



CITY OF NOVI  
Beautification Commission  
**Wednesday, July 23, 2025 6:00 pm**  
Mayor's Conference Room  
Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road

**Call to Order: 6:01 p.m.**

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

**Present:** Gareth Crawford, Dinesh Seksaria, Mary Angela Winter, Torry Yu

**Absent Excused:** Yogesh Kumar, Nicole Rumao

**Approval of Agenda**

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

**Approval of Minutes** – June 11, 2025

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

**Chair** – Gareth Crawford

**Secretary** – Torry Yu

**City Liaison** – Kate Oppermann

**Purpose of the Meeting**

1. Commission Mission Statement

Chairperson Crawford, Commissioner Seksaria, and Commissioner Yu shared their versions of draft Vision Statements, Mission statements, as well as a potential chart for use as an Action list. Commissioner Seksaria suggested that the statements be kept brief and show clear derivation from the charter document. Commissioner Winter and Yu both expressed that they feel that it is important that education be included as a component and that it makes a nod towards environmental responsibility. Following deliberation and editing the Commission determined to make the following the new Vision and Mission Statements:

**Vision Statement**

Guide Novi towards being a beautiful community for its residents, workers, and visitors.

**Mission**

Community Education and Engagement  
Environmental Responsibility  
Support and Protection of Natural Wildlife  
Improvement of the Physical Appearance of Novi

The Commission also determined to make a practice of celebrating and publicizing wins and to, going forward, keep a project list to be formatted in a three-paragraph format – a description of the project, discussion regarding the project, and decision regarding the project. This would be beneficial as a record both for the current Commission and future Commissioners. IT would also be useful to record those efforts which were successful vs. unsuccessful.

**2. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Scheduling**

Staff Liaison Oppermann shared that, per the Commission's request during the 2024 CDBG process, Deputy Director Lilla is working to bring the information needed for the Committee to make a recommendation to Council earlier. She has been working with the regular applicants so that they can appear before the Commission and share information directly. It is currently planned to have Novi Youth Assistance on 9/10 and Hospitality House on 8/13. Both would be the first item of business on the respective dates. The Commission hoped that HAVEN would also be able to be present at one of the upcoming meetings.

**Roundtable Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment:** 7:18 p.m.

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

**Upcoming Events** – Perennial Exchange (Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.)