



CITY OF NOVI
Public Utilities & Technology Committee Meeting
August 20, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
Mayors 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 (CIO)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motioned by: Member Heintz; Seconded by Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

N/A

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. Review of publicly available SEMCOG data

Chairperson Thomas presented the broadband data that was publicly available on the SEMCOG website.

2. Review Committee Goals and discuss next steps

DTE Goals and Action Items

- Chairperson Thomas reviewed the committee's goals for DTE, including community education on power outages and trouble spots.
- Discussion took place on the difference in reliability between hanging and buried lines and the potential benefits of burying lines.
- Councilmember Smith suggests focusing on the source of outages and the impacted households.
- Chairperson Thomas and Councilmember Heintz discuss the importance of understanding the cost and benefits of burying lines.
- Chairperson Thomas and Councilmember Heintz discussed educating residents on tree care to prevent power outages.
- Discussion took place on the role of DTE in tree trimming and the potential for the city to provide resources for residents.
- Chairperson Thomas emphasizes the need for affordable electricity and the potential for solar solutions and generators.
- Councilmember Smith suggests leveraging city events to educate residents on energy conservation and solar options.

- Chairperson Thomas emphasizes the need for a robust relationship with DTE and access to power outage data.
- Discussion took place about opportunities for partnering with DTE and the potential for pilot programs.
- Chairperson Thomas suggests reaching out to DTE to understand their current practices and opportunities for collaboration.

Broadband Goals and Action Items

- Chairperson Thomas discusses the importance of reviewing publicly available SEMCOG data to understand broadband data.
- Discussion on the SEMCOG demographic overlay and its usefulness in identifying underserved in the community.
- The following were discussed as potential goals:
 - High-quality access to all businesses and residences
 - Minimum of 2 providers for every resident and business
 - Affordable access to all residents and business
 - Informing the public of their options and business

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: Member Smith; Seconded by Member Heintz
Approved 3:0 (6:45 PM)