested that the Commission might look into obtaining similar signs so that they could be provided to residents for free or at a nominal charge. Ms. Oppermann noted that one of the signs show is from the xerces society and while the City received one, as part of their Bee City USA designation, they are fairly expensive to buy individually. She will look into options for free/ready to use graphics for such signs or if the City will need to design their own (and what sort of timeline that might entail). It was also noted that we might need to look into the life cycle of such a sign (IE potential environmental impact), the cost of printing, the option of having a graphic available that residents can print themselves, etc. It was noted that in some communities nearby (Ann Arbor, Ferndale, etc.) similar signs are distributed but with registration of a pollinator or native plant garden by a resident or business, Novi could consider a similar set up. Should such signs be made available it should also be made clear to residents where placing them is permitted under City Ordinance (and that they may need to also confirm what is permitted under their Homeowners Association, which may be more restrictive).

Public Comment - none

Adjournment: 7:09 p.m.

Beautification Commission Work Plan 2026

January Meeting1/21/2026 Social Media Post(s) FocusEntryway Enhancement Grant Event Etc. Entryway Enhancement Grant Application Deadline is 1/31/26	July Meeting7/15/2025 Social Media Post(s) FocusGarden Photos Event Etc. Walking/Riding Trails promo (publication, event?)
February Meeting2/18/2026Community Signage Action Item Social Media Post(s) FocusWinter Beauty, snow/icycles Event Etc.	August Meeting8/19/2026 Social Media Post(s) FocusWorld Bee Day Event Etc. World Bee Day
March Meeting3/18/2026Entryway Enhancement Grant Recommendation Due Social Media Post(s) FocusShare 1st Spring Bloom Event Etc. Spring clean-up suggestions for yard	September Meeting9/16/2026 Social Media Post(s) Focus Event Etc. Perennial Exchange
April Meeting4/15/2026 Social Media Post(s) FocusArbor Day/Earth Day, Pollinator Aware Lawn Care, Native Plants EventArbor Day Celebration (Sat. 4/25, 9am - 12pm) Etc.	October Meeting10/21/2026Community Development Block Grant Social Media Post(s) Focus EventFall Leaves/Autumnal Décor Etc. Good Opportunity for "Leave the Leaves" Promo to support pollinators Bat Week
May Meeting5/20/2026 Social Media Post(s) FocusHoney Bees/Hives EventHive Visit for Commissioners Etc. Anniversary of Bee Hive Installation (5/8/25) Bee City USA Report Due Typical Start of Gardens in Michigan	November Meeting11/18/2026 Social Media Post(s) Focus Event Etc. Entryway Enhancement Grant Follow-Up Report on the past cycle to Commission Goodnight/goodbye bees (hive huddle time)
June Meeting6/17/2026 Social Media Post(s) FocusPollinator Week Event Etc. Sizzling Summer Family Series Starts (runs through August) Pollinator Week (6/15 - 6/21)	December Meeting12/16/2026 Social Media Post(s) Focus EventHoliday Lights/Luminary Walk Etc.

Participation Opportunities

Perennial Exchange
Arbor Day/Earth Day events
Community Fest
Sizzling Summer Family Series (child oriented, typically day time)
Other Nature.Nurture.Novi Program

Other New Programming Considerations

Spring Flower/Nature Tour (Spring/Summer)	Winter Lantern or Luminary Walk	Interpretive Signage for Flora/Fauna in Parks
Beautification Awards	Event or Publication Promoting Local Walking/Cycling Trails	Residential Survey
Spring/Summer – Floral or edible gardens	More Volunteer Opportunities for Community	Bring in Speaker to Civic Center or Library (Topic, Source?)
Autumn – Fall or Halloween Décor	Large Planting Event (like Midland Blooms)	Dark Skies, Moths/Bats
Winter – Holiday Lights	Novi CARES revival or similar (Earth Week/partnering with ESC)	

Etc.

Badges/T-shirts - should be fabricated no later than late March for use during April programming, currently working on design
Novi: Where You Want To "Bee"