



CITY OF NOVI
Public Utilities & Technology Committee Meeting
September 10th, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Novi Depot Conference Room | Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road
(248) 347-0445

CALL TO ORDER: 5:31 PM

ROLL CALL: Council Members Gurumurthy, Heintz, and Martinez

STAFF LIAISON: Rob Petty, Chief Information Officer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of 08/13/2026

Motion to approve minutes of 08/13/2026 by Member Martinez; Seconded by Member Heintz. (Motion approved 3:0)

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

N/A

MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. DTE

- a. The committee discussed chronic difficulties in obtaining timely, accurate outage data from DTE Energy. DTE representatives previously claimed they could not investigate infrastructure issues without specific residential addresses.
- b. Rob sent the updated spreadsheet to the DTE community liaison on September 3, 2026. DTE emailed late on September 9, 2026, stating they could not attend the committee meeting.
- c. Chair Gurumurthy will draft an email to DTE, copying the committee, the DTE liaison team, and the DTE engineer who attended the initial meeting. The email will demand that DTE update the outstanding Excel sheet, provide a status update on the promised secondary animal control layer at the Novi Sports Club, and attend the October 8, 2026, meeting. DTE previously committed to installing the animal control layer within three weeks of a prior meeting, but the installation status is currently unconfirmed.

2. Broadband

- a. Staff presented an updated fiber-optic broadband coverage map. The map showed active fiber installation along Wixom Road, which is expected to expand into adjacent residential subdivisions.
- b. The committee identified several populated residential pockets that were bypassed by fiber providers.

3. GLWA
 - a. The Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) restoration work in Novi is substantially complete. Crews finished road striping and began repairing private landscaping, residential sprinkler systems, and seeding lawns.
 - b. The committee discussed preventative testing for the city's older water infrastructure.
4. Priority Waste
 - a. The committee noted that Priority Waste's performance has stabilized. Field crews are completing routes more consistently

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

1. Member Heinz invited the committee to a field trip to the Spurt compost facility in Wixom on September 29, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. The Environmental Sustainability Committee is organizing the trip to support a program allowing residents to co-mingle food scraps with yard waste starting in April 2027.
2. Member Martinez proposed creating a public "State of Utilities in Novi" report. This document would synthesize Chair Gurmurthy's council reports to showcase the committee's proactive oversight of water, power, and broadband infrastructure. The report aims to demonstrate community responsiveness and highlight the technical advocacy performed by city staff.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Bob Eix commended the committee's progress on broadband mapping. He shared his personal experience as a Fox Run resident, noting that Comcast recently implemented a \$30 monthly rate increase for internet services with no change in speed. He explained that residents in private development have no alternative providers and are held captive by single-utility monopolies.

ADJOURNMENT

(6:40 PM) Motion by: Member Martinez; Seconded by Member Heintz. (Motion approved 3:0)