

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 Priya Tamilarasan
CC: Clerk of Council Jeremy VanMeter
From: Council President Merisa Bowers
Re: **Constituent Update - September 2024 Report**
Date: October 18, 2024

General Update - Events and Actions of September 2024:

- Celebrated the grand opening of the [Somali History Museum of Ohio](#) on August 31.
- Attended the Columbus Metropolitan Club Forum featuring former State Attorneys General on **Civility and Civil Discourse** on September 4.
- Met with three Parks Board members to hear opinions on Parks & Rec capital projects on September 5.
- Volunteered at the Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation **Hops & Vine Fundraiser** at Creekside on September 7 with Gahanna Moms Network.
- Reviewed draft budget narrative from Council Office staff and collaborated on revisions.
- Participated in the **Kyle Miller 1st Day 5K** with Councilman Weaver that benefited GRIN and other nonprofit organizations and attended the crafter & vintage **Collective Market** on Mill & Shull on September 8.
- Developed agenda, prepared for and attended **quarterly City-School meeting** with Mayor, Superintendent, School Board Members, and Councilmember Jones September 10.
- Developed agenda, prepared for and attended leadership touchbase meeting with Mayor, City Attorney, Council leadership and senior directors on September 16.
- [Started with Hello](#) at Lincoln Elementary School to greet students and families on September 17 with Councilmember Jones, Chief Spence, and GPD Officers.
- Received statements of interest from councilmembers regarding participation on the [Strategic Plan Steering Committee](#); made assignments to the Committee.
- Reviewed draft and suggested edits to Hispanic Heritage Month Resolution in collaboration with Councilwoman Jones.
- Participated at the Columbus Metropolitan Club forum discussion **"Health, Housing & Hope"** on



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September 25 with Former Columbus Mayor Coleman, Westerville Mayor & Councilmember Kenneth Wright, and Public Health professor Dr. Craig Pollack.

- Spoke with residents and shopped local vendors at **Mill Street Market** presented by the Gahanna Historical Society on September 29.
- Attended the League of Women Voters & Gahanna Area Chamber of Commerce-hosted **Candidate Forum** at the Peak at Edison on September 30.
- Reviewed Board and Commission position terms, members and expiration dates in anticipation of seeking candidates for expiring terms.



Constituent Hours

Hosted a Constituent Hour on September 9 at City Hall.

Save the date: October 22 for Municipal Aggregation Town Hall meetings!

To schedule a meeting, coffee, or call, please email merisa.bowers@gahanna.gov or call 614-342-0040.

You can join various Gahanna CivicEngage newsletter lists by creating a [“Notify Me” Sign In account](#) and selecting the desired newsletter lists.

Constituent Issues/Concerns:

1. Criteria for awarding grant funding through Community Grant Program
Resident inquired about criteria for grant funding; reviewed responses from Clerk VanMeter and Deputy Director Wybensinger.
2. CIP Amendments
Resident inquired about meetings where amendments to Capital Improvement Plan were discussed; provided links to COTW and Finance Committee meeting where amendments were discussed and reviewed prior to Council vote on adoption of amendments.
3. Aggregation details and policy
Emails with a resident concerning details on aggregation pricing, procurement, and process; responded.
4. Small Business Development
Met small business owner interested in connecting with Gahanna Economic Development staff; emailed introduction between business owner and Jen Hackman.

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5. Golf Carts in Roadways
Received email from resident concerning use of golf carts; responded and referred resident to City Attorney Tamilarasan and Chief Spence, offered to meet to discuss further.
6. Action Park / Adventure Park and Location (Lower McCorkle)
Received communication regarding resident feedback on the Action Park/Skate Park/Adventure Park considered for Lower McCorkle Park; reviewed CIP and documents, responded to residents; reviewed Parks & Recreation Board meeting comments.
7. Dissatisfaction with contractor work on Coldwell Court (road repairs)
Received contact from constituent unhappy with quality of work, customer service & consideration by contractor Strawser on road repairs on Coldwell Court; reviewed responses from Sr. Dir. Schultz.
8. Non Profit Organization Support
Received request from nonprofit organization for connection to resources; responded with requested information.
9. Animal Control
Email from resident regarding incorrect Google page and request for greater clarity on how to obtain support regarding animal control; reviewed response from Council Clerk VanMeter.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Merisa K. Bowers
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Council President
Gahanna City Councilwoman, At-Large
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