

## Background

In the past 6 months, Mayor Muriel Bowser signed into law two critical pieces of legislation to advance sustainability in the District: the Green Finance Authority and the Clean Energy DC Omnibus Act of 2018.

350 DC is leading a District-wide campaign to ensure that the composition of the Green Bank’s governing Board, and the portfolio of financing tools and programs the Green Bank offers truly facilitates clean energy for all.

## Our asks

01	Ensure the Authority practices good governance to promote equitable outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should thoroughly evaluate the Mayor’s Green Finance Authority nominees to ensure they will govern programs to create an equitable, more prosperous DC.</li> </ul>
02	Promote public accountability and transparency in DOEE’s process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should exercise its oversight authority to ensure that the DOEE and the Green Finance Authority meaningfully engage communities across all eight Wards while developing financing tools, performance targets, and a program portfolio.</li> </ul>
03	Prioritize Green Bank Financing and Programs for low-to-moderate (LMI) income residents and service providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should ensure that the Green Bank meets legislative mandates of the Clean Energy DC Act to offer financing tools and programs to expand clean energy to affordable housing providers and LMI residents.</li> </ul>

## The Green Finance Authority

### Who is the Board?

- 2 with financial institution experience
- 3 with clean energy experience
- 2 with affordable housing/community development experience
- 4 non-voting members from DC government offices



### What are their responsibilities?

- Establish bylaws, guidelines
- Meet at least 6 times and hold at least 1 public hearing per year
- Produce an annual report on activities
- Create a financing plan
- Coordinate with DC government
- Appoint finance authority Executive Director
- Establish performance targets of finance projects
- Determine borrower eligibility

## Current Mayor-Approved Board Nominations:

**Lori Chatman**, financial industry member with 15+ years experience in community development through senior leadership roles at Enterprise Community Investment, Inc. and Capital Impact Partners. Specializes in capital innovation practice and strategic planning and implementation of capital funding.

**Brandi Colander**, financial, project management and legal services member. As the Associate Vice President of the National Wildlife Federation she works to uphold the National Environmental Protection Act and facilitates federal interagency coordination of the development of environmental and energy policies and initiatives.

**Edward Hubbard**, financial, project management and legal services member. He serves as General Counsel to Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) where he promotes greater production and use of ethanol and advances RFA’s tax and international trade public policy agenda.

**Hannah Hawkins**, finance, project management and legal services member. Mrs. Hawkins is the Deputy Tax Legislative Counsel at the United States Department of the Treasury. Previously she was the Attorney Advisor at Treasury, working on projects that dealt with energy and excise tax matters and other tax incentives.

## Implementation Process

April 2019		<p><b>All 7 nominees appointed and confirmed</b></p> <p>The DOEE and the Mayor plan to appoint the seven voting members of the Green Bank’s governing Board for the Council to confirm by April 2019.</p>
Summer 2019		<p><b>Hire an Executive Director and key staff</b></p> <p>By this summer, the DOEE intends to hire an Executive Director and key staff for the Green Finance Authority.</p>
Fall 2019		<p><b>Establish targets, structures, and programs for Board Approval</b></p> <p>By this fall, the DOEE is aiming to establish accountability structures, performance targets, financing tools, and clean energy programs for the Board to approve.</p>
2019, ongoing		<p><b>Design programs and tools</b></p> <p>Throughout 2019, DOEE plans to continue working with contractors to engage financial and clean energy experts to inform the Green Bank’s design and portfolio of projects.</p>

## Green Bank Programs

The DC Green Bank has proposed **single-family loans**, **commercial / multi-family loans**, and **gap-financing for solar** as examples of available financing tools. The DC Green Bank is also to manage the DC Property Assessed Clean Energy program (PACE).



**Leading U.S. Green Banks design and target financing products and programs to benefit low to moderate income residents, including multifamily affordable housing properties as a best practice.**

**Examples from leading Green Banks:** These programs show a sampling of many possible program designs for building an equitable DC Green Bank.

DCGB: Proposed Products	Existing Programs serving LMI Communities through other Green Banks
Single-family (<10,000 sq. ft) Sub-10,000 square feet programs*	Upgrade to \$ave program, an opt-in program for tariffed on-bill financing for energy efficiency upgrades for co-op members. With no up-front costs, members are charged less than their total savings from a built-in cost on their bill. [1]
Multi-Family loans	Low-Income Multifamily Energy Loans (LIME), for energy efficiency and solar. [2]
	Commercial Loan for Energy Efficiency and Renewables (CLEER) [3]
	Equipment Loans for energy efficiency, cogeneration, fuel conversion, renewables, demand management. [4]
	Health and Safety Revolving Fund to provide gap financing for health and safety remediation to energy improvements in affordable housing units. [3]
Commercial loans	Jump Start Program for entrepreneurs in low-wealth community or disaster areas for property, buildings, machinery, equipment, etc. [5]
Gap-financing for solar	Bridge loans for utility interconnection payment. [6]
	Offering Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for multifamily properties, public housing authorities, senior/assisted living communities, and nonprofits. [7] [8]

**Actionable Insights**

Best design practices to serve LMI populations and affordable housing providers:

- **Low interest rate loans**
- **Unsecured loans**
- **Flexible loan terms**
- **Access to financing for individuals with low credit scores**
- **Ongoing stakeholder engagement in the design and implementation process**

Moreover, programs, like California’s Jump Start!, which provides loans for small businesses and entrepreneurs in low wealth communities, recognize the clear **need and importance of allowing communities to exercise autonomy in development projects and outcomes.**

[1] Roanoke Electric Cooperative in North Carolina; [2] Connective Green Bank; [3] Montgomery County Green Bank; [4] New York City Energy Efficiency Corporation (NYCEEC); [5] California Infra. and Econ. Dev. Bank (IBank); [6] New York Green Bank Community Solar Projects; [7] Connecticut Green Bank; [8] New York City Energy Efficiency Corporation (NYCEEC)