



BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION AGENDA

CITY OF NOVI

July 23, 2025 | 6:00 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, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[June](#) 11, 2025 Minutes

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

[Commission](#) Mission Statement

Community Development Block Grant Scheduling

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

UPCOMING MEETINGS – 8/13, 9/10, 10/8, 11/12, 12/10

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, June 11, 2025 6:00 pm
Mayor's Conference Room
Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road

Call to Order: 6:02 p.m.

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

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Winter; Seconded: Kumar; Approved: 4:0

Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2025

Motion: Crawford; Seconded: Kumar; Approved: 4:0

Chair – Vacant

Secretary – Torry Yu

City Liaison – Kate Oppermann

Purpose of the Meeting

1. Election of Commission Chairperson

Commissioner Crawford expressed his interest in becoming the new Chairperson of the Beautification Commission. The Other Commissioners were all in support.

Motion to approve the appointment of Commissioner Crawford to be Beautification Commission chairperson

Motion: Winter; Seconded: Kumar; Approved 4:0

2. Commission Mission Statement

Newly elected Chair Crawford started by stating that the previous Commission Mission Statement has not been updated since 2008, a period of almost 20 years. While there is nothing objectively wrong with the existing statement, he'd like the Commission to examine it to determine if it should be updated to better match the current Commission and their focus. Commissioner Seksaria said he had also read the original statement and thinks it should be updated to better

match the Commission's directive from the City. It could be made to be briefer and clearer, which would also make it easier to follow. Commission Kumar also agreed that the current 2008 statement is a bit broad and non-specific to the Beautification Commission, it should provide a clear guideline with a view towards the next 20 years. Commissioner Winter said that she agreed with everything that had been said so far and also noted that, from her stance as a longtime English teacher, it needs rewriting. Commissioner Seksaria suggested using verbiage that more closely relates to the Novi Code of Ordinances section pertaining to the Beautification Advisory Commission.

Suggestions for content of the mission included improving the physical appearance of the City, as well as potentially noting environmental concerns such as supporting pollinators. Commissioner Sekasaria suggested that in addition to a new Mission Statement the Commission could consider creating a plan document with ideas for programming and other matters, this could also help to potentially guide future Commissioners. Commissioner Kumar expressed that he thinks the group could do more to bring citizens in and empower them in individual beautification efforts. Commissioner Seksaria agreed and noted that once the Commission starts doing more things visible to the population it could encourage people to become more involved or even join themselves.

The Commission decided that each Commissioner would present their own idea for a Mission Statement at the next meeting, from those ideas could then be refined into a singular, final statement. Once that is completed they would like to work on an action plan, ideally bringing in input from the larger city population, in various increments (3-month, 6-month, 1-year, etc.). It was also suggested that, as accessory to the action plan, an event or volunteer Calander could be created.

Roundtable Discussion

1. Social Media

The Commission determined to delay the evolution of their social media and promotion plan following the finalization of the new Mission Statement.

2. July Meeting (Originally planned for 7/9)

As Staff Liaison Oppermann will be out of office during the originally planned July 9th meeting it was determined to reconvene instead on Wednesday, July 23rd.

Public Comment - None

Adjournment: 7:06 p.m.

Motion: Seksaria; Seconded: Crawford; Approved 4:0

Upcoming Meetings – 8/13, 9/10, 10/8, 11/12, 12/10

Upcoming Events – Perennial Exchange (Saturday, September 20th 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.)

Vision Statement

- Labor to enhance the appearance of Novi by promoting public interest in, and encouraging City adoption of, beautification projects and initiatives

Mission Statement

- Alongside local communities, identify areas of Novi that require beautification.
- Suggest remedial actions to address identified areas.
- Identify willing partners – both public and private – to assist with local initiatives.
- Educate all on the importance of beautification of our city.
- Celebrate successes publicly!

Action List

Task	Now – 1 year	1 – 3 years	4 – 6 years
Solicit public feedback	★		
Clean up “Novi” signage on 8 Mile / Haggerty	★		
Publicize known “ugly spots” (corner of Novi Road & 10 Mile)	★		
Inform City Council of our intents	★		
Continue to post on City social media pages	★		

DRAFT

Beautification Commission

Vision

Help make Novi a Beautiful City for its Residents, Workers & Visitors

Mission

- ***Devise short term & longer-term plans to improve the Physical Appearance of Novi, with input from interested stakeholders***
- ***Promote selected plans to council for its buy-in & approval***
- ***Publicize approved plans to public for support and participation***
- ***Implement programs & plans approved by the council***

Commission Actions List

Create a list of activities etc....

<i>Now</i>	<i>1to3 years</i>	<i>4 to 6 years</i>
<i>Figure out how to get public input</i>		

Beautification Commission

Vision Statement

Beautiful Corridors, Neighborhoods, and Business Districts.

Mission Statement

Education, Providing Outreach, and Enhancing Community Involvement

Core Values

Members are welcoming, focused, visionary, and stewards of the environment.

Members are focused on creating partnerships, collaboration, being an information resource, and strengthening community image and sense of place.

Members promote thinking green, health and wellness, and community involvement and education.

DIVISION 2. BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

Sec. 2-171. Creation.

There is hereby created a beautification advisory commission for the city.

(Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 1.01, 6-6-83)

Sec. 2-172. Composition.

The beautification advisory commission shall be composed of nine (9) electors of the city.

(Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 2.02, 6-6-83; Ord. No. 95-64.02, Pt. I, 5-15-95; Ord. 96-64.03, Pt. I, 2-5-96)

Sec. 2-173. Appointment, terms of members.

The members of the beautification advisory commission shall be appointed by the council. Following the initial appointments, all subsequent commission terms shall be for three (3) years.

(Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 3.01, 6-6-83)

Sec. 2-174. Compensation of members.

The members of the beautification advisory commission shall serve without compensation.

(Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 4.01, 6-6-83)

Sec. 2-175. Chairman.

The beautification advisory commission shall elect its own chairman for a term of one (1) year.

(Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 5.01, 6-6-83)

Sec. 2-176. Appointment of committees.

The beautification advisory commission may set up committees and appoint to such committees, persons not members of the commission. Such appointees, at the time of their appointment, shall be employed by or associated with a firm or business located within the city or shall be electors of the city.

(Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 6.01, 6-6-83)

Sec. 2-177. Meetings.

The beautification advisory commission shall hold at least one (1) regular meeting each month. It shall adopt rules for transaction of business and shall keep records of its resolutions and recommendations, which records shall be a public record.

Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 7.01, 6-6-83)

State law reference(s)—Open meetings act, MCL 15.261 et seq.; freedom of information act, MCL 15.231 et seq.

Sec. 2-178. Staff assistance.

The city manager shall be responsible for providing necessary staff assistance to serve the beautification advisory commission as in his opinion he may deem necessary.

Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 8.01, 6-6-83)

Sec. 2-179. Funding.

Funds may be appropriated for the beautification advisory commission to defray its expenses. Such appropriation shall be made at the discretion of the council.

(Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 9.01, 6-6-83)

Sec. 2-180. Functions.

The beautification advisory commission shall perform the following and/or advise the council concerning any and all of the following matters:

- (1) Consider and propose programs which would improve the physical appearance of the community and implement such programs as may be approved by the council;
- (2) Annually organize and carry out a shortterm campaign to encourage citizen participation in activities designed to beautify the city;
- (3) Consider and advise the council on such other matters as may be referred to the commission by the council.

(Ord. No. 83-64.01, § 10.01, 6-6-83)

Secs. 2-181—2-190. Reserved.