

DIRECTORS REPORT



Gahanna

PARKS & RECREATION

JUNE/JULY 2026





Administrative Updates

OFFICE

Administration

- Our Gahanna strategic planning start/stop exercise with consultant
- CBJF Planning and event logistics with Visit Gahanna, Recreation and internal departments
- Quarterly meeting with Mayor
- Golf course filming for mobile app
- Meeting for Independence Day fireworks logistics
- Competitive Sealed Bid process for Street Tree Planting opened, only 1 bid received
- Northwest Bank tree protection fencing site meeting
- ODNR Urban Forestry Advisory Council
- Columbus Tree Sub-Commission meeting
- Gahanna Parks & Recreation mobile app went live
- Preparations to move into the Civic Center at 825 Tech Center Drive
- Finalizing process to provide alcohol permits through software, OpenGov

Professional Development

- Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) testing
- ODA Commercial Pesticide Exam
- Ventrac cutting bar training
- Shunnye recertified as ACA Level 1 Kayak Instructor

Hires and Retires

- Part-time interviews and hiring recommendations (1-Team member, 1-coordinator) (Parks)
- Hired new PT coordinator (Parks)

Programs

- BioBlitz concluded at the end of June – over 800 entries in iNaturalist
- Explore Our Ecosystems occurred on June 27
- 43 participants for the June Sips and Tips sessions
- 13 SNAG golf participants in June
- Senior League picnic
- Hosted 60-person outing

Golf Closures

- Total rainfall 7.5" June
- Total rainfall 5.75" July
- Closed 5/23 – 5/30 due to flooding
- Closed for 3 days in June
- Closed for 2.5 days in July



Weather Impacts

- 2 severe storms
- Severe air quality warnings all operations closed on Friday, 7/14



Asphalt management Plan Development

- All MUP trails in Gahanna's GIS system have been reviewed, updated and manually segmented so that condition ratings can be assigned to each segment
- GIS file has been shared to Transmap for rating and it was determined six add'l miles of trail work needed to be added (8 to 14); an amendment to Transmap's contract has been added

CIP Preperation

- 2027 Budget Preparation Underway
 - Completed sidewalks w/ various team members and are developing cost estimates based on feedback

MORPC Technical Assistance Grant

- MORPC transferring dashboard to Experience Builder
- Met w/ MORPC to discuss additional questions around data migration
- Will be Northeastern Technical Coordinating Committee representative on Transit Supportive Infrastructure (TSI) committee

Big Walnut Section 8

- After field walk, it was determined that existing preferred alignment will be revised. The new alignment will impact private property and a Columbia Gas line.
- Coordination with Engineering on pump station portion of work is ongoing
- Columbus has given a checklist to gain access to Columbus owned, Swanson road; we are currently working through this

Gahanna Swimming Pool

- RFP drafted for Veteran's Memorial Park Stakeholder Engagement
- Gahanna Swimming Pool Technical Feasibility final scoping with EMHT completed; final review of contract is in process
- Floodway Coordination for feasibility phase has been initiated with third party reviewer - GPD
- Historical Survey received

Private Design Review:

- Cliffview Columbia Gas Design – Reviewed & submitted comments on this updated submittal, including stub for new Big Walnut 8 alignment
- Reviewed 740 Silver Ln, 0 East Park Dr, and 1701 Taylor Station Rd



Link to Literacy Trail

- Substantial redesign of trails at approximately 30% been completed. The project has been divided into two phases, Phase I from Walnut to the Library, and Phase II, Library to Hamilton. OHM has completed a very high level environmental assessment of the streambank along Phase II, which has triggered a significant set back and realignment of that section of trail.
- Private Property Permissions:
 - Library's board has accepted revision of trail.
 - Three Creeks -Initial conversation with owner of Three Creeks commenced
 - Gatsby's - meeting to discuss revised alignment was held; we have received feedback that will involve owner of the Tuffy's parcel behind them
 - School - meeting to discuss revised alignment was held and will go to their board
 - Tuffy owner - not able to gain land ownership response
- Approached ODNR with potential alignment just extending to Shull Park; while ODNR would like to see feasibility of entire alignment determined but will hold funding until that milestone is complete.

