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**DC Green Bank and Green Compass Announce \$650,000
Revolving Loan Facility for Stormwater Retention Projects**

(Washington, D.C.) - [DC Green Bank](#) and [Green Compass](#) today announced the closing of an innovative revolving loan facility to finance the construction of a portfolio of new green infrastructure projects to better manage and clean stormwater runoff in Wards 5, 7, and 8 in Washington, D.C. The \$650,000 loan facility will allow for Green Compass to design, build, and operate an estimated five new stormwater management and green infrastructure projects over the next 18 months. Combined, Green Compass will be constructing approximately 10,000 square feet of new green infrastructure, mainly through de-paving surfaces and replacing it with green spaces that manage stormwater, reduce runoff and pollution, and improve local air and water quality. The new projects aim to divert up to 250,000 gallons of stormwater runoff that would otherwise enter the sewer system every storm. When rainwater enters the sewer system, it becomes a costly waste product that flows directly into the Anacostia River, Rock Creek, and the Potomac River without treatment. In addition to providing cleaner water, cleaner air, and increasing resilience to flooding for communities in the District, these projects will also support the clean economy by delivering dozens of green jobs, including in construction, landscaping, groundskeeping, urban forestry, and engineering.

The five projects that have been identified will require up to \$1.2 million in funding during the construction phase, with the remainder being funded directly by Green Compass. Investments like this are critical to reduce the number of impervious surfaces in the District, capture and filter stormwater runoff, and promote green and natural spaces, which retain more water and increase resilience to flooding. In total, the portfolio of five projects will deliver 147 new trees as well as other plants and grasses, and preserve 52 existing trees. These additional trees and green spaces allow the ground to infiltrate more water after a rainstorm, resulting in less runoff entering DC's sewers and waterways. The outcome is a reduced burden on the city's water supply and water services as well as cleaner local waterways, in line with the District's goal of

delivering swimmable and fishable rivers by 2025. Lastly, these new green spaces will act as a natural air filter to absorb carbon dioxide and improve air quality, in addition to contributing to a reduction in urban heat island effects which cause portions of the city to experience temperatures ten degrees or more higher than neighbors in greener parts of the city, impacting the health and safety of residents.

DC Green Bank CEO Eli Hopson said of the new partnership, “DC Green Bank is excited to partner with Green Compass for our first investment in green infrastructure and stormwater management. These projects will deliver tangible benefits for the health and wellbeing of the citizens of DC as well as for our environment. We are especially proud that this initial portfolio of investments will direct resources to Wards 5, 7, and 8, communities that have historically not seen an equitable level of public investment and are likely to face increasing flood risks in the coming years due to climate change.”

Construction of the first project within the portfolio, located in Ward 8, is already underway. It is estimated that this project alone will capture and filter more than 65,000 gallons of polluted runoff per storm event as well as save more than \$42,000 in costs for the site over 12 years. The project will also create 15 jobs during the construction and maintenance phases.

Nicole Whalen, Founder and CEO of Green Compass, said of the partnership, “We are proud to work with DC Green Bank to create natural climate solutions that put nature to work to combat climate change and improve urban livability in communities most vulnerable to extreme heat and rain events. These green infrastructure investments are made possible through the District’s innovative stormwater regulations that allow stormwater retention work to benefit the community both socially and environmentally, and the revenues give the community new financial opportunities as well.”

Additional information about DC Green Bank’s mission and investments can be found [here](#). For more information on the impacts of Green Compass’ projects, [please visit their website](#).

About DC Green Bank

DC Green Bank was established by the District's Green Finance Authority Establishment Act of 2018. DC Green Bank develops and facilitates innovative financial solutions to support District businesses, organizations, and residents in the journey to a cleaner future. DC Green Bank invests in solar energy systems, energy efficient buildings, green infrastructure, and transportation electrification in line with its values of Sustainability, Clean Economy, and Inclusive Prosperity.

About Green Compass

Green Compass LLC is a sustainable development company founded in 2017. Their mission is to rapidly reduce the emissions of the built environment in a profitable way. They focus on energy and water saving projects for commercial buildings and businesses, and are heavily invested in stormwater and resilience projects throughout the District, where buildings are the single largest contributor (71%) to greenhouse gas emissions.