GO FORWARD GAHANNA

results that matter

Adopted by Motion Resolution MR-____-2016 on _____

VISION

Gahanna's Vision is to be an innovative model community that values its rich heritage, pursues high standards, and promotes respect among its citizens.

MISSION

Gahanna's Mission is to ensure an exceptional quality of life by providing comprehensive services, financial stability, and well-planned development which preserves the natural environment, in order that city government will continue to be responsive, accessible, and accountable to our diverse and growing community of citizens.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

To accomplish Gahanna's Vision and Mission, Council and the Mayor have developed the following strategic priorities and associated strategic results to be completed in 2016-2021:

- Business and Job Development
- Roads, Bridges and Infrastructure
- Parks, Trails and Recreation
- Character of the City
- Good Government

Business and Job Development

Gahanna is a business-friendly community. City government is committed to creating a development environment conducive for new businesses that support well-paying jobs. A vibrant, walkable downtown, a stable and prosperous business environment, and an up-to-date, unified City Development Plan, are keys to our city's future. The City will support business and job development in the following ways:

- By 2021, the City will encourage and create a livable, walkable downtown district characterized by arts, culture, retail and entertainment.
- By 2021, 2,750 well-paying jobs will be developed by businesses locating in southeast and southwest Gahanna, targeting finance and insurance, education and health, professional and business services and manufacturing sectors.
- By 2019, in order to maximize economic impact for Gahanna, newly developed jobs will be at a wage level and density that is greater than or equal to the 2015 average.
- By the end of 2017, the development and business community, city leaders and investors, residents and neighborhoods will have easy access to an updated, unified development plan for the City of Gahanna.

Roads, Bridges and Infrastructure

Roads, bridges and infrastructure are critical core services provided by government. The City of Gahanna takes this responsibility very seriously. The condition of roads, bridges and aging infrastructure is a safety issue, as well as a major factor in citizen satisfaction and economic development. However, few investments were made in the years immediately following the great recession of 2008 and we are just now playing catch-up. In order to restore our assets and stay current on these most basic of services, the City will work with the community to develop a dedicated funding mechanism for roads, bridges and infrastructure so we will not find ourselves in this situation again. Improvements will be prioritized as follows:

- By 2019, Gahanna residents and visitors will be able to travel on major arterial roads that have been improved and maintained to a Pavement Condition Rating of 70 or better (28 centerline miles).
- By 2021, Gahanna residents and visitors will be able to travel on local roads that have been improved and maintained to a Pavement Condition Rating of 65 or better (106 centerline miles).
- By 2021, West Gahanna residents and visitors will be able to travel through improved and maintained intersections on Stygler, Agler and US 62, according to traffic flow and traffic safety standards so that development and redevelopment projects can proceed.
- By 2017, roads and bridge infrastructure improvements, and ongoing maintenance will be supported by a dedicated funding mechanism.

Parks, Trails and Recreation

Parks, trails and recreation are essential to the character of Gahanna, our way of life and an important part of what our residents want in their community. The City will endeavor to provide sustainable funding and maintenance for our current and future parks, trails and sports facilities so they can continue to be a source of pride and an attraction others will want to come and enjoy with us. This priority will be met in the following ways:

- By 2020, residents and visitors will be able to walk and bike along a completed trail system that connects Gahanna trails, paths, and parks and that connects Gahanna to neighboring communities.
- By the end of 2018, Gahanna residents will have an approved plan for a park in the Southwest Floodplain that addresses sports fields, a community pool and connected trails and paths, including ongoing maintenance.
- By the end of 2021, Gahanna residents and visitors will be able to enjoy a completed park in the Southwest Floodplain that is well planned and maintained.
- By 2018, Gahanna residents will have an approved plan in place for waterways development, use and promotion.

Character of the City

Gahanna's essential character is a welcoming, diverse, family and business friendly community. Articulating and promoting the Gahanna brand in all the appropriate ways will distinguish us as a place where people want to live, visit and work in Central Ohio. We will chart an intentional course for future developments, signage and promotions that in appearance and quality communicate the character of our welcoming community. This will be supported through the following achievements:

- By 2021, 50% of targeted existing and new businesses in Gahanna will partner with the City to participate in and meaningfully contribute to community engagement initiatives, events and other activities that bring together business leaders, city leaders, employee volunteers and residents.

- By 2019, City neighborhood, development and new commercial development plans will be consistent with established architectural standards and guidelines that supports, maintains and promotes the character of the City.

- By 2019, entrances to the City and neighborhoods within city boundaries will have consistent and unified signage, including street signs, that is consistent with our brand.

- By mid-year 2017, the City will launch a new brand that expresses the character of our community.

Good Government

By engaging the community, the City is committing itself to being a leader of progress. Focusing on results for our customers will be the guiding principal for all City operations. City departments will routinely provide results performance information to the Council and Mayor for decision-making, and to the community so that trust and confidence are the hallmarks of the essential relationship between the City and our community. Ensuring a responsive, customer-focused government culture, the following will be accomplished:

- By the end of 2016, residents will experience improved community engagement opportunities & participation through the creation of neighborhood commissions.
- By 2017, Council, Mayor and residents will have on-line access to results performance information regarding the implementation of the City Strategic Plan.
- By mid-2017, Council and the Mayor will be able to make decisions using regularly provided performance reports with results measures.
- By mid-2017, residents, businesses and interested stakeholders will have on-line access to results performance information about City operations.
- By 2017, Gahanna residents will experience a responsive government that measures citizen satisfaction and concerns in a statistically valid & actionable manner every 3 years.
- By 2017, the business community, neighborhoods, and developers will have updated, enforced City codes, which are reviewed every 3 years.