Trail Signage

- TAP Grant awarded for \$136,500 for signs along Big Walnut
- Revised Agreement with ODOT was returned
- 45 hour LPA training completed
- Internal review, including marketing, of Trail Sign RFP is complete

Academy Park Improvements

- OEPA Scrap Tire Grant received for \$113,000 for playground surfacing
- Reviewing the final internal comments where 6/19 drawings did not meet compliance with previous comments, memo outlining discrepancies was submitted
- Two new comments on plans were submitted; awaiting response
- Worked with City of Columbus to adjust fees with review of historical records saving \$81,000
- CA/CI RFP proposals were reviewed and Park and Rec partners was chosen; final scoping is complete, and contracting is in process.
- Working with each individual design professional to draft Construction Support contracts as we prepare to bid.
- The City progressed on CoC permits, OEPA Permits, and Frankling County Health permits.
- Permit Status:
 - Stormwater Variance approved by Planning and Council
 - Request for Variances approved by Planning Commission
 - Major Development Plan approved by Planning Commission
 - Floodplain Use Permit submitted - Approved 6/15
 - OEPA NOI submitted by City - Approved 7/13
 - ESCR - submitted 6/22; Engineering review scheduled 8/3
 - Building - Approved 7/3
 - ROW - not submitted
 - Franklin County Health - not submitted
 - Franklin County Plumbing - Comment letter received 7/3





Price Road House - Exploration Center

- Construction began 9/16
- SWPPP inspections are ongoing
- Landscaping and exterior site restoration complete
- Interior painting (pending final repairs)
- Interior lights and exterior lights are complete
- Plumbing complete
- Electrical complete
- HVAC systems operational
- Fire alarm system complete (final Inspection passed)
- Exterior door installations completed
- Floor installation complete
- Dumpster gate installation complete
- Deck completed (pending post wraps)
- Gravel pad complete
- Millwork completed
- Sidewalks and east stairs completed
- Exterior ADA railings installed
- Structural walls in the basement completed
- Fixture Installation in bathrooms completed
- IT Wi-Fi, communications, and low voltage systems pending coordination
- Occupancy-related inspections and closeout in progress
- HGC working through punch list and corrective items still in progress
- Turnover pending building final and planning final inspections
- Parking lot reinstallation plans pending
- Change orders:
 - Change in Sanitary lateral because of installation methods – Complete
 - Mold Abatement – Complete
 - Electrical panel conflicts – Completed
 - Plumbing and electrical conflicts – Completed
 - Helical Piles – Completed
 - Door heights Upper & Lower - Completed
 - Electrical conflicts with sidewalk – Completed
 - Infill Door 200B - Completed
- Window Returns - Completed
- Lintel Repairs – Completed
- Structural Walls – Completed
- Floor Leveling – Completed
- Framing RFI's – Completed
- Flood Vent Delete – Completed
- IT panel relocation – Completed
- IT data additional ports – Completed
- Permit Status – all currently approved.
 - Building – New plan Approved.
 - Engineering – Approved.
 - Floodplain use civil – New plan Approved.
 - Floodplain use building - Approved.
 - Development Plan – Approved
 - ROW Permit – Approved.
 - Franklin County Plumbing – Approved.





Parks Updates

Parks/Facilities

Projects

Ashburnham Park Playground

- Council approved project budget
- Equipment ordered
- Awaiting construction timeline

Bright Blocks

- Planning for 2026 program
- Adding new bright blocks to golf course/BWT section 5

Creekside renovations

- Attended meeting with consultants and City team
- Detailed design review

Creekside Retaining Wall

- Received proposals
- Moving forward with plan for temporary repair

Eastchester Drive trail

- Discussions with City Departments
- Obtained quotes for repair

Friendship Park Playground

- Council approved project budget
- Construction will begin in 2027
- Ongoing meetings monthly

Headley

- Work to begin 7/31 to repair sewer lateral
- Facility closed through August 14

Golf Course

- approved quotes on fencing repair and installation. Broken fence to be repaired prior to July 3, other fence work to be completed after July 3
- Submitted fence permit application and FPU in process
- Work anticipated to begin in August
- Irrigation assessment scheduled for August

Holiday lights

- Seeking second quote, likely to move forward with agreement early August.

