



CITY OF NOVI
Environmental Sustainability Committee Meeting
March 23, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Mayor's Conference Room | Novi Civic Center | 45175 Ten Mile Road
(248) 347-0445

CALL TO ORDER: 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Council Members Gurumurthy, Heintz, and Smith

STAFF LIAISON: Danielle Mahoney, Assistant City Manager

ALSO PRESENT: Katherine Oppermann, Recording Secretary
Rebecca Runkel, Project Engineer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Gurumurthy; Seconded: Heintz; Approved 3:0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 9, 2026 Minutes

Motion: Heintz; Seconded: Gurumurthy; Approved 3:0

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. *My Green Michigan* Food Scrap Collection/Composting Proposal

Chairperson Smith asked for a reminder of how the process of presenting this item before City Council will go. Assistant City Manager Mahoney said that she will introduce the item and introduce Robb Harper from *My Green Michigan* as the subject matter expert to answer any questions. Councilmember Heintz asked if any of the slide deck would be shown and Ms. Mahoney said no. Councilmember Heintz noted that he thought there would be the opportunity for staff to present the visuals and Ms. Mahoney explained that as the program is a Committee recommendation, not a staff recommendation it makes the difference in this. Councilmember Gurumurthy asked if *My Green Michigan* would have any kind of slide presentation and Chair Smith said that while they will be present to talk they may not have slides prepared for the occasion but that slides and information from *My Green Michigan* were included in the City Council ePacket which should give the information the rest of Council wanted to see. Councilmember Heintz said that he didn't think it would hurt to load the slide deck for a visuals during the item's presentation at Council. Ms. Runkel asked that, if Councilmember have questions who would they be passed to and Chair Smith and Ms. Mahoney both said that it would likely be passed to Mr. Harper to speak to them.

Ms. Mahoney noted that should the CLC Fellow come into the conversation there might be a need for further action. Ms. Runkel agreed and said that the Fellow would

be used only for this project and would be primarily working remotely, from Ann Arbor. She also said there should be a meeting with staff and the Committee to lay out a clear project plan. The Fellow would be good to put a guidebook together for the program. There was some brief discussion of bin monitoring duties, and interest of the Novi High School Recycling Club in the program and doing more service. Chair Smith then asked for a Motion recommending the program to Council.

Motion to recommend City Council support a food scrap composting pilot program, in partnership with My Green Michigan, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.

Motion Maker: Heintz, Seconded: Gurumurthy, Approved 3:0

Chair Smith stated that, at the next meeting, they should plan to talk about the CLC Fellow and the e-waste topic.

Councilmember Heintz spoke briefly on the upcoming Detroit Zoo e-waste event, wherein if you bring enough, you may be able to win zoo tickets. He suggested that this could be promoted as a good opportunity for both the City and residents.

Councilmember Gurumurthy asked if the current Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) days include e-waste collection, and Ms. Oppermann and Chair Smith confirmed yes, it does. She wondered if there might be an opportunity to add another day but recognized that budget constraints might not allow it. She also suggested that the High School Recycling Club promote the HHW days.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

Action Items included arranging for an e-waste table at the upcoming Arbor Day event for the Recycling Club, getting a cost breakdown of e-waste from RRRASOC if available, creating a Sustainability Bingo card game for Arbor day, and confirming tree plantings at the event with City Forester Salowich.

The next meeting should be set for Wednesday, May 13th.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Novi Highschool Student Siddhani Singh spoke briefly about her interest in having readily accessible e-waste (electronic waste) bins, that she has reached out to RRRASOC regarding the topic, and that she has gotten permission from a few neighborhoods to do e-waste collection (alongside keeping a list of addresses and e-waste contents) and doing drop off at a recycling center. She hopes to speak more with the Committee at a future meeting regarding the matter.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:13 p.m.

Motion: Heintz; Seconded: Gurumurthy; Approved 3:0