



TO: Gahanna City Council
Jeremy A. VanMeter, Clerk of Council

FROM: Jeff Gottke, Director of Economic Development
Mayor Laurie A. Jadwin

CC: Priya Tamilarasan, City Attorney
Jeff Spence, Chief of Police

DATE: July 15, 2025

SUBJECT: Dept. of Economic Development- Request for Council Action (July 21, 2025 COTW Meeting)

ACTION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEM #1: REQUEST TO EXPAND AND RENEW THE CREEKSIDE OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (CORA)

On August 17, 2020, Gahanna City Council approved the creation of a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area in the Creekside District and enacted regulations for its operation in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 4301.82. Statutorily, the program must be reviewed and reauthorized after five years. Additionally, on the recommendation of the CORA Committee and the Economic Development Department, the Administration is requesting two minor revisions to the program.

In 2025, the City's Economic Development Department assumed responsibility for management of the CORA based on feedback from the Creekside District Alliance. The Department coordinated and led the required annual review meeting with participants where prospective changes to program operations were also discussed. Subsequent meetings were held with CORA participants and stakeholders to review and consolidate input. The feedback resulted in recommendations to simplify and expand the CORA that will benefit area businesses, participants, and the Creekside area.

The Department of Economic Development submits the attached renewal petition that provides updates and incorporates changes to the original application to establish a DORA. All other details included in the original application to the City of Gahanna to establish the DORA would remain in effect.

The Administration respectfully requests that Council issue an Ordinance to reauthorize the CORA and amend the CORA as follows:

- Adjust operational hours to 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., daily.
- Alter the boundaries to include Short Street on the east and Carpenter Road to the north. The western and southern boundaries remain unchanged.
- Safety Plan review meetings moved from monthly for the first 12-months to as-needed.

Requested Legislation and Funding

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|------------------------|-----------|
| Legislation Needed: | Ordinance |
| Emergency/Waiver: | N/A |
| Vendor Name: | N/A |
| Vendor Address: | N/A |
| Already Appropriated: | N/A |
| Supplemental/Transfer: | N/A |

Attachments

ATT – Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area Renewal Application