MTB Trail

- Signs installed

Parks garage renovation

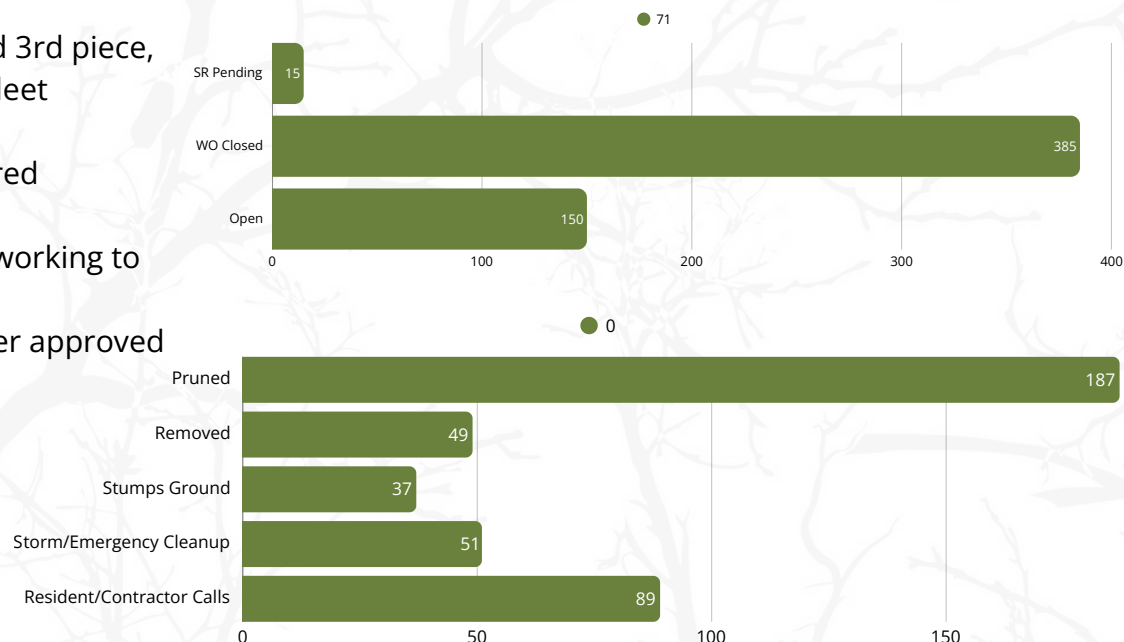
- Awaiting lockers from PD

Wayfinding and trail signage

- Met with Hugh from Look Creates for Gahanna woods kiosks and wayfinding

Purchases

- Arbor lift and truck, demoed 3rd piece, made recommendation to fleet
- Conversations ongoing
- Gator for golf course delivered
- 2 new trucks, delivered
- Trailer for ABI in delivered, working to install racks
- New trailer for stump grinder approved





Repairs & Projects

- Asset planning (trails, parking lots, paths, surfaces)
- Tree, trail, prairie, weed, and annual plant management
- Poison hemlock control
- Coordinate with Jones Lake Management on aerator repairs for Hannah and Woodside Green Park
- Coordinate with Jess Howard on various electrical repairs
- Met with Dura-Edge representative to discuss ways to improve baseball fields
- Replaced basketball rim at Hannah
- Split rail repairs at various locations
- Continued using robot painters to line up athletic fields

Playgrounds

- Installed new vertical posts for the Nature Play Area
- Replaced large ceiling fan in the Hannah Shelter
- Installed balance beams for the Nature Play Area
- Removed Hannah slide due to hazard
- Installed balance beams for the Nature Play Area

Team Work

- Event/Program Planning with Special Event Supervisor
- GRIN community garden support
- Trail maintenance
- Log jam assistance with the City of Whitehall
- Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival Prep

- Completed playground inspections with Parks Manager
- Various hazards identified and addressed
- Working to get repairs/replacements parts for playgrounds
- NEOS for Hannah
- McCorkle Climber
- Replenished playground mulch at various locations
- Performed brick and concrete repairs at Creekside
- Power washed and painted amenities around the Creekside area
- Rented a warehouse sweeper to use around the plaza and in the garage
- Installed changing station at Headley and replaced broken station at Creekside
- Aquatics
 - Shark Cage cleaning for Mill Race
 - Pool vacuum repair
- Work with Wehrkamp on quotes and dates for fall seeding and aerating
- Drainage work on 3 holes

Contracted Work

- 2026 park landscaping work completed
- 2026 park weeding work ongoing – DLL
- Oversight of BrightView contract
- Russell Tree removed dead limbs over Rathburn Woods playground
- Coordinated with contractor for Sunpoint door replacements



Recreation Updates

Adult Programs

June

- Slow Flow Yoga- 6 participants
- Chair Yoga-Cancelled this session due to low enrollment
- Adult Pickleball Lessons Beg-14 enrolled
- Adult Pickleball Lessons Mon Intermediate-FULL with 18 enrolled
- Adult Pickleball Lessons Fri Intermediate-17 enrolled
- Pickleball Drill & Play-8 enrolled
- Pickleball Ladder League Weds-FULL with 16
- Pickleball Ladder League Fri-FULL with 16
- 5/10;5/24 Bike the Big Walnut- 0 enrolled
- 5/19 Goat Yoga- 23 total
- Gahanna Walking Team- 1 enrolled
- Gahanna Run Club- 2 enrolled
- Sips & Tips Fore! Ladies-16 enrolled
- Sips & Tips Co-Ed-2 enrolled
- SNAG Golf Lessons-12 enrolled

July

- Get Moving Gahanna Registration
 - Running Club - 6
 - Walking Team - 9
- Slow Flow Yoga-6
- Chair Yoga-4
- Adult Pickleball Lessons Beg-7
- Adult Pickleball Lessons Mon Intermediate-13
- Adult Pickleball Lessons Fri Intermediate-11
- Pickleball Drill & Play-10
- Pickleball Ladder League Weds-16
- Pickleball Ladder League Fri- 8

Aquatics & Safety

June

- Adult Swim Lessons - 0
- Adaptive Swim Lessons - 27
- Youth Swim Lessons - 267
- Parent/Child Swim Lessons - 355
 - This is a free program for pool members
- Private Lessons
 - Packages - 37
 - Revenue - \$4,965
- Lifeguarding - 27
- Jr. Lifeguarding - 0
- Seahorses Swim Team - 48
- Porpoises Dive Team - 17
- Artistic Swimming - 0
- Adult Stroke Clinic - 0
- Water Fitness - 0
- Morning Lap Swimming - 1

July

- Program Registration
- Swim Lessons
 - Adaptive Lessons - 45
 - Youth Group Lessons - 603
 - Adult Group Lessons - 4
 - Parent/Child - 424
 - Private Lessons
 - Packages - 107
 - Revenue - \$14,707.50
- Swim Team - 72
 - Dive Team - 26
 - Jr. Lifeguard - 6
- Lifeguarding - 32
 - Lifeguarding Recertification - 23
- Artistic Swimming - 1 (Canceled)
 - Water Fitness
 - Morning Lap Swim - 61
 - Water Aerobics - 147
 - Senior Water Walking - 16

Memberships YTD	2025	2026
Total	2,790	4,217
Gahanna Residents	68%	74%
Non - Residents	29%	24%
Corporate Residents	1%	2%

2025 Revenue: \$213,993.35

2026 Revenue TD: \$255,010.25



Recreation Updates

Senior Programming

June

- 6/1 Alzheimer's Association-Home Medication Safety-4 registrants
- 6/2 Funeral Consumer Alliance- End of Life Planning- 12 registrants
- 6/3 Lunch Bunch-Villa Nova Ristorante-18 registrants
- 6/8 June Birthday Bash- 6 registrants
- 6/9 Meet with the Mayor- 30 registrants
- 6/10 Drum Circle Demonstration-(during Wednesday Lunch)
- 6/10 Wednesday Lunch- 60 registrants
- 6/10 Beanbag Baseball-18 registrants
- 6/15 Book Club- 10 Registrants
- 6/16 Supper Club-Hickory House-18 registrants
- 6/17 Cincinnati Red's Game- 18registrants
- 6/17 Morning Bingo- 27 registrants
- 6/18 Lunch & Learn- First Light Home Care- Discovering Your Story- 25registrants
- 6/22 Medicare Network-Armchair Travel- 9 registrants
- 6/24 Rock Painting-5registrants
- 6/24 Wednesday Lunch- 60 registrants
- 6/24 Beanbag Baseball- 18 registrants
- 6/25 Afternoon Bingo- 40registrants
- 6/26 Jewelry with Jean-12 registrants
- 6/30 Schoedinger Funeral Home-Planning Final Arrangements- 15 registrants
- YTDreceived \$10,250.00 in in-kind donations.

