

Merisa K. Bowers

GAHANNA CITY COUNCILWOMAN, AT-LARGE
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To: Residents of Gahanna; Members of Council; Mayor Jadwin; City Attorney Ray Mularski
CC: Clerk of Council Jeremy VanMeter
From: Councilmember Merisa Bowers
Re: **Constituent Update - November 2022 Report**
Date: January 8, 2023

General Update - Events and Actions of November 2022:

- Connected at a meeting with GJPS Family & School Support Specialist to follow up on community needs and prospective opportunities for serving residents.
- Hosted Constituent Hour on **Monday, November 7**; activist/proponent of cannabis policy reform attended to discuss status of statewide legislation.
- Phone call with Tobacco21/Coalition to End Tobacco Targeting to learn about regional tobacco policy initiatives - tobacco retail licensing and flavored tobacco restriction.
- Lunch meeting with Upper Arlington Councilwomen Adams and Burriss to discuss opportunities and obstacles in advancing and implementing housing policy.
- Zoom meeting with Jerry Valentine of Renter Mentor to discuss county-wide initiatives on fair housing policy implementation and education efforts.
- Attended Visit Gahanna Boutique Hop in Creekside.
- Attended Gahanna Veteran's Day Service at Veterans Memorial Park.



Gahanna Veteran Keynote Speaker Maja K. Patterson spoke of her service to country



Cub Scouts in Council Chambers

- Hosted Cub Scouts Troop at Gahanna City Hall, engaging in an activity on branches and levels of government.
- Attended Columbus Metropolitan Club lunch featuring Columbus Dispatch editors; connected with Columbus Housing Trust's Lark Mallory and WOSU's Mike Thompson for future connections.

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- Attended Send-Off Rally for GLHS Football Team to play in the State Semi Finals and joined community members at Signatures to watch!



Photo by Emily Bernard

- Met with Gahanna Area Arts Council board members to follow up on opportunities and obstacles to ensure sustainability of the organization.
- Met with pastoral leadership at Gahanna Community Congregational Church for meaningful and extensive discussion regarding goals, opportunities, and outlook on service to the community.
- Attended the Visit Gahanna Holiday Lights festival to celebrate the start of the holiday season!



Constituent Hours

Budget and Breakfast Constituent Meeting was held on **Friday, December 2 at 8:30 a.m. at Cafe Creekside**. Residents attended to discuss the proposed Budget and organizational structure. **I will host a constituent Hour on Tuesday, January 17 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall and Via Zoom.** Zoom link [here](#).

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

<https://forms.gle/PMTu8eH5Fy4bN4Si8>

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Constituent Issues/Concerns:

1. Follow up on Fair Housing Policy Implementation
In communication regarding education/outreach of fair housing laws for owners and occupants.
2. Flood Plain concern
Received email from resident regarding flood plain in relation to development of the Crescent; forwarded to directors; received follow up information from directors related to oversight of this concern.
3. Equipment Safety Concerns
Noted and reported equipment safety concerns at Tech Center Drive extension to administration, who immediately took steps to have the issues remedied.
4. GJPS Football Team Success
Residents excited to celebrate the winning season of the GLHS Golden Lions!

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Merisa K. Bowers

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Gahanna City Councilmember, At Large

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