

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3C GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS • CLEVELAND PARK MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE HEIGHTS McLEAN GARDENS • WOODLEY PARK

Single Member District Commissioners
01-Lee Brian Reba; 02-Jason Fink; 03-Janell Pagats
04-Beau Finley; 05-Sauleh Siddiqui; 06-Adam Hoyt
07- Maureen Kinlan Boucher; 08-Vacant; 09-Nancy MacWood

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ANC3C Resolution 2022-CONSENT Requesting Centralized Funding and Support for Advisory Neighborhood Commission Technology and Printing Needs

WHEREAS DC law provides for a Technical Support and Assistance Fund for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. DC Code § 1-309.13a(c). The DC Council proposed this legislation following persistent requests from Advisory Neighborhood Commissions for centralized support, specifically for technology needs.

WHEREAS money in the Fund must be used to support the following services and supports for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, subject to limitations or prioritization based on limitations in funding:

- planning, development, or procurement of a mobile or computer application to assist Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners with outreach and engagement with their constituents;
- supplementing any funding allocated for communications access services, including sign language interpretation, computer-aided real-time transcription, and other services and supports, for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions; provided, that the funding allocated for this purpose proves insufficient;
- ensuring that Advisory Neighborhood Commissions have access to remote meeting technologies necessary for their operations;
- providing or procuring audio-visual technology and services to support Advisory Neighborhood Commissions;
- providing or procuring printing services for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions; and
- providing or procuring website assistance for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions.

DC Code § 1-309.13a(c).

WHEREAS in a July 19, 2021, email newsletter to Commissioners, the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions noted initial funding of \$100,000 for the Fund and indicated Advisory Neighborhood Commissions should send individual requests

- via official Commission action requiring a vote
- to the Office and that such requests would be "evaluated on factors such as transferability to other ANCs, innovativeness and need."

WHEREAS Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3C prioritizes the following aspects of the Fund: ensuring that Advisory Neighborhood Commissions have access to remote meeting technologies necessary for their operations, DC Code § 1-309.13a(c)(3); providing or procuring audio-visual technology and services to support Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, id. at § 1-309.13a(c)(4); and providing or procuring printing services for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, id. at § 1-309.13a(c)(5). Meeting technology is particularly crucial to the Commission's efforts to offer hybrid (virtual and in-person) meetings. See also Advisory

Neighborhood Commissioner Sign-On Letter, Calling for Hybrid (Virtual and In-Person) Meetings for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (June 10, 2021).

WHEREAS functional government websites are also essential. While Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3C has dedicated resources to meeting the basic website needs for our local community without centralized support, other Commissions have been less successful. The Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions should prioritize ensuring that every Commission has a modern, functional website with hosting and a relevant domain name. Awarding individual funding grants to Commissions will not provide the necessary infrastructure for modern, consistent websites that promote accessibility, constituent trust, security, and ease of use, and increases costs by failing to take advantage of in-house governmental technical expertise and economies of scale.

WHEREAS Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3C believes administering the Fund (consisting of \$100,000 for 37 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions) based on individual Advisory Neighborhood Commission requests via approved Resolution is inefficient, inequitable, not inclusive, and lacks transparency. By way of an example, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3C would greatly benefit from printing services. While the Commission could request funds to purchase a printer, a centrally held account (or accounts) with a print shop or several high-quality printers in a centralized location (or locations) for Commissioner use might be a more efficient and farther reaching benefit. Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3C, however, is not in the position to assess other Commission's printing needs or how best to meet them in the collective.

WHEREAS while individual Commissions can certainly consider "transferability to other ANCs, innovativeness and need," Commissions may not be in the best position to assess what services might best support multiple Commissions and offer economies of scale. In addition, Commissioners may not be experts who can assess what technologies will meet the needs of Commissions, particularly with regard to hybrid meeting technology. The ability to consider these factors and provide solutions rests squarely with the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, the entity that (at least in theory) monitors, advises, and engages with every Commission and has staff with expertise in these areas.

WHEREAS the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions should survey all Commissions as to priorities related to the Fund to assess overall needs. Such a survey would allow the Office to determine how best to maximize a limited amount of money for the maximum benefit to Commissions across the District. The Office should communicate transparently about how it collects information and makes any determinations about how the Fund will be used.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3C expresses its Technical Support and Assistance Fund priorities to include technologies necessary for hybrid (virtual and in-person) meetings and printing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3C calls on the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to survey all Commissions as to their priorities under the Technical Support and Assistance Fund; assess how best to meet Commission needs across the District in light of available funding; and communicate openly and transparently with Commissions about funding provided under the Fund.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission authorizes the Chair and the Commissioners for 3C03, and 3C04 to represent the Commission on this matter.

Attested by

Beau Finley

Beau Finley Chair, on April 18, 2022

This resolution was approved by voice vote on April 18, 2022, at a scheduled and noticed public meeting of ANC 3C at which a quorum (a minimum of 5 of 9 commissioners) was present.