For Immediate Release November 18, 2013 Media Contact: Anovia Daniels 202-727-8991

Office of the District of Columbia Auditor Switches to Automatic Clearing House (ACH) Electronic Transfer for Disbursing ANC Allotments

The Office of the District of Columbia Auditor (ODCA) recently announced that they will be working with the Office of Finance and Resource Management (OFRM) to facilitate the process for disbursing Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) allotments via Automatic Clearing House (ACH) electronic transfer. This process will significantly improve the timeliness and accuracy of ANC quarterly allotment disbursements.

ACH is an electronic clearing house that facilitates the movement of funds between demand deposit accounts (e.g., checking and savings accounts). This new process will better streamline the financial process between ODCA, OFRM and the Office of Finance and Treasury. The benefits of switching to ACH electronic transfers include greater security through reduced vulnerability to fraud, faster turnaround for ANCs to receive allotments, cost savings to the District and less manual activity needed to make payments.

"We are very excited to be switching to ACH payments and bringing the benefits of electronic allotment disbursements to ANCs," commented Lawrence Perry, Deputy Auditor. "ODCA is always looking for ways to better serve the District and remains committed to providing financial oversight and guidance to ANCs to promote financial accountability and to safeguard the ANCs assets.

The Advisory Neighborhood Commissions Act of 1975 created ANCs to represent residents within Commission areas established in each of the eight Wards of the District of Columbia. There are currently 40 ANCs comprised of 296 Single Member Districts (SMD). ANCs are empowered to advise the District government on matters of public policy in the Commission area. ANCs are funded by District revenues through the annual appropriations process.

ODCA is responsible for providing financial oversight of ANCs, auditing their financial accounts, and maintaining a database of financial information on each ANC for historical and expenditure trend analysis. The Auditor also provides guidance to the ANCs to promote financial accountability to ensure that internal controls are adequate to produce reliable financial information and to safeguard the ANCs assets. Learn more about ODCA's role with ANCs <a href="https://example.com/here-new/memory-new/memo

Visit <u>deauditor.org</u> or call 202-727-3600 for more information about ANCs or the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor.