



CITY OF NOVI  
Public Utilities & Technology Committee Meeting  
**June 25, 2025, 5:30 p.m.**  
Novi Depot Conf. Room | Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road  
(248) 347-0445

**CALL TO ORDER**      5:30 PM

**ROLL CALL:**    Council Members Heintz, Smith, and Thomas

**PRESENT:**      Council Members Heintz, Smith, and Thomas

**STAFF LIAISON:** Rob Petty, Chief Information Officer

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

None

**REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON**

Chairperson Thomas noted that \$75k was approved in the budget for the creation of a Broadband Master Plan. The Council would ultimately have to approve the project.

**MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

1. Broadband Master Plan

- Key discussions included the need for fiber to every home and business, reducing installation costs, and incentivizing ISPs.
- They emphasized the importance of future-proofing the plan and ensuring it meets the community's needs.
- Councilmember Heintz questions the relationship between small cell towers and broadband, including 5G.
- Chairperson Thomas emphasizes the importance of having a goal-oriented plan that ensures every home and business has access to fiber.
- Chairperson Thomas suggests exploring different approaches, including municipal broadband and the Farmington model.
- The group discusses the potential benefits and challenges of each approach, including the need for a professional consultant to provide a comprehensive plan.
- Councilmember Heintz emphasizes the importance of reducing costs and making it easier for companies to install fiber.
- The discussion includes the need for a multi-pronged approach that addresses both need-based and market-driven solutions.

## 2. Broadband Service Survey

- Chairperson Thomas suggests surveying to gather public feedback on broadband needs and satisfaction.
- The group agrees to review the survey's questions and ensure they address key points such as knowledge, needs, cost, and satisfaction.
- The group discusses specific survey questions, including the importance of high-speed fiber internet for the community's economic future.
- Councilmember Heintz suggests focusing on questions that address knowledge, needs, cost, and satisfaction.

## **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

- Chairperson Thomas and Councilmember Smith agree to work on the flash survey questions and gather community input.
- The next committee meeting is scheduled for July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS**

N/A

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by: Member Heintz; Seconded by Member Smith.  
Approved 3:0 (6:30 PM)