

# The Nation’s Capital Steps Up to Become the ‘Greenest College Town in America’

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On Feb. 29, the District of Columbia’s Mayor [Vincent Gray](#) was joined by local university presidents to sign the District of Columbia Mayor’s College and University Sustainability Pledge. The Mayor’s goal is for the nation’s capital to become the ‘[Greenest College Town in America](#)’ – ambitious, yet attainable with the collective energy of local universities. The higher education community in the district has been making great strides towards creating sustainable communities not just for their faculty, students and staff, but also the neighborhoods around each campus. This pledge will help to knit those pieces together to form a unified quilt for sustainability, and every institution is developing and implementing a commitment that meets their own vision, educational goals and values. The pledge will also bring the sector closer together to form a partnership around creating a sustainable city that will benefit all residents and serve as a model for the rest of the nation.

This commitment is the first of its kind in the U.S., which is a true testament to the leadership in our nation’s capital. What better opportunity for America to demonstrate that sustainability is a national priority than to have the seat of government housed in a healthy, just and prosperous community? The Center for Green Schools applauds the work being done by our local leaders and the united front they have taken to advance the issues each city and region faces.

What do you think of this initiative? Do you think other cities across the country can adopt similar plans?

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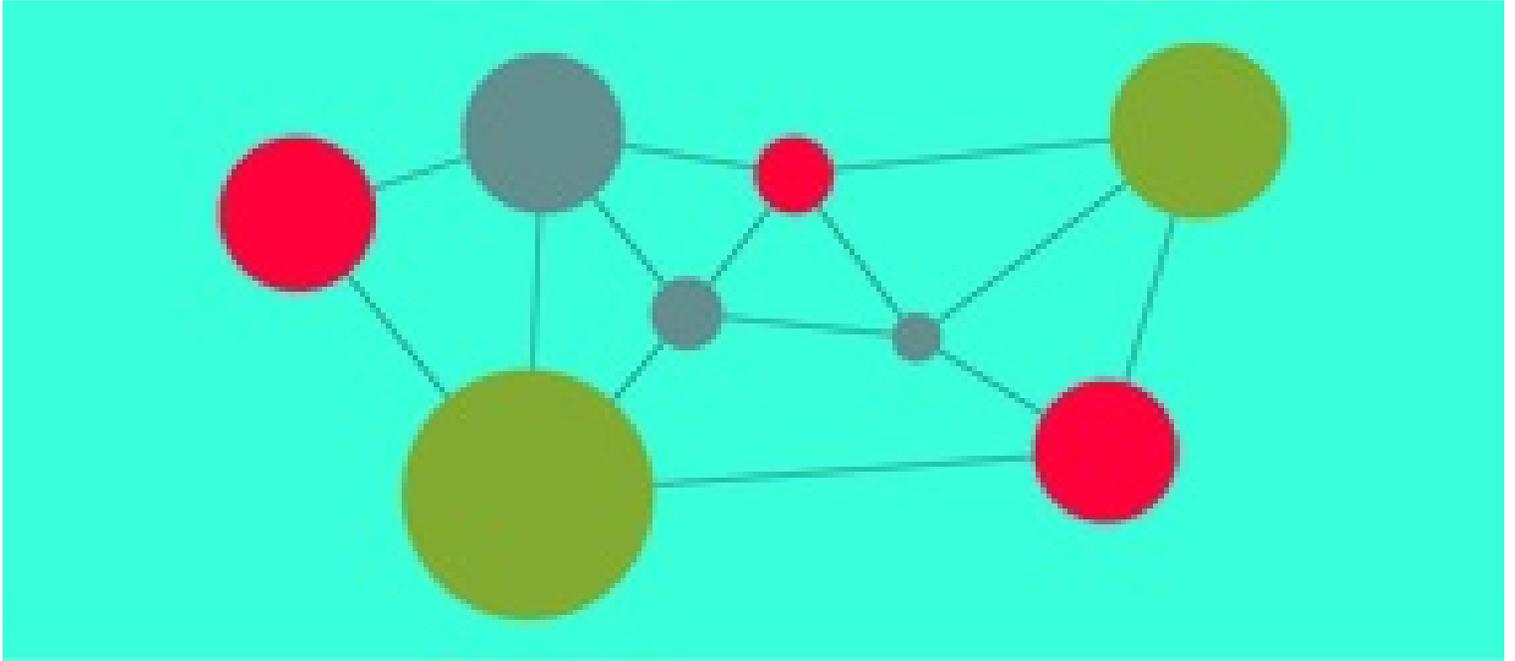




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