

Merisa K. Bowers

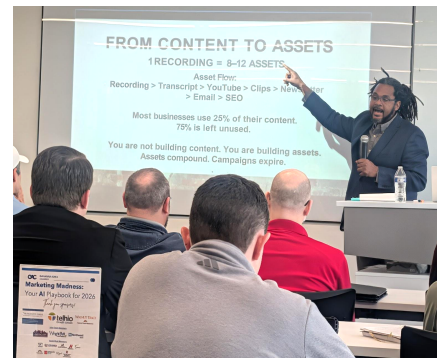
GAHANNA CITY COUNCILWOMAN, AT-LARGE
City of Gahanna, 200 S. Hamilton Rd., Gahanna, OH 43230
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To: Residents of Gahanna; Members of Council; Mayor Jadwin; City Attorney Priya Tamilarasan
CC: Clerk of Council Jeremy VanMeter
From: Councilwoman Merisa Bowers
Re: **Community Report -March-April 2026 Report**
Date: April 27, 2026

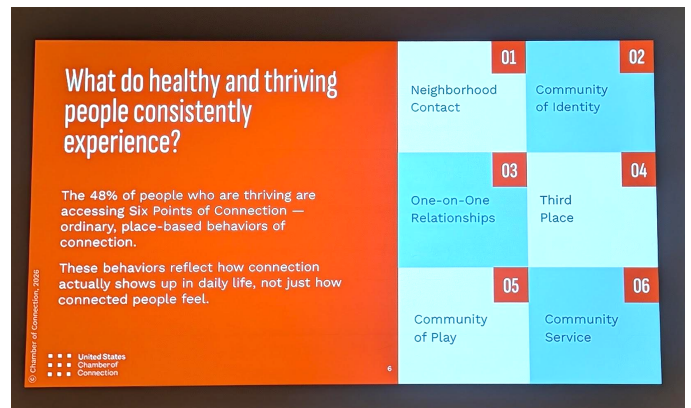
General Update -

Events and Actions of March-April 2026:

- Attended **Columbus Chamber Women’s Collective Luncheon** at the Museum of Art on March 2 to hear from women in leadership on their journeys and guidance.
- Met with GPD command staff to discuss **Flock camera policies, privacy, and transparency** on March 2.
- Explored **Gahanna Woods** for amphibian migration on March 6.
- Served as a judge for the **Ohio State Finals High School Mock Trial Competition** at the Franklin County Courthouse on March 12.
- Communicated with residents and AEP Ohio communications staff regarding storm damage and power restoration on March 14-15.
- Attended **MORPC State of the Region** on March 20.
- Learned about AI marketing use cases with the **Gahanna Area Chamber of Commerce** on March 26.
- **Celebrated union brothers and sisters** and policymakers who support them at the Annual Central Ohio Labor Council George Meany Awards dinner on March 26.
- Hosted Community Meet-up (Constituent Hour) at the library on March 28, discussing community support for LGBTQ+ youth and community participation.
- Hosted a Scouting America pack to discuss local government and serving in local elected office at City Hall on April 6.
- Attended the Columbus Metropolitan Club Forum on April 8 regarding Economic Competition in Ohio featuring JP Nauseef of JobsOhio and Steve Stivers of the Ohio Chamber.
- Prepared for and presented **proposed Charter amendments** to the Charter Review Commission on April 9.
- **Recognized Volunteer Appreciation Month and Scouting America Eagle Scout Aiden Combs** with a **Resolution** at his Court of Honor Ceremony on April 12.



Photos from top: Women’s Collective luncheon; Gahanna Area Chamber AI Marketing lunch and learn; Councilwomen Padova and Bowers with Central Ohio Labor Council Award Recipient and Franklin County Auditor Michael Stinziano; slide from MORPC: “What do healthy and thriving people consistently experience?”



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Special Note: Gahanna Charter Review Underway

Residents are encouraged to attend and engage with the Charter Review Commission!

The Charter Review Commission meets every 5 years to review the City’s principal governing document, the Charter, and evaluate requests and proposals for amendments. If the Commission votes to advance a proposed amendment, the amendment would be put before the City’s voters on the November 2026 ballot.

The Charter Review Commission meets two Thursdays per month now through late Spring in person at 6:30 p.m. Meeting notices, agendas, and minutes can be located on the [City’s Legistar](#) page by searching “This Year” and “Charter Review” in the respective drop-down menus.

Residents are encouraged to review the [Charter](#) in its current form and consider recommendations that improve the City’s governance, responsiveness, and transparency to our community.

Let’s Connect: Upcoming Events and Community Meet-Ups

“Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence and Trauma” Panel Discussion and Resource Fair

Wednesday, April 29, 5:30p - 8:00p

ETSS - 4300 East Broad Street, Columbus

Domestic violence is often hidden, misunderstood, and silenced—but it impacts individuals, families, and entire communities every day.

Join us for “Breaking the Silence”, a powerful panel discussion bringing together leaders in education, law enforcement, mental health, and public service to address domestic violence and trauma.

This is more than a conversation—it’s a space to:

- ✨ **Learn and understand**
- ✨ **Reflect and heal**
- ✨ **Connect with local resources and support services**

📌 **On-site resources will include:**

- **Domestic violence advocacy organizations**
 - **Counseling and mental health support**
 - **Legal guidance and community services**
- Come be part of the dialogue. Come be empowered.**

Together, we break the silence.

The poster features logos for the New American Cultural Center and Heart of Ohio Family Health. The main title is 'BREAKING THE SILENCE' in large blue and green letters, with the subtitle 'On Domestic Violence & Trauma'. Below the title is the slogan 'Speak. Listen. Learn. Heal.' The event details are listed: Wednesday, April 29th, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, at ETSS - 4300 E Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43213. Contact information is 614-282-7173. A section titled 'Resources will be available' lists four speakers: Moderator Merisa Khourey Bowers, Esq. (Attorney, Gahanna City Council Elected - Second Term); Dr. Tina Pierce (Dedicated Leader, Serving Second Term, Columbus School Board); Dr. Lizzie Bronte (Leadership Advisor, Founder, Bronte & Co Advisory); and Officer Kofi Owusu-Ansah (Veteran Officer, Columbus Division of Police). The event is hosted by Sophia Pierrelus, Founder of the New American Cultural Center.

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Rathburn Woods Civic Association Spring Clean-Up

Saturday, May 9, 8:30a - 10:00a

Meet at the Pond on Rice Avenue in Rathburn Woods. We'll power-up with coffee and donuts, then head out to pick up litter and weed the community entrance flowerbeds.

Where can you most influence the day-to-day lives of your neighbors? The answer is local government! I welcome your thoughts, questions, and information about what's going on in Gahanna!

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 - **including the new bimonthly City Council Newsletter** - by creating a [“Notify Me” Sign In](#) account and selecting the desired newsletter lists.*

Constituent Issues/Concerns:

Throughout March and April, residents voiced concerns and opinions or requested assistance in the following areas:

- East Johnstown Road rental property
- Use of Flock Cameras and other traffic surveillance cameras
- Water lines and groundwater
- Eucommia Ulmoides (Chinese rubber tree) use in street tree program
- Rental homes
- Academy Park renovations
- police investigation involving specific matter
- Gahanna flag display

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Merisa K. Bowers
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Gahanna City Councilwoman, At-Large
April 27, 2025

