

Merisa K. Bowers

GAHANNA CITY COUNCILWOMAN, AT-LARGE
City of Gahanna, 200 S. Hamilton Rd., Gahanna, OH 43230
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To: Residents of Gahanna;
Members of Council; Mayor Jadwin; City Attorney Ray Mularski
CC: Council Clerk Krystal Gonchar
From: Councilmember Merisa Bowers
Re: ***Constituent Update - September Report***
Date: 10/04/2021

General Update - Events and Actions of September 2021:

- Participated in Supporting Gahanna Together Day with Parks & Recreation Department and Make Gahanna Yours - litter clean up at Gahanna Woods and Friendship Park



- Hosted a Facebook Live constituent hour on September 7 focused on local government structure
- Attended 9/11 Commemoration at National Veterans Memorial



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- Volunteered at the Creekside Blues and Jazz Festival with the Gahanna Moms Network
- Hosted “Let’s Talk Tax Incentives! Abatements, TIFs, and Hubs, Oh my!” on Zoom with the Office of Franklin County Auditor Michael Stinziano - Recording available [here](#).
- Attended 40th Anniversary Celebration at The Stonewall Center
- Meeting with Fran Ryan, Coordinator of the Franklin County Senior Services Roundtable, on housing issues affecting seniors and policies to facilitate aging in place.

Constituent Hours

October 18, 2021 at 5:00 pm at City Hall and via Zoom/streamed to Facebook Live

What's on the ballot?

I'll be available at City Hall and Via Zoom to talk about what's on the ballot this year in Gahanna.

In person at Council Office, Gahanna City Hall, 200 S. Hamilton Road (please be kind and follow CDC mask guidance)

[Or via Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 891 3467 7810

Passcode: 286837

Comments and questions are welcome!

A recording of the meeting will be posted on social media after it concludes.

You may sign up for periodic email updates from Merisa Bowers here:

<https://forms.gle/PMTu8eH5Fy4bN4Si8>

Constituent Issues/Concerns:

#1 Trick or Treat

Constituent asked about Trick or Treat date. **In coordination with Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission’s regional date, Trick or Treat is on Thursday, October 28 from 6-8pm!**

#2 Praise for Sgt. Utt

Received email from a victim’s attorney complimenting Gahanna Police Sergeant Utt for his professionalism and thoroughness.

#3 Gahanna Ward Redistricting

While attending various meetings, the issue of the census and redistricting has come up, including whether Gahanna would redistrict the wards based on the census data.

Discussions with Council Clerk regarding process to determine redistricting, and ordinance in Gahanna Charter requiring action by Council.

105.01 - DIVISION INTO WARDS.

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The City of Gahanna redistricts its wards in a manner equitably balanced as to present population and voter registration statistics provided by the Franklin County Board of Elections and City of Gahanna records to prepare for the election of Council members to be elected from wards in the regular municipal election in 2013 and every four years thereafter.
(Ord. 0151-2013. Passed 11-25-13.)

As of 8/23/21 Committee of the Whole Meeting, Clerk of Council has obtained Board of Elections data regarding registered voters by ward; complete census data pending. Anticipate that once census data is received, Council can determine if the population remains balanced among the current Wards.
Update 10/4: The census data is now available.

#4 Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Update:

SWACO is partnering with area organizations and local Krogers to receive unused prescription drugs on October 23. More information forthcoming.

#5 Vaccine and Mask Mandates and Proof of Vaccination

Received an email from constituent regarding vaccine and mask mandates and vaccination proof.

Response: No legislation is pending before Gahanna City Council to mandate any vaccine nor require proof of vaccination. Private business decisions are distinct from local laws. Facilities decisions and school decisions are not made by City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Merisa K. Bowers

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Gahanna City Councilmember, At Large

10/04/2021

