

Government of the District of Columbia



Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions  
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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: ANC 5A (Except Commissioner Alston who is recused)  
FR: Denise Wiktor, General Counsel  
DT: 6/23/2025  
RE: NGTLC Community Day Grant Request

**PLEASE NOTE:** Commissioner Alston has recused herself from this matter since she is on the board of this organization. This matter should not be discussed with her and ideally, if possible, she should remove herself from the room when discussion takes place so Commissioners feel free to discuss.

The OANC has received a copy of a grant request from and budget from the New Generation Training and Learning Center (NGTLC) for a Community Day and book bag give away. I have reviewed the application and the revised budget sent to the OANC and have found that the request is a **permissible** expenditure of ANC monies as outlined below. The revision was requested to remove impermissible expenditures on bookbags and school supplies.

There are five prongs a grant must meet to be a permissible expense<sup>1</sup> and a 6<sup>th</sup> requirement of the D.C. Official Code that limits the amount of a grant that can be spent on overhead<sup>2</sup>. They are:

1. **Public Purpose:** ANC grants must be for “public purposes within the Commission area.”<sup>3</sup> A public purpose is one “that includes a significant benefit for the community and is not done for the primary purpose of benefitting a private entity.”<sup>4</sup> The community day is an opportunity for residents of 5A to get together and get to know each other helping to build community bonds that help build a cohesive community and also helps to reduce crime. This event will take place in ANC 5A and they are working with two partner groups to get the word out.

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<sup>1</sup> See, *Letter to Schanette Grant on Seasoned Settlers and Grants Generally*, April 14, 2022, found at <https://oag.dc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-04/Letter-to-OANC-Re-Seasoned-Settlers-Grant-and-Grants-Generally-.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> D.C. Official Code 1-309.13(m)(2)(D) “No Commission shall provide a grant for which the grantee estimates that the overhead costs would exceed 15% of the entire grant amount.”

<sup>3</sup> D.C. Official Code § 1-309.13(l)(1).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

2. **Local Benefit:** A grant must “benefit persons who work or reside in the Commission area.”<sup>5</sup> This does not mean the grant may only benefit Commission residents; it simply means the grant’s benefits should be focused on those residents.<sup>6</sup> The event will provide substantial benefit to ANC 5A residents in that they will be the primary attendees.
3. **Proposed Project.** A grant must be for a proposed project.<sup>7</sup> This is a discrete single event.
4. **Organization.** A grant must be to an “organization,” not an individual or a government entity,<sup>8</sup> although the organization need not be incorporated.<sup>9</sup> NGTLC is an organization within the meaning of the code. The OANC was also able to confirm on the IRS TEOS database that is a 501(c)(3) organization.
5. **Non-Duplication.** A grant cannot duplicate any services offered by the D.C. government.<sup>10</sup>
6. **Overhead.** Overhead cannot exceed 15% of the grant amount.<sup>11</sup> None of the grant monies will be used for overhead as the Code defines it.

## Conclusion

For the reasons stated above this grant is a **permissible** expenditure of ANC funds.

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<sup>5</sup> D.C. Official Code § 1-309.13(m)(1).

<sup>6</sup> See *Letter to Deborah K. Nichols*, Nov. 9, 2006, at 2 n.2 found at [Letter-to-Deborah-Nichols-Re-Whether-an-ANC-may-approve-a-grant-to-commission-plans-and-drawings-.pdf](#) (ANC 4C grant was permissible where the “[b]enefit to other ANCs would be incidental to the benefit conferred on ANC 4C residents,” because a grant’s benefits need not “be exclusive to the ANC that gives the grant funds”); see *Letter to Comm’r Fletcher*, Mar. 15, 2022, at 2, available at <https://oag.dc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-03/ANC-7E-Letter-to-Commissioner-Fletcher-RePublic-Purposes-Within-the-Commission-Area-.pdf> making the same point with respect to the public-purpose requirement).

<sup>7</sup> D.C. Official Code § 1-309.13(m)(2)(A).

<sup>8</sup> D.C. Official Code § 1-309.13(m)(1); see also *Letter to Deborah K. Nichols*, Jan. 14, 2010, at 4, available at <https://oag.dc.gov/sites/default/files/2018-02/ANC-January-14-2010-Guidelines-for-Use-of-ANC-Funds.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> See *Letter to Deborah K. Nichols*, Aug., 4, 2000 at 3, available at <https://oag.dc.gov/sites/default/files/201802/ANC-August-4-2000-Grants-by-ANCs-Public-Purpose-and-Corporate-Status-of-Recipients.pdf> (“The plain meaning of the term ‘organization’ includes unincorporated associations”).

<sup>10</sup> D.C. Official Code § 1-309.13(m)(1).

<sup>11</sup> D.C. Official Code §1-309.13(m)(1)(2)(D).