



CITY OF NOVI
Beautification Commission
Wednesday, November 12, 2025 6:00 pm
Mayor's Conference Room
Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road

Call to Order: 6:40pm

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

Present: Gareth Crawford, Yogesh Kumar, Nicole Rumao, Dinesh Seksaria
**Commissioner Rumao arrived at 6:40pm*

Absent Excused: Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2025

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

Chair – Gareth Crawford

Secretary – Torry Yu

City Liaison – Kate Oppermann

Purpose of the Meeting

1. 2026 Project Discussion and Prioritization

The Commissioners present utilized the meeting time as a period of brainstorming and discussion of potential programs, events, and other initiatives they would like to work on in the coming 2026 year as well as some potential further future programs that may require a greater deal of effort. The discussion included such points as:

Continue/Improve

- Entryway Enhancement Grant Program
- Honeybee Hives

- Bee City USA
 - Community event/table
 - Improve existing or add additional pollinator habitat
- Community Development Block Grant

Increase Commission Participation

- Novi Community Fest
- Sizzling Summer Series
- Collaboration with other Boards/Committees (esp. Environmental Sustainability Committee)
- Nature.Nurture.Novi programming
- Social Media Presence (Facebook posts, reels, podcast, etc.)

New Program Considerations

- Spring Flower/Nature Tour (Spring/Summer)
- Local Beautification Awards and/or
 - Spring/Summer – Floral or edible gardens
 - Autumn – Fall or Halloween Décor
 - Winter – Holiday Lights
 - Categories TBD (Homes/Subdivision Entries/Businesses?)
- Event or Publication Promoting Local Walking/Cycling Trails
- Create more Volunteer Opportunities for Community
 - Including a volunteer calendar/scheduling mechanism
 - Program like “[Midland Blooms](#)”
 - Additional Earth Day/Arbor Day volunteer events (Novi CARES days revival?)
 - Youth-Oriented and Business Group-Oriented options
- Interpretive Signage in Parks re: local Flora/Fauna
- Resident Survey on beautification interests/programming

A smaller internal request was made for new Commissioner badges and t-shirts. It was also suggested than an internal Commission document featuring short bios of all Commissioners would be useful for onboarding. The Commission determined to continue the work or project prioritization and short/mid/and long-term plans at their next meeting.

Roundtable Discussion: None

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: 7:03

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

Upcoming Meetings – 12/10