

# 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: Councilmember Merisa Bowers  
Re: **Constituent Update - April 2024 Report**  
Date: May 17, 2024

## **General Update - Events and Actions of April 2024:**

- Led efforts for **Resolution on COMMUNITY SAFETY, FIREARM EDUCATION, AND THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS** in collaboration with Be SMART, local activists, GJPS, and public safety, with Resolution adopted on April 1.
- Supported local non-profit **254 Teen Center** with grant support letter jointly with Mayor Jadwin.
- Active participant in the CIP Advisory Committee over the month.
- Attended statewide virtual housing roundtable discussion, **Ohio Affordable Housing Learning Exchange** hosted by the Greater Ohio Policy Center on April 10.
- Prepared for and interviewed candidates for Council Office staff.
- Attended the VFW/Gahanna American Legion Post 797 Walk in Our Boots 5k and Make Gahanna Yours Litter Clean-Up on April 20.
- Prepared for and participated in a joint meeting with GJPS and City leadership on April 23.
- Attended **Policy Committee meeting of Columbus REALTORS** to discuss short term rental community impact and policy on April 30.
- Developed and produced **Community Education video** on sustainability and recycling efforts for Earth Month with **Councilman Renner**.



*Images from top: Presentation of April 1 Community Safety Resolution with Be SMART Local Lead, Susan Brekelmans ; ready to knock-out litter with Councilman Weaver on April 20; attending the Walk In Our Boots 5K with **Councilmembers Jones and Weaver** on April 20.*

## **Constituent Hours**

Constituent Hour was held Saturday, May 11 at 1:00 p.m. at the [Gahanna Branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library](#).



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**For updates on constituent hours and for periodic email updates from Councilwoman Bowers sign up here: <https://forms.gle/PMTu8eH5Fy4bN4Si8>**

**\*\*\*NOTE that Councilwoman Bowers is utilizing a new email communication system. This new email system aligns with the City's new CivicEngage platform. You can join various Gahanna CivicEngage newsletter lists by creating a ["Notify Me" Sign In](#) account and selecting the desired newsletter lists.**

**To schedule a meeting, coffee, or call, please email [merisa.bowers@gahanna.gov](mailto:merisa.bowers@gahanna.gov) or call 614-342-0040.**

## **Constituent Issues/Concerns:**

1. Street Tree Management  
Discussion from late March constituent hour included changes to sidewalk program and included questions regarding street tree maintenance. Followed up with City Directors.
2. Havens Corners Water Main schedule  
Received reach-out from constituents regarding water main work on Havens Corners Road; connected with City Director to confirm information and responded to residents.
3. Bright Blocks  
Follow up regarding timeline and needs to install Bright Blocks.
4. Expansion of Buildings and Facilities at One Church campus  
Received various resident communication concerned about traffic and neighborhood impact due to proposals for expanded facilities at One Church campus. Responded to residents and followed up with reviewing pending applications with Planning Department.
5. Short Term Rental (Airbnb) on Allanby  
Received resident complaint about short term rental use of home; viewed property and spoke with neighbor; responded to resident; followed up with Planning Director; policy discussions in progress.
6. Rental Dispute  
Received email alleging discriminatory issue between landlord and tenant; forwarded to Council Clerk for records; discussed briefly with City Attorney and Asst. City Attorney.
7. Sheetz on Granville St.  
Received various emails from residents objecting to a gas station being located on Granville Street in the former Coaches location; responded to emails and explained process, directing them to Planning Commission.
8. PCFO and Sustainability Efforts  
Received email from resident offering to support Sustainability efforts in Gahanna; directed resident to connect with Councilman Renner.

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9. Mural Resource Guide and Public Art  
Resident provided sample Public Art/Mural guides. Responded and summarized Mayor's art policy and process.
10. Sidewalk repair  
Copied on email from resident regarding sidewalk repairs. No action needed at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Merisa K. Bowers  
Merisa K. Bowers  
Council President  
Gahanna City Councilwoman, At-Large  
May 17, 2024

