

Things To Know

General Elections are scheduled for
November 3, 2026

Commissioner Swearing in Ceremony
January 2, 2027 (TBD)

Grant Policy Update!

The OANC has developed a new policy on direct payments by grant recipients to artists.

Grant recipients have been prohibited from making direct payments to individuals since approximately 2012. ANC's have raised this as a problematic issue for the grants they make as many festivals or events pay musicians and other artists as individuals.

This will now be permitted with certain restrictions. You can view it at <https://oanc.dc.gov/basic-page/oanc-policies>

FY 27 Budget Questions?

Join Dawn Dickerson for an informal **Teams** session for a live Q&A session about ANC budgeting and the planning process.

Thursday, Oct 1, 2026 @ 7:00 PM

Important Dates

FY 2027 Budget Submission Opens

October 1, 2026

Zoning Commission Public Roundtable

October 26, 2026

General Election Early Voting (begins)

Oct 26 – Nov 3, 2026

Quarterly ANC Meeting w/ CM Mendelson

October 29, 2026

Deadline to Submit & Certify FY 27 Budget

October 31, 2026

FY 2027 Budget Support Act
(projected to become law)

November 20, 2026

ANC Transition Plan Deadline

November 30, 2026

Absorb LMS Update

Absorb LMS is currently unavailable, however we expect issues to be resolved before the end of October. However, Commissioners can still access essential training materials through the OANC's [YouTube page](#) at. If you would like to request training or partner with the OANC training team to develop topics, please reach out to Erik Meltzer, the OANC Training Specialist. As always, OANC will continue sharing updates as new resources come online.

To help Commissioners stay informed about other agency led training opportunities, OANC maintains a shared training calendar that includes upcoming sessions and relevant interagency offerings. You can view the calendar using the [website link](#)

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Reminders & Tips

Meeting w/ Chairman Mendelson – *Save the Date – 10/29*

The next quarterly ANC meeting with Chairman Mendelson is scheduled for October 29th. These quarterly meetings traditionally include a representative from MPD and 2-3 agency heads to discuss current topics important to ANC's and to answer questions directly from Commissioners.

The next meeting's agenda and invited guests have not been set. Once final, the OANC will send out a Commissioner-wide communication with agenda and location details.

OANC Website Changes

The OANC website has been updated, and we want to help you navigate the updates. Several familiar resources have been reorganized to make it easier for Commissioners to find what they need, when they need it.

- [Resources, Systems, and Training Tools | OANC](#) > Former standalone pages have now been merged into a central resource center. In one location, ANC Commissioners can access:
 - ❖ Absorb Learning Management System for training
 - ❖ ANC Handbooks, financial guides, and pocket guides
 - ❖ QFR Portal and CBA Portal
- [Forms & Templates | OANC](#) > All templates for meeting management, budgeting, elections, letters, and financial administration have been consolidated into one user-friendly hub.
- [Grants | OANC](#) - Grants, now has its own dedicated page! Here you'll find the latest policy, grant guidelines, and find application and report forms.

New ANC Websites!

Request your demo Today!

As you know, OANC has partnered with the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) to design and launch modern, dedicated websites for every ANC.

To date, Commissions with new websites include ANC's 1E, 2C, 3C, 3F, 3/4G, 4A, 4E, 7D, 8A, 8D, and 8E. Commissions in queue to launch include ANC's 3A, 4D, and 6E. ANC Drupal websites will be rolled out gradually. Explore these sites to better understand the similarities and differences between the features.

Each ANC has a website reserved, and our office is ready to support Commissions as they consider transitioning to the new platform. We're here to help every step of the way. In addition,

If you're interested in learning more about the website rollout or would like to see a demo of the new design and features, please reach out to OANC.

To support this transition, a comprehensive training video has been created to walk Commissioners through the features, functionality, and day to day use of the Drupal platform. You can watch it anytime at <https://youtu.be/aumyICg5BF43>

FY 2027 Budget Reminders

As we move into the next budget cycle, ANC's should begin preparing for the FY 2027 budget submission, due October 31, 2026. Below is a quick overview of what you'll need and the steps to complete:

Budget Tools

- To assist with planning, please use the Budget Planning Worksheet and its companion instructions, both available on the OANC website. (Links will be provided.)

Public Comment Requirement

- Before your ANC approves its budget, you must hold a public comment period. This ensures transparency and gives residents an opportunity to weigh in.

Meeting Minutes Documentation

- Budget approval must be clearly documented in your meeting minutes, including the motion, second, vote tally, and any amendments made.

Budget Modifications

- If an ANC exceeds any budget line item, a budget modification is required. This is especially important as many commissions preparing their Q3 FY26 QFRs are seeing deficits. Instructions for preparing a modification are available on the website.

Budget Narrative

- Every submitted budget must include a narrative explaining assumptions, priorities, and any anticipated changes.

Portal Access & Certification

- The FY 2027 budget will open in the Portal on October 1, 2026. ANC's must enter and certify their budget before they can begin entering FY 2027 expenses.

Support Available

- Officers may schedule one-on-one time with OANC staff to review their budget, ask questions, or walk through requirements.

Staying ahead of these deadlines will ensure smooth financial operations and compliance throughout the fiscal year.

