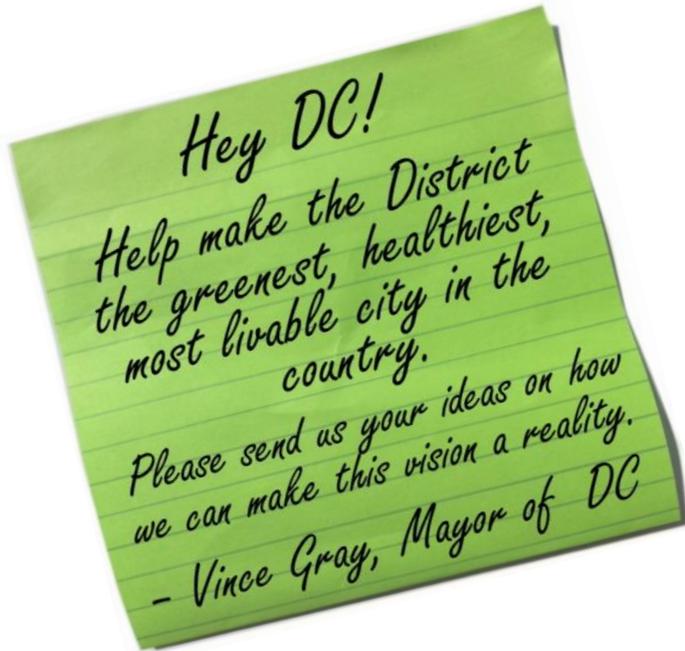


# sustainable.dc



## How can I get involved?

The three best ways to get involved in the Sustainable DC planning process are:

**Join one or more Working Group(s):** Beginning November 29, teams of community members, subject matter experts, and DC government staff will gather to review and analyze existing initiatives and best practices and to develop recommended goals and actions. The Working Groups are organized into nine topics (built environment, climate, food, energy, nature, transportation, waste, water, and green economy). Schedules for all Working Groups can be found at [www.sustainable.dc.gov](http://www.sustainable.dc.gov).

**Comment on the Sustainable DC website:** Now through the end of November, log on to the website, post your ideas and start discussions on various sustainability topics.

**Help spread the word:** Talk with family and friends, colleagues and community members to encourage them to get involved!

## Project Overview

In July 2011, Mayor Gray announced his intention to make DC the greenest, healthiest, and most livable city in the nation. Through the winter of 2011 and spring of 2012, drawing on the expertise of residents, local businesses and institutions, and local and federal government, we will develop an innovative plan to make this vision a reality.

A new website at [www.sustainable.dc.gov](http://www.sustainable.dc.gov) allows you to share ideas and see what thousands of your fellow residents are thinking. District residents have generated more than 400 unique ideas and thousands of votes for creative ways to make the city a more sustainable place to live, work, and play.

Staff from the District Department of the Environment (DDOE), the Office of Planning (OP) and other key agencies are reaching out to the community. Through the outreach campaign, staff participated in over 50 meetings with community groups and local institutions throughout the District.

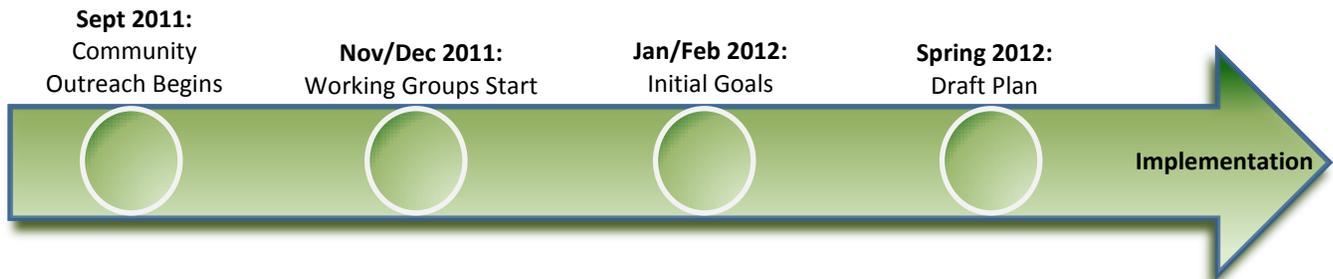


Suggestions from the Capital Bikeshare community event

## Who do I contact?

Visit [www.sustainable.dc.gov](http://www.sustainable.dc.gov) for information on the process, upcoming meetings, and proposed outcomes. You can email the Sustainable DC project team at [sustainable.future@dc.gov](mailto:sustainable.future@dc.gov) or call (202) 442-7600.

If you do not have access to the internet, please mail or drop off responses to Sustainable DC: Attn: Laine Cidlowski, Urban Sustainability Planner, DC Office of Planning, 1100 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Suite E650, Washington, DC 20024 or fax to (202) 442-7600.



## What is the process?

In addition to participation from community members, the Mayor will convene two groups to help guide the Sustainable DC planning process.

**Green Ribbon Committee:** A committee appointed by the Mayor and composed of business leaders, community advocates, and subject matter experts to provide direction and feedback on development and implementation of the plan.

**Green Cabinet:** An assembled group of District government agency directors and senior staff to guide the government's internal efforts, budgeting and plan implementation.

## Topics the Plan Will Explore

Sustainable DC will focus on nine major categories, each with its own Working Group. Each Working Group will create goals for their category, which will then be analyzed from economic, social, and environmental perspectives. Using [www.sustainable.dc.gov](http://www.sustainable.dc.gov), ideas from all Working Groups will be shared to address the considerable interconnections between these nine topics:

- **Built Environment:** Buildings and infrastructure and their relationship to transportation, energy, and water
- **Climate:** Government and community greenhouse gas emissions reductions and adaptation to a changing climate
- **Energy:** Energy use, generation, efficiency, providers, and financing issues
- **Food:** Local food production, distribution, access, security, and community benefits for health, education, and jobs
- **Nature:** Natural systems, parks, habitat, biodiversity, and wildlife
- **Transportation:** Transportation systems, infrastructure, modes, efficiencies, access, and delivery
- **Waste:** Waste recycling, reuse, hauling and collection, composting, and waste to energy
- **Water:** Watershed protection, stormwater management, water quality and reuse, and sewers
- **Green Economy:** Job creation and retention, economic development, and local business development

## How Sustainable is DC?

**Built Environment:** DC has 203 certified "green" buildings and 641 registered buildings, second only to New York City.

**Climate:** DC's per person greenhouse gas emissions is 18 tons/year (national average is 19.6 tons/person).

**Energy:** As a community, we buy over 8% of our electricity from renewable sources, making us the #1 US EPA Green Power Community in the nation. The DC Government buys 50% "green power."

**Food:** DC currently has 37 community gardens, more than 1,800 community garden plots, and approximately 26 acres under cultivation.

**Nature:** DC is home to over 780 species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates. Our rivers are home to 67 species of fish.

**Transportation:** Our city has the nation's largest bikeshare program with over 18,000 members. DC also ranks #2 in commuters who take public transportation.

**Waste:** DC's estimated recycling diversion rate was 34% in 2009; the residential recycling rate for our homes was 24% compared to the national average of 33.8%.

**Water:** DC's bag law has raised millions for stream restoration. In 2010, stores reported a drop in disposable bag use of more than 50%. Bags found as litter in the Anacostia decreased by 66%.

**Green Economy:** Our city is ranked #4 of the 100 largest metro areas for the number of green economy jobs. DC added 20,403 green jobs between 2003 and 2010 (an annual growth of 5%).



Gathering input at the DC Environmental Network meeting