DC Green Bank and Rainplan Announce a $2,000,000 Deal to Support Commercial and Residential Stormwater Management Projects

(Washington, D.C.) DC Green Bank and Rainplan announced today the closing of an initial $2,000,000 deal to increase access and affordability for stormwater management infrastructure across the District. The loan agreement is groundbreaking in its commitment to deliver financing for both commercial and residential projects as well as its approach to diverse and scalable projects, including surrounding green mobility hubs, houses of worship, local businesses, and residential communities, with an emphasis on Wards 5, 7, and 8. All of the stormwater projects will take place in the District’s MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) service area, incorporating green infrastructure to mitigate negative water runoff impacts and enhance neighborhood streetscapes. District benefits from this deal include:

- Through the 14 residential projects and 10 commercial projects programmed, an estimated 100,000 gallons of water will be captured and filtered per storm event.
- A larger project includes expanding Green Mobility Hubs, providing investment for bike stations that interconnect to the grid and increasing the climate benefits from micro-mobility.
- A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise contractor outreach plan is in development to maximize local disadvantaged business participation in the District and support over 25 local jobs.

“Traditionally stormwater investments have been singular commercial projects impacting one District area. What is unique about this deal is that it promotes equitable access to financing regardless of project location or size,” says Jenny Janis, the Ecosystem Lead of Rainplan. “The $2M loan is critical to enabling green infrastructure participation across all wards.”

Stormwater management projects are important to any community, especially in urban settings. This critical infrastructure can help to reduce harmful flooding, soil erosion, damage to existing
structures, water pollution, and more. The District already has multiple programs to support the deployment of stormwater infrastructure, including the Department of Energy and Environment’s (DOEE) RiverSmart program and Stormwater Retention Credit Trading Program; however, not everyone that could benefit from these programs is aware of them. That is one of the reasons Rainplan created the first digital platform to guide DC’s property owners to stormwater incentive programs. Furthermore, Rainplan’s digital tools help property owners schedule a virtual site visit with experts, connect with qualified local contractors, and maximize their financing options.

Cooper Martin, the Incentive Program Administrator at Rainplan, said of the project, “We are proud to work with DC Green Bank to support our stormwater portfolio. It is vital that we work with partners that understand the complexity and potential of this work and are willing to invest in innovative approaches. We look forward to delivering new stormwater projects across the District – prioritizing communities that are all-too-often left behind – and helping to build a more resilient city for all.”

DC Green Bank’s four core investment areas are solar, green and energy efficient buildings, clean transportation, and stormwater green infrastructure. Eli Hopson, CEO of DC Green Bank, said of the investment, “By supporting stormwater projects DC Green Bank helps to protect people, property, and our environment from adverse impacts of climate change, create good jobs, and provide valuable services to entire communities. Rainplan’s innovative digital platform puts information at your fingertips to pursue projects in an affordable way.” This is DC Green Bank’s second investment in an emerging stormwater infrastructure project pipeline in the District.

About DC Green Bank
DC Green Bank develops and facilitates innovative financial solutions to support District businesses, organizations, and residents on the path to a cleaner future for all. We invest in solar energy systems, energy efficient buildings and retrofits, green stormwater infrastructure, and transportation electrification in line with our values of Sustainability, Clean Economy, and Inclusive Prosperity. To date, DC Green Bank has invested millions of dollars in a cleaner, greener, and more equitable future. To learn more, please visit us at www.dcgreenbank.com

About Rainplan
Rainplan is the first technology company designed to bridge the gap between stormwater incentive programs, contractors, and property owners. Our vision is to energize the stormwater marketplace by bringing stormwater management to the forefront of urban property improvements. Through our platform we knock down the barriers of financing and time management to bring green infrastructure into a more accessible marketplace for both contractors and property owners. To learn more, visit www.myrainplan.com