Zoning Commission Roundtable – *Save the Date 10/26*

The Zoning Commission has scheduled a public roundtable regarding the current Racial Equity Tool they are using for zoning actions pursuant to the 2021 update to the District's Comprehensive Plan. It is Z.C. Case No. 26-RE. The roundtable is scheduled for **Monday, October 26, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.**

The purpose of the roundtable is to solicit public comment and feedback on the current Tool. The Commission states that it is particularly interested in public comment on the following topics:

- Community Outreach and Engagement – What steps/processes can Applicants/Petitioners implement to improve community outreach and engagement efforts?
- Disaggregated Race and Ethnicity Data – Are there data metrics that should be added or removed from the current Tool?
- Commission Racial Equity Evaluation Criteria – What measures can Applicants undertake to further mitigate direct displacement impacts associated with zoning actions?

If you wish to testify at the roundtable or submit written comments, the information for doing so is below:

- Via Webex: <https://dcoz.dc.gov/ZC26-RE> (to participate & watch)
- Via Telephone: 1-650-479-3208 Access code: 2306 724 0611 (audio participation & listen)
- Via YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/DCOfficeofZoning> (to watch)
 - Instructions: <https://dcoz.dc.gov/release/virtual-public-hearings>
 - Witness Sign Up: <https://dcoz.dc.gov/service/sign-testify>

Written copies of testimony must be submitted at least 24 hours prior to the roundtable. All individuals, organizations, or associations wishing to testify at this roundtable are strongly encouraged to sign up to testify at least 24 hours prior to the start of the roundtable on OZ's website at <https://dcoz.dc.gov/> or by 3:00 PM on the day of the roundtable by calling Sharon Schellin at (202) 727-0340 in order to ensure the success of the virtual procedures.

Letters of Insurance (clarification)

We want to provide a clear update on when ANC's do and do not need a letter of insurance, based on recent guidance from the Office of Risk Management (ORM).

We learned that events held in public space, such as block parties, do not require a letter of self-insurance from the District. Because the event is taking place in the street, any injury claim would be directed to the owner of the equipment involved, not the District. For that reason, vendors supplying equipment (tables, moon bounces, stages, tents, etc.) should provide a Certificate of Insurance (COI). In many cases, vendors can provide a COI at little or no cost, though some may charge a nominal fee.

For other types of events or rentals, ANC's may still request a letter of self insurance through ORM. The District's umbrella insurance covers ANC's for many activities, though it does not cover ANC-owned property such as laptops or printers. For more information about letters of insurance contact CG Denise Wiktor at denise.wiktor@dc.gov

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Support Act

The Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Support Act (BSA), which is the legislative vehicle that supports the District's budget every year, was passed in July by the D.C. Council on both a permanent and emergency basis. The emergency act was enacted on August 13 and will expire on November 11 – the specific provisions regarding ANC's and the OANC are applicable as of October 1, the beginning of the new fiscal year. The permanent act was enacted on August 14 and is projected to become law on November 20. (A congressional review emergency act will need to be passed by the Council to fill this gap between the expiration of the emergency act and the effective date of the permanent act.) Both the emergency and permanent acts were enacted without the Mayor's signature – even though Mayor Bowser agreed to allow the acts to take effect, she returned them to the Council without her signature due to concerns she had regarding some of the funding mechanisms and decisions in the acts.

As mentioned above, the BSA contains a number of provisions affecting the operations of ANC's and the OANC. Specifically, the ANC subtitle of the BSA:

- requires that a statement regarding the use of grant funds be in the form of a close out report or on an OANC form for purposes of audits and compliance. This will reduce errors the Auditor finds since they are looking for a separate statement.
- prohibits a Commission from providing a grant to any past grant recipient that used grant funds contrary to the associated grant agreement and budget, failed to submit the receipt for expenditures made under the grant, or failed to refund to the ANC unspent grant monies or monies spent contrary to the grant application. It also provides for the withholding from future allotments an amount equal to the amount awarded to any applicant on the list of prohibited grantees at the time the grant was awarded.
- removes outdated statutory language regarding the responsibility of OANC to provide staff payroll forms to Commissions.
- removes outdated statutory language with respect to the forfeiting of quarterly allotments by an audited Commission which fails to respond to an allegation of a violation. This became inapplicable after the Office of the D.C. Auditor ceased handling ANC's' Quarterly Financial Reports (QFRs).
- requires that a Commission's annual report or newsletter be filed with the Council, the Mayor, and the OANC.
- states that the OANC shall provide Commissions with official websites and technical assistance related to maintaining and updating them by October 1, 2027.
- provides that a Commission can file an amended financial report when an incomplete report has been filed within 45 days after the due date of the report.
- requires that when Commission funds are used to pay for the cost or use of a telephone, the contact number of that telephone must be publicly available.
- provides that an expenditure made by a Commission by debit card or ACH shall be fully documented as being approved by the Commission in the meeting minutes, which shall be signed by either the Secretary or the Chairperson, instead of on a form provided by the OANC.
- clarifies that OANC receives and accepts financial reports from Commissions rather than "approves" them.
- provides that each Commission quarterly financial report include signed minutes of all meetings indicating the approval of disbursement of funds for the relevant time periods.
- clarifies language regarding failure to timely file two or more quarterly reports accepted by the OANC and the OANC recommending withholding from a Commission the allotments associated with the quarterly reports until the Commission files the required reports and *associated documentation*.
- Clarifies the OANC's duty to recommend approving or disapproving the release of Commission quarterly allotments.

Please reach out to the OANC if you have any questions.