

# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE CLIMATE COMMITTEE

JUNE 12, 2025 | 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

CITY HALL ANNEX, 344 BROADWAY & VIRTUAL ([ZOOM LINK](#))

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## Attendees:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steven Nutter (CCC Chair)      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky Fearing (CCC Member)          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joel Nogic (CCC Vice Chair)    | <input type="checkbox"/> Lucas Marino (CCC Member)                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hannan Rhodes (CCC, Secretary) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meredith Stoddard (CCC Member)      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yi Jian (CCC Member)           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Megan Lim (CCC Member)              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neheet Trivedi (CCC Member)    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Hibbard (CCC Member)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rachel A. Mural (CCC Member)              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anya Mezheritskaya (CCC Member)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mallorie Barber (CCC Former Member)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Priya Mazumdar (CCC Member)                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy DeWolf (CCC Member)      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nikhil Nadkarni (City of Cambridge) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ming Su (CCC Member)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Susanne Rasmussen (City of Cambridge)          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lyn Huckabee (CCC Member)      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Louisa Stevens (City of Cambridge)  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Rawson (CCC Member)        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie Wormser (City of Cambridge)   |

## Guest Attendees:

- Thomas O'Neill (City of Cambridge - Sustainability Dept.)
- Jennifer Ballew (City of Cambridge - Sustainability Dept.)
- Elizabeth Bernhardt (Public Guest - Zoom)
- Yu Cheng (Public Guest - Zoom)
- Hajer H (Public Guest - Zoom)
- Katharine Witty (Public Guest - Zoom)

## MINUTES

6:09 PM Welcome & Approval of Minutes (Committee Chair)  
- *Approved*

6:10 PM **Deputy Chief's Update** (Susanne Rasmussen)  
*Presenter: Nikhil Nadkarni; Susanne Rasmussen was OOO this week.*

**Anchor Community Strategy (TENs)**

- Targeting large property owners (e.g., MIT, Harvard) to simplify adding residential areas.
- Early-stage customer conversations underway.

## **BEUDO**

- New phase of regulation in public comment.
- Data accuracy a concern; potential for better integration with GHG inventory.
- 2023 emissions: universities/colleges (29.27%), residential (~20%).
- Steam emissions (scope 1–2) may be misleading without context; Harvard/MIT district steam complicates boundaries.

## **Fossil Fuel-Free Ordinance**

- In effect for new buildings (excluding labs/research).
- Committee suggested focusing on impact (e.g., emissions reduced), not just engagement.

## **Climate Resilience**

- Regional planning with Boston due to shared risk (e.g., flooding, \$60B damage estimates).
- Emphasis on **investment in prevention** over insurance post-event.
- Lower-income neighborhoods like Dorchester most vulnerable.
- Apt Associates and unnamed consultants conducting risk analysis.

## **Electrify Cambridge**

- Webinars scheduled for June/July.

6:25 PM **CCC Updates (CCC Chair & VC)**

Presenters: Steven Nutter

Notes:

- Officer-Staff process between meetings
- Changes to CCC 2025 Draft Agenda (see below)
- Form subcommittee to prepare for Department Mtg. in Sept
  - Meredith Stoddard Volunteered to help
  - CCC Chair, VC, and Secretary
- The Education Subcommittee was formed at the May meeting
  - Confirmed subcommittee membership:

6:50 PM **Measurement–Education (OOS Staff)**

Presenter: Thomas O’Neill (OOS)

Purpose: Help the Committee understand key metrics and reporting for the Net Zero Action Plan

Outcomes:

1. The committee is informed of the context
2. The committee identifies the priority next steps

Process:

1. Staff presentation
2. Committee Q&A

**GHG Inventory & Dashboard (Thomas O’Neill)**

- Metrics divided into buildings/energy, transportation, and waste.
- Transportation best measured regionally (MBTA overlap with Boston).
- Inventory and NZAP updated every 5 years.
- Data from Eversource limited due to privacy—policy intervention may help.

- No current dashboard data on food systems—suggest looking into Scope 3 food emissions.

#### ***Data and Benchmarking***

- *Requests to benchmark against MIT, Harvard, and peer cities.*

#### ***Data Limitations***

- *Data is backward-looking; suggestion to include real-time tracking/forecasting.*

7:45 PM Public Comment and Member Updates

#### **ASEZ Initiative**

- Interest in addressing plastic use and university collaboration.
- Working with Mothers Out Front and Green Cambridge.
- Suggested local action: share the **boba cup waste project** and tax model on single-use items.

8:00 PM Adjournment

#### **CCC 2025 Agenda Planning**

Note: Past & Completed Meetings are in *grey italics*. Proposed Changes are in ***bold italics***.

Date	Key Topic (~60 min)	Supporting Topics (~40 min)
Jan 9, 2025	<i>Energy Supply - Discussion</i>	<i>2024 Reflection</i>
Feb 13, 2025	<i>Financing - Education</i>	<i>2025 Planning</i>
Mar 13, 2025	<i>Resident Resources - Education</i>	<i>Earth Month Plans</i>
Apr 10, 2025	<i>BEUDO - 45 minutes</i>	<i>Officer/leadership overview &amp; sub-committee selection (voting in May) - 15 minutes Zero waste plan - 45 minutes City Manager Debrief - 10 minutes Director update (share April events)</i>
May 8, 2025	<i>Building Resources - Discussion - 60 minutes</i>	<i>Review agenda approach &amp; ask committee to provide input - 10 minutes Admin - email mgmt.  Director updates - 10 minutes Officer Elections - 20 minutes  Pre-Reads:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Financing slides</i></li> <li>● <i>Resident Resources slides</i></li> <li>● <i>BEUDO slides</i></li> <li>● <i>Sustainable cambridge press release</i></li> </ul></i>
Jun 12, 2025	Measurement - Education - GHG Inventory approach	Community engagement 101 approach discussion Department Meeting Prep - assign sub-committee  Pre-Read: <a href="#">NZAP Letter</a>
Jul 10, 2025	Department Meeting Prep	<b>Measurement Discussion</b>
Aug 14, 2025	SUMMER BREAK	-
Sep 11, 2025	Department Meeting	
Oct 9, 2025	Presentation by Cambridge Community Engagement Team (CCET)	<b>Department Meeting Follow Up</b>
Nov 2025	Resilient Cambridge Review - Education	
Dec 2025	Thermal Energy Network Update MIT presentation from Megan Lim <a href="mailto:meganlim@mit.edu">meganlim@mit.edu</a>	

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**For Reference:**

***What is the role of the Climate Committee?***

*The Climate Committee has three roles that help the City reduce climate change impacts, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase equity, and serve as a partner to and example for other communities:*

- 1. Provide feedback and ideas to the City on ways to reduce and live with climate change while prioritizing the needs of the most at-risk populations.*
- 2. Share information about City climate programs with community members, listen to community concerns, and raise feedback with City staff so programs effectively serve all community members.*
- 3. Stay informed about