



NOVI CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
45175 TEN MILE ROAD
NOVI, MI 48375
(248) 347-0456
Fax (248) 347-0577
www.cityofnovi.org

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in serving on an advisory board or commission. The purpose of this form is to provide City Council members with comprehensive information about residents who would like to be considered for appointment. Please provide thoughtful, detailed answers. City Council will make appointments based on this application and a two minute introductory speech given by candidates during a City Council meeting. Boards and commissions candidate introductions typically take place in February, June and December. This application will be kept on file for one year, and is open for public inspection upon request.

Name (Please print): Michael McGee

Nickname, if preferred: Mike

Address: 24996 Hadlock Drive, Novi 48374

Preferred Phone Number: 313-300-3341

E-mail: mcgee@millercanfield.com

Are you a registered voter in the City of Novi? Yes.

How long have you lived continuously in the City of Novi? 16 years (February 2007)

Employed by: Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC

Educational Background: Univ. of Michigan, A.B. 1979, J.D., 1982, M.P.P. 1983

Please describe your professional qualifications, skills and/or work experience, and how you would use these to benefit the boards and/or commissions for which you are applying.

I am a practicing public finance and governmental law lawyer, and former CEO and managing director, with the Miller Canfield law firm. My practice includes representing governmental entities of all types and sizes, primarily in Michigan, on all matters of public finance, compliance, and capital needs. I presently serve on the boards of the State Bar of Michigan Governmental Law Section as well as the Michigan Municipal League Foundation. I have been a frequent lecturer for the MML, the Urban Planning school at UM, and the UM Law School.

I also have served as a Library Commissioner for the City of Livonia (1988-92) and as a Livonia City Council member (1992-98).

My first job was as a library page at the Livonia Alfred Noble branch library. I admit to being the despair of the librarians because, way back in the pre-internet age, the primary job of the page was to reshelv the books, and I had the habit of starting to read them.

At this point in my career, I understand municipal government well, understand how libraries work and the critical services they provide to the public, and have a good grasp of what a board's role is in providing feedback and guidance to the professional staff.



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Please list any community groups with which you are currently or have previously been active and describe your role.

Many years ago I was president of my homeowners association, and understand the dynamics of those organizations. More recently my professional obligations have kept me from becoming involved in Novi community groups. My outside involvement primarily has been with the Detroit Regional Chamber, The Right Place (Grand Rapids), the Citizens Research Council of Michigan (CRC), SEMCOG, the State Bar and MML, as noted above, and various municipal government organizations.

What motivated you to apply to serve on a board or commission, and why did you select the boards and/or commissions that you did?

I have been following local activities in Novi more as my role at Miller Canfield has become less demanding. I noted that Mayor Gatt recently expressed an interest in seeing applications for the Library Board. Given my background, I thought I might be able to add value to the team at this time.

If appointed, what do you hope to accomplish during your term? What do you hope to learn?

Novi has a well-deserved reputation for exemplary service in everything the City does. The City's professionalism in dealing with the public and in being an excellent steward of tax moneys and of community assets is second to none. I would hope to be able to fit into that tradition and contribute to it in a positive fashion.



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What do you think the City is doing well or could be doing differently when you think about the areas of responsibility for the boards and/or commissions for which you are applying?

As noted above, I consider the City to be among the leading municipalities in Michigan. As far as I can see as a resident, it frankly does everything quite well. So I do not have an agenda for dramatic change. Indeed, the Library's current strategic plan project is an example of the best-practices style of management which characterizes the City, in my opinion.

What I see in the future, in the information space generally and for libraries in particular, as we move farther post-pandemic, is balancing the 1) the need to provide service and accessibility to the broad range of Novi residents, both in the virtual and non-virtual spaces, 2) the role of AI, 3) the ongoing public tug and debate over the extent of information management (the current controversy in Lapeer being a perhaps extreme example), and 4) managing service provision within the scope of always-limited budgetary resources.

More specifically, the Library's recent installation of the kiosk in Lakeshore Park is, in my mind, an excellent example of creatively meeting residents where they are. Working with the schools is another example. And the recent experiment with home delivery (Door Dash for the Library is how I think of it) is a clever innovation. This is precisely the sort of forward thinking that should be supported while keeping an eye on scarce resources.

Is there anything else you would like for Council to be aware of, or know about you?

A longer professional resume for me can be found at <https://www.millercanfield.com/MichaelMcGee>.

I appreciate Council's attention and of course would be happy to elaborate on any of the subjects covered in this application, or others as the Council may find appropriate.

Thank you.



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Please number the boards and commissions you're interested in serving on, in order of your preference, with "1" being the board or commission you're most interested in. For the boards and commissions you're interested in, check the corresponding qualifications/areas of expertise that apply to you. Not all boards and commissions have vacancies at this time; contact the Clerk's Office for further details.