July

- 7/1 Lunch Bunch-Original Pancake House-15 registrants
- 7/6 Mah Jongg Prep Class-24 registrants
- 7/7 Lunch & Learn Edward Jones-Outsmarting the Scammers-25 registrants
- 7/8 Wednesday Lunch-59 registrants
- 7/8 Beanbag Baseball-18 registrants
- 7/9 Wesley Hospice-Fall Prevention-11 registrants
- 7/11 Mah Jongg Tournament-38 registrants
- 7/13 Birthday Bash-8 registrants
- 7/13 Drum Circle-17 registrants
- 7/14 Meet the Mayor-23 registrants
- 7/15 Summer Luau-65 registrants
- 7/16 Angels Care-Understanding Anxiety-9 registrants
- 7/17 Jewelry with Jean-12 registrants
- 7/20 AARP Home Fit-10 registrants
- 7/21 Super Club-Valter's-18 registrants
- 7/21 GASAC
- 7/22 Wednesday Lunch 60 registrants
- 7/22 Beanbag Baseball-18 registrants
- 7/23 Afternoon Bingo-36 registrants
- 7/23 Mansfield Blueberry Patch-15 registrants
- 7/27 Story Point Living- Cooking Demo – Heart Healthy-25 registrants
- 7/28 Morgan House-18 registrants
- 7/29 Morning Bingo-27 registrants
- 7/30 Rittenhouse-Pancake Breakfast-31 registrants



Recreation Updates

Special Events & Paddle Program

June

- 6/10 - Volunteer Orientation – 3 out of 4 people were in attendance.
- 6/10 - Gahanna Market – roughly 1,000 in attendance
- 6/12 - Cinema Under the Stars– Wicked for Good. Roughly 150 in attendance.
- 6/18-6/21 - CBJF set-up/event.
- 6/24 - Kayak Float from Friendship – Pizzurro. - 15 registered
- 6/29 – Celestial Paddle – 15 registered
- 6/26 - Creekside Live-McGuffey Lane
- Special Event Application is live on OpenGov.

July

- 7/3 Independence Day Celebration, approx. 8.5k in attendance.
- 7/4 Independence Day Parade
- 7/8 Gahanna Market - roughly 1,000 in attendance.
- 7/10 Cinema Under the Stars – Cancelled due to storms. Moved to 9/11.
- 7/10 – 7/11 – ACA Kayak Recertification training
- 7/20 Kayak 101
- 7/29 Celestial Paddle, 14 registered
- 7/30 OPRA Education Meeting
- 7/31- Chelsea assisted parks with MORPC float
- 7/31- Final Creekside Live





Recreation Updates

Youth & Family

June

- June 12- snow cones at the splash pad- Partner Gym Skills- 75 kids
- June 22- Stuffie Summer Sleepover Camp- 25 stuffies
- Assisted with Explore Our Ecosystems Event
- Camp Friendship
 - Week of June 1- Nature Explorers Camp – 64 registered
 - Week of June 8- Fantasy Land Camp- 64 Registered
 - Week of June 15- Around the world camp – 62 Registered
 - Week of June 22- Wild about animals Camp- 63 registered
- Camp Hannah
 - Week of June 1- Nature Explorers Camp – 90 registered
 - Week of June 8- Fantasy Land Camp- 89 Registered
 - Week of June 15- Around the world camp – 88 Registered
 - Week of June 22- Wild about animals Camp- 88 registered
 - Week of June 29th- Stars and Stripes camp- 89 registered
- Bally Sports Camps
 - Week of June 1- Ninja Training Camp- 41 registered
 - Week of June 8- Shooting Stars Basketball Camp- 30 registered
 - Week of June 15- Sticks and Flips Camp- 28 registered
 - Week of June 22- Baseball Camp- 27 registered
- Bally Sports Soccer programs
 - Soccer 3-4 year olds- 28 participants
 - Soccer 5-6 year olds- 17 participants
 - Soccer 7-8 year olds- 7 participants

July

- July 18- Cops and Bobbers- 15 attended
- July 30- Parents Night Out- Dash and Splash- Cancelled due to low registration
- Super tots programs
 - July 15 - Hockey tots 1 registered (cancelled)
 - July 15- Golf tots 10 registered
 - July 16- Soccer tots 1.5-3 year olds- 7 registered
- Camp Friendship
 - Week of July 6- Tomorrowland Time Travelers Camp – 66 registered
 - Week of July 13- Creative Arts Carnival Camp- 63 Registered
 - Week of July 20- Olympics Camp – 64 Registered
 - Week of July 27- Invention Workshop Camp- 62 registered
- Camp Hannah
 - Week of July 6- Tomorrowland Time Travelers Camp – 88 registered
 - Week of July 13- Creative Arts Carnival Camp- 85 Registered
 - Week of July 20- Olympics Camp – 87 Registered
 - Week of July 27- Invention Workshop Camp- 87 registered
- Bally Sports Camps
 - Week of July 6- Foot Skills Soccer Camp- 37 registered
 - Week of July 13- First and Ten Football Camp- 34 registered
 - Week of July 20- Learn to Play Lacrosse Camp - 23 registered
 - Week of July 27- Olympics Camp- 27 registered

