



CITY OF NOVI
Public Utilities & Technology Committee Meeting
May 14th, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Novi Depot Conference Room | Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road
(248) 347-0445

CALL TO ORDER: 5:33 PM

ROLL CALL: Council Members Gorumurthy, Heintz, and Martinez

PRESENT: Council Members Heintz and Martinez

STAFF LIAISON: Rob Petty, Chief Information Officer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motioned by: Member Martinez; Seconded by Member Heintz.
(Motion approved 3:0)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of 04/09/2026

Motion to approve minutes of 04/09/2026 by Member Martinez; Seconded by Member Heintz. (Motion approved 2:0)

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Member Martinez welcomed our speakers from DTE, Elizabeth Vogel and Derrick Sanborn.

MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. DTE

- Novi is performing "best in class" across reliability metrics, with 2025 data highlighted.
- The average outage in ZIP 48374 for 2025 was 1.3 hours per customer; many customers had zero outages, with a few pockets experiencing longer events.
- Discussion of outage minutes included examples like 331 minutes for 69 customers versus population-level averages (e.g., 59 minutes), underscoring localized impacts.
- Novi's reliability is trending strongly, with improvements attributed to grid investments, smart devices, and active execution of DTE's four-point plan.
- The System Operations Center (SOC) downtown can remotely operate devices to streamline outage response.
- Smart grid upgrades are a key pillar of the four-point plan, enabling faster, more efficient outage management.
- DTE shared a link (and QR code provided to city staff) showing improvements in Novi from 2025–2027: completed, in progress, and planned.
- DTE's comparative rate growth among Great Lakes peers moved from second lowest to lowest, with a year-over-year change of around 5.3%.

- DTE emphasized maintaining affordability while increasing reliability; updated financial data will be provided later.
- April 13: identified as a planned outage; planned outage communications typically include written notice, phone calls, and emails to the city manager's list; door-knocking may be used if fewer than 10 customers are affected.
- April 27: involved a large limb from a tree outside the right-of-way; photo evidence showed a trunk angled away from lines that fell toward them; hypothesis that mid-month high winds (e.g., April 15 tornado activity) compromised the tree.
- Novi can be signed up for fall tree planting; introductions will be facilitated for energy efficiency and rebate program support.

2. GLWA

- The committee reviewed the weekly correspondence updates from GLWA.

3. Priority Waste

- The committee reviewed the Priority Waste Delayed Pickups Dashboard.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- The city is monitoring Center Street to ensure proper restoration and minimize disruption to residents.
- The city's webpage for home EV charger installation has been updated with refreshed information from DTE.
- A new Right-of-Way (ROW) page is live on the city website (cityofnovi.org/row).
- The page explains how a right-of-way is established and includes the fiber installation map.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: Member Martinez; Seconded by Member Heintz. Approved 2:0 (6:51 PM)