_____ **Beautification Commission** evaluates entries for the City's Neighborhood Entryway Enhancement Matching Grant Program, and is involved in various beautification projects and public events.

☐ Gardening/Landscaping ☐ Leadership ☐ Fundraising

_____ **Board of Review** reviews property assessments as set by the City Assessor and hears appeals by individual property owners; then reduces, adds to or denies said appeal. A certification of the assessment role is required by the Board of Review per the state statute.

☐ Real Estate ☐ Construction ☐ Organization/Preparedness ☐ Logic/Reasoning

_____ **Building Authority** oversees the issuance of financing bonds for special projects within the City of Novi.

☐ Banking/Finance ☐ Property Appraisal/Assessing ☐ Real Estate/Development/Law

_____ **Construction Board of Appeals** exists as a "fact finding" body for builders and developers; hear appeals for questions of interpretation and proper application and equivalency.

☐ Architecture ☐ Construction ☐ Engineering

_____ **Corridor Improvement Authority** helps to correct and prevent deterioration in commercial business districts, and promote the economic growth within the districts.

☐ Reside/Own Property in District ☐ Codes/Regulations/Law ☐ Strategic Planning ☐ Resource Allocation

_____ **Economic Development Corporation** is a resource for reviewing requests for Industrial Revenue Bonds and for other economic development initiatives; meets only as needed.

☐ Professional/Business/Industry Background ☐ Finance ☐ Short/Long Range Planning

_____ **Election Commission** has the duties and powers conferred on City Election Commissioners by statute. The City Clerk is the chairman of the Commission.

☐ Registered Voter (*required*) ☐ Basic Knowledge of Election Process

_____ **Historical Commission** in cooperation with the Historical Society and the Novi Public Library, the Historical Commission is responsible for Old Township Hall (which serves as a museum), and for the collection, preservation and marking of historical sites.

☐ Love of History ☐ Organizational Skills ☐ Programming Knowledge ☐ Project Management

_____ **Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee** was formulated for the purpose of reviewing community development needs in regards to these Community Development Block Grant funds. The committee works in conjunction with City administration to develop annual CDBG goals for the City of Novi.

☐ Federal Grants ☐ Knowledge of Community Needs

1 _____ **Library Board** approves payment of bills, acts upon recommendations of the Library Administrator and handles various other business matters.

☒ Policymaking/Review ☒ Budget and Finance ☒ Marketing/Public Relations ☒ Customer Service



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_____ **Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission** sets policy for and makes recommendations to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department. The Commissioners work together with professional staff in the areas of programming, budget, facilities, planning and public relations. The Commission has the responsibility of meeting community recreational objectives, and reflecting community needs to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department and City Council.

☐ Recreation/Cultural Arts Programs & Services ☐ Strategic Planning ☐ Advertising/Marketing/PR

_____ **Planning Commission** prepares a Master Plan for Land Use and advises the City Council in regard to the proper development of the City of Novi. The Planning Commission reviews and recommends to City Council all requests for change in zoning and ordinance text amendments.

☐ Architecture/Landscape Architecture ☐ Engineering ☐ Land Use Planning ☐ Real Estate Development/Law

_____ **Zoning Board of Appeals** authorizes use in a zoning district in which it is not otherwise permitted, provided it is clearly shown that the land cannot be utilized for a zoned use. The board is empowered to act on matters where zoning ordinances provide for administrative review, interpretation, exception or special approval permit, and to author a variance as defined in section 3104 of the Zoning Ordinance and Laws of the State of Michigan.

☐ Architecture ☐ Construction ☐ Land Use Planning ☐ Real Estate Development/Law

I understand I am volunteering my services with no monetary compensation or benefits. I understand I am not a City of Novi employee. I further understand the City of Novi is not obligated to accept my offer of volunteering service to the City of Novi. The City of Novi reserves the right to terminate my volunteer service at any time. I have read the Volunteer NOVI Guidebook and Policies. I will adhere to the policies and procedures of the City of Novi.

I authorize fingerprinting, criminal background checks, search of sex offender registry, and Department of Motor Vehicle checks as deemed necessary by the City of Novi. I authorize investigation of any matter contained in the application.

*I understand as a volunteer I am **NOT** covered under the City of Novi's Workers' Compensation Policy for any injury or accident sustained during my volunteer assignment. I understand I am to report any injury or accident immediately to my supervisor. I further understand any medical costs or other costs incurred as result of incident will be my responsibility. I further understand if I fail to report the injury or accident immediately to my supervisor I may be released from my current volunteer assignment and may be Ineligible for any assignment in the future.*

I give the City of Novi permission to use, publish and republish, without compensation or obligation to me any photographs, videos or other media now in existence, which may be developed for future use along with reproduction of my likeness taken during my volunteer service to the City of Novi.

I declare under penalty of perjury all statements made in this application are true and correct of my own personal knowledge.

/s/ Michael P. McGee

Signature

3/17/2023

Date