

## Sustainable DC

<b>Region</b>	<b>Size</b>	Large
	<b>Region</b>	Washington, DC-citywide
	<b>Main Industry/Industries</b>	Federal government, technology, construction, international business, and tourism/hospitality <sup>1</sup>
	<b>Total Population</b>	646,449 <sup>2</sup>
	<b>Demographic</b>	White: 42.9%; African American: 50.1%; American Indian/Alaskan Native: 0.6%; Asian: 3.8%; Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander: 0.2%; Two or More Races: 2.5%; Hispanic or Latino: 9.9% <sup>3</sup>
	<b>Median Household Income</b>	\$64,267 <sup>4</sup>
<b>Plan Details</b>	<b>Type of Plan</b>	Policy plan
	<b>Year of Adoption</b>	February 2013, implementation in progress
	<b>Managing Organization</b>	District Office of the Mayor, District Office of Planning, District Department of the Environment, Green Cabinet, Green Ribbon Committee
	<b>Time Frame</b>	Development from 2011 through 2013; Implementation through 2032
	<b>Budget</b>	2013 budget: \$4.5 million 2014 budget: \$2.5 million

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.city-data.com/us-cities/The-Midwest/Cleveland-Economy.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/11000.html>

<sup>3</sup> <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/39000.html>

<sup>4</sup> <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/11000.html>

## Overview

Sustainable DC is a policy-based plan with aims to make the District of Columbia greener, healthier and more livable by addressing a number of urban challenges over the course of 20 years. The plan includes several goals in the following categories: 1) Jobs and the Economy; 2) Health and Wellness; 3) Equity and Diversity; 4) Climate and Environment; 5) Built Environment; 6) Energy; 7) Food; 8) Nature; 9) Transportation; 10) Waste; 11) Water. The first four categories are designated as challenges (meaning they assume priority) and each goal has several affiliated targets that the city aims to meet by 2032.

Among others, the objectives outlined in the 129 page plan include inspiring healthy, active lifestyles for all residents, minimizing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing the District's resilience to future climate change, creating new economic opportunity, improving the efficiency of energy usage, ensuring universal access to nutritious and affordable food supplies, protecting waterways and green landscapes, and improving connectivity and accessibility through efficient, integrated, and affordable transit systems. The goals, targets and actions included in the plan include both short-term projects ready for immediate implementation and the medium and long-term actions that may be anywhere from five to twenty years away.

The plan, officially adopted in February of 2013, is managed and implemented by the [District government](#). The management team includes the DC Office of the Mayor, the District Office of Planning, and the District Department of the Environment. In addition to this team, DC Mayor Gray appointed two advisory groups. The Green Cabinet is comprised of 50 representatives from 22 other District Government agencies and the Green Ribbon Committee is comprised of community leaders from the public, private and non-profit sectors. Other partners include all nine colleges and universities in DC, the international community, and the Downtown DC Business Improvement District (BID).

The planning effort was initiated in September of 2011 with a substantial public engagement and outreach plan. Over the course of 18 months, the plan management team spoke with over 4,700 people at over 180 events across the city. Using the recommendations from the planning process, Mayor Gray released a companion document, [The Vision for a Sustainable DC](#), on Earth Day 2012. The goals in this vision correspond with those further outlined and refined in the plan.

To see the full plan and find more information, visit the Sustainable DC website: <http://www.sustainabledc.org/>

Framework	Principles/ themes	Policy goals	Sample actions
	Jobs & the Economy*	2 goals/targets: More small businesses, more jobs providing green goods and services.	1) Complete a review of regulatory reform options to make it easier to do business in the District; 2) Partner with the Workforce Investment Council to develop targeted workforce development strategies.
	Health & Wellness*	2 goals/targets: Cut the citywide obesity rate by 50%; require ALL new housing to meet “Healthy by Design” standards.	1) Invest in a public health campaign to promote the benefits of healthy eating and active living; 2) Complete a feasibility study to understand the environmental, economic, and social barriers to healthy lifestyles that are specific to the District.
	Equity & Diversity*	2 goals/targets: Teach 50% of DC children about sustainability; expose 100% of District residents to Sustainable DC events and initiatives in their neighborhoods.	1) Launch the implementation of the Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP) in school curriculum; 2) Reach community members in their daily lives with sustainability information.
	Climate & Environment*	2 goals/targets: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50%; plan for climate change impacts.	1) Create online tools that allow people to view and share greenhouse gas emissions data and make more informed choices; 2) Report District emissions on a regular basis to track the reductions that can be attributed to specific initiatives.

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\* Priority challenge: The plan outlines four core concerns of this plan and explains the difficulties and opportunities presented by each. These challenges represent the plan’s highest priorities.

	Built Environment	4 goals/targets: Increase the population with 250,000 new residents; variety of amenities within 20 minute walk; new construction and existing big buildings are net-zero	1) Increase affordable housing in the District; 2) Expand brownfield redevelopment incentives and certification programs.
	Energy	3 goals/targets: Cut citywide energy use by 50%; increase the use of renewable energy by 50%; reduce annual power outages across the city	1) Require building energy audits and disclosure of energy performance; 2) Complete a Comprehensive Energy Plan by 2014.
	Food	3 goals/targets: 20 more acres of land growing food; 75% of residents within a ¼ mile of healthy, local food; 25% of the District's food from within a 100 mile radius of the city	1) Adopt the Sustainable Urban Agriculture Act and zoning amendments for expanded urban agriculture; 2) Install educational gardens at 50% of DC Public Schools.
	Nature	3 goals/targets: Increase area of wetlands by 50%; 40% tree canopy across the city; parks or natural space within 10 minute walk of all residents	1) Develop an Urban Wetland Registry to facilitate restoration or creation of wetland habitat; 2) Implement a Fisheries Management Plan to restore DC's native fisheries.
	Transportation	4 goals/targets: Increase use of public transit, biking, and walking to 75% of all commuter trips; reduce commuter trips by car to 25%; reduce unhealthy air quality days	1) Complete 37 miles of streetcar networks; 2) Define and secure permanent funding for transit planning and improvements.

	Waste	3 goals/targets: Send less solid waste to landfills; reduce total waste generation by 15%; reuse 20% of construction and demolition waste; and increase waste diversion rate to 80%	1) Introduce a Pay-As-You-Throw pricing structure for waste collection services; 2) Introduce construction waste management requirements.
	Water	3 goals/targets: 100% of District waterways fishable and swimmable; use 75% of the landscape to capture rainwater for filtration or reuse.	1) Field test innovative technologies to improve river water quality; 2) Install 2 million new square feet of green roofs.