



Gahanna

CITY COUNCIL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
CARIS LANTZ

About Me

- Senior at Ohio State
 - B.A. Philosophy, Politics, Economics (PPE)
 - B.A. Public Management, Leadership, and Policy
 - May 2027
- Council Intern
- Interested in leadership, non-profits, economic development, and policy strategy.



Major Projects

Economic Development Education

- Council Member Onboarding guides
- Public Facing
 - Brochure
 - Newsletter Articles
 - Graphics
- Collaborated with Economic Development Dept.

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE



How are Economic Development Projects Reviewed?



DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

These are a few of the most impactful tools that cities use to promote economic success.

Community Improvement Corporation

A non-profit organization that facilitates redevelopment, property transactions, and public-private partnerships.

Community Reinvestment Area (CRA)

A designated area where eligible property improvements may receive temporary property tax abatements.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

A tax structure that uses future increases in property tax revenue to pay for public infrastructure to support new development.

Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization Area (NCA)

A designated district where commercial property improvements may receive temporary property tax abatements.

Office & Industrial Incentive Program

A performance-based incentive that provides annual refunds on municipal income taxes generated by new payroll for office and industrial projects.

Special Improvement District (SID)

A defined area where property owners collectively fund improvements and services through a special assessment on their properties.



WHY DOES CITY COUNCIL DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT?

The Council Office would like to share why these conversations matter, the tools cities use to encourage responsible growth, and the roles of City Council, City Administration, businesses, and residents in the process.

Together these public and private partnerships can help support a thriving City of Gahanna.

TO LEARN MORE

Please Visit:

- www.gahanna.gov
- <https://www.gahanna.gov/314/Economic-Development>
- <https://www.gahannacic.com/>



SHOULD A CITY PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT?

A thriving city is built with intentionality.

Cities compete everyday to attract top employers, residents, and community investments.

When communities plan for responsible development, they can utilize strategic economic tools to support growth.

HOW IS GROWTH IMPORTANT TO A CITY?

Thoughtful growth helps communities thrive.

Growth in a city creates new jobs and strengthens our local economy. When our businesses succeed, the entire community benefits.

Growth can:

- Help fund quality city services
- Strengthen the local tax base
- Support infrastructure improvements

A stronger tax base helps support essential services without relying solely on taxpayers.



HOW CITIES GROW

A guide to understanding development in Gahanna



WHAT IS CITY COUNCIL'S ROLE?

City Council serves as the city's legislative authority and community advocate.

As part of that role, Council reviews:

- The city budget
- Development policies & agreements
- Tax incentives
- Infrastructure investments
- Financing tools

Council's responsibility is to evaluate these items, protect public resources, and consider the community's long-term goals.

WHEN CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Today is the best time.

Residents, businesses, and community partners help shape the way Gahanna grows when they participate in local government.

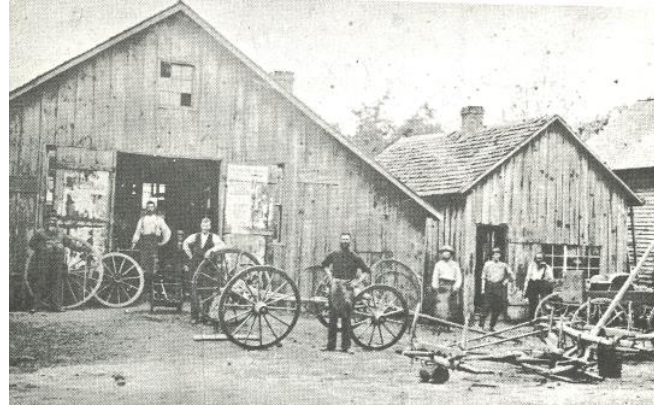
City Council invites you to attend meetings, testify at public hearings, share your thoughts with your representatives, and stay informed.

Gahanna

August 3, 2026

City Hall History Exhibit

- Researched City Archives 1881-2026
 - Library Archives
 - Municipal Archives
- Created timelines, and exhibit displays to capture findings.



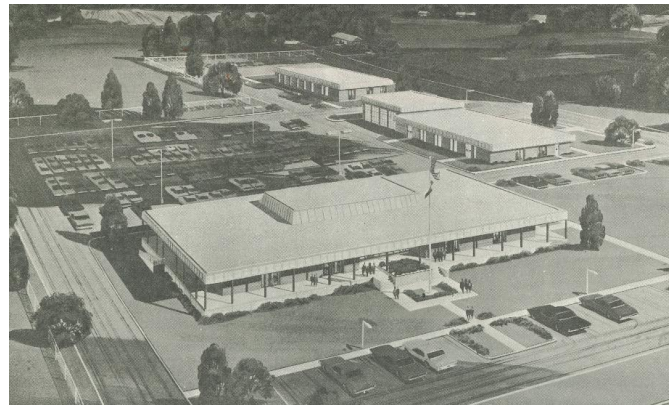
63 Mill St.



95 S. High St.



66 Mill St.



200 S. Hamilton Rd. (1970)



200 S. Hamilton Rd. (1994)

Other Projects

- Digitized over 450 ordinances and resolutions dating back to 1949.
- Researched E-bike policy
- Created a public notice requirements inventory
- Created a community engagement inventory
- Meeting Minutes



A	B	C	D	E	F
Code Title	Code Citation	Responsible Department	Notice Requirements	Publication Methods	Timeline
Major Plan Development	1117.0724(6-9)	Planning Commission	Planning Commission must hold at least one public hearing before approving or denying the application. Notice must include the place, date, time, and nature of the application. Applicant must provide names and addresses of contiguous property owners. Written notice must be mailed to contiguous property owners. Failure of delivery does not invalidate the application. Mailed notice not required when the hearing involves 50 or more property owners.	City website posting; Posting at the municipal building in a publicly accessible location. Ordinary mail to contiguous property owners (unless 50+ property owners are affected).	Public hearing must occur within 30 days of receipt of the application and supporting materials. Public notice must be posted during the calendar week preceding the hearing.
Final Plat	1117.086(3)(b)	Planning Commission	NONE	NONE	Planning Commission consideration within 30 days of receipt of application and stormwater compliance certificate. Council consideration within 60 days of receipt of Planning Commission recommendation.
Wireless Service Facility	1115.0507(2)(b)	Planning Commission	Applicant must be notified in writing of the scheduled pre-application review meeting.	Written notice to applicant	At least 5 days prior to the pre-application review meeting
Regular, Organizational, and Adjourned Meetings	107.02	Council Clerk	Posting of annual regular meeting schedule; notice of organizational meetings; and notice of adjourned meetings or changes to regular meeting time/place	Public posting by Clerk of meeting schedules and updates	Regular Meetings: second day before the first meeting of the year; changed regular meetings: 24 hours before first changed meeting. Organizational meetings: 24 hours in advance. Adjourned meetings: promptly after adjournment.
Passage of Ordinances and Resolutions	4.11	Council Clerk	Notice shall be given for resolutions and ordinances by requiring the Clerk to post them for thirty (30) days after passage by Council in a conspicuous place in the Municipal building	In a "conspicuous place" in the municipal building	30 days after passage
Special Meetings	107.03, 107.04	Council Clerk	Public posting of special meeting details (time, place, and purpose) and provision of advance notice to requesting news media	Posted public notice; distribution to requesting news media (oral and/or written notification)	At least 24 hours before the special meeting. Except emergencies
Emergency Special Meetings	107.03	Council Clerk	Provide immediate notice to requesting news media of the time, place, purpose, and general nature of the emergency requiring immediate action	Oral and/or written notification to requesting news media	As soon as possible, no 24-hour advance notice required due to emergency conditions
Public Hearing and Council Action on Urban Renewal / Redevelopment Plans	145.04	Council Clerk (with Planning Commission review prior to Council hearing)	Public hearing on urban renewal/redevelopment plans; published notice including project area description and location of available plan materials	Newspaper of general circulation (once a week for two consecutive weeks) and public inspection availability notice	At least 5 full days must pass between the second newspaper publication and the public hearing date

Professional Skills and Experiences

Skills

- Sunshine law and Ethics law training
- Municode
- Legistar
- Microsoft Office
- PDF Exchange
- Canva

Experiences

- Clerking a council meeting
- MORPC Mobility Exchange
- Village Forum
- MODE Mixer
- Archival research
- Economic development education



Village Forum



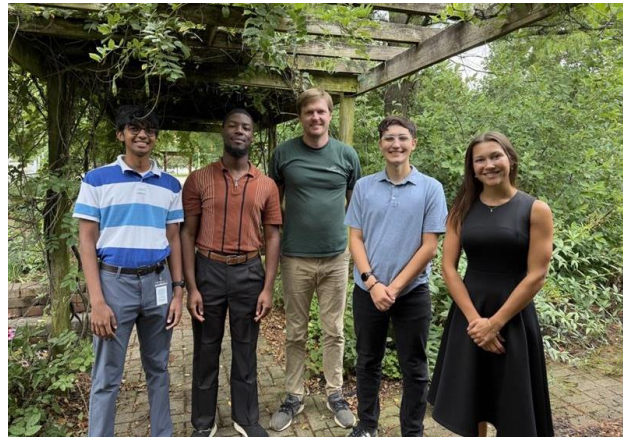
MODE Mixer



2026 Intern Cohort



Sharon Montgomery History Meeting



Gahanna Interns



MORPC Mobility Exchange



Kyle Probert
MORPC Mentor

Highlights

Thank you!

