

Strategic Plan FAQs

September 2024

What is Our Gahanna?

Our Gahanna is a citywide planning process that will develop a new Strategic Plan for the City. This is an opportunity for the entire community to pause, take stock and define - as a community - what Gahanna should be in the future and how to get there. Specifically, it will outline a path of continued success. This plan will also assess the current economic landscape and will set economic development goals that seek to create more economic resiliency for the City. The intended outcomes of the process include articulating a community vision for the future, identifying and analyzing emerging trends and community issues, identifying core community values, understanding current economics and creating targets for the future, establishing an action plan (policies, programs, and projects) to implement the vision, and defining a method to revisit and update the plan to ensure ongoing success.

What is a Strategic Plan?

A Strategic Plan is a long-term framework that outlines a roadmap for the future of Gahanna. While this plan will be focused on the City as an organization, it often involves collaboration beyond the City elected officials and City staff to include the general public, business and industry representatives, service clubs, non-profit organizations, and school districts. The plan is a guide for City decision-makers and is based on input from anyone in the community who cares about the future of the City as a place to thrive, succeed, and prosper.

Why is a Strategic Plan important for Gahanna?

A Strategic Plan is important for Gahanna because it balances the preservation of our city's unique history and character with the need for thoughtful growth and development. By establishing a clear vision and strategy, we can honor Gahanna's rich heritage while also adapting to attract new residents and encourage business investment. The aim is not to transform Gahanna into something entirely new, but to ensure it evolves in a way that enhances its existing charm and supports future growth. This plan helps us build on what makes Gahanna special, ensuring it remains a vibrant and thriving community for generations to come.

How will this plan benefit the residents of Gahanna?

As a resident, employee, student, landowner, business owner, or other stakeholder, you stand to gain from a well-executed Strategic Plan. By aligning the City's goals with the vision of its residents, this plan aims to create a collaborative roadmap that reflects and enhances the unique character of the community. This process seeks to align the City and residents on a common



path forward where ideas can be turned into action. Your involvement will help shape a future that truly represents what makes Gahanna special.

How is this Strategic Plan different from past initiatives and plans that have been done in Gahanna?

The Strategic Plan will be a long-term plan that sets the direction for Gahanna. It has a broad scope, encompassing the overall direction and goals of the City. Planning represents good stewardship. All the city's other plans should be aligned with the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan aims to build a vision with clear metrics for success, ensuring that progress can be tracked, and accountability is maintained.

What other planning is currently underway or guiding Gahanna?

Gahanna is in the midst of multiple planning and public processes. Those include:

- Thoroughfare Plan
- Community Choice Aggregation
- Citizens Academy
- Aquatics Master Plan
- Land Use Plan
- Active Transportation Plan

Gahanna has the following plans that help to guide the City in decision making:

- Capital Improvement Plan
- Facilities for the Future
- Parks Comprehensive Master Plan
- Sustainable 2050

How will my input be used?

There will be multiple public engagement opportunities throughout the planning process where the community can share their ideas and provide input and feedback. When you contribute an idea, you are making an impact on the future of the City. Your ideas will serve as the foundation for the community's vision, contribute to the plan's goals, inspire specific actions, or set the course for implementation. As City staff and elected officials make decisions about the community, they will rely on the plan and ensure that those City decisions (i.e. ordinances and resolutions) align with the Strategic Plan's goals and actions. All input gathered will be recorded, databased, analyzed, and documented by the Planning Team.

What is the timeline for completing the plan?

The plan will be a 14-month process and is anticipated to be completed in fall 2025.



Where can I learn more?

Visit the project website, OurGahanna.com, for more information and to get involved. If you have specific questions, please contact Kelsey Bartholomew, Management Analyst for the Department of Administrative Services, at 614-342-4016 or Kelsey.Bartholomew@Gahanna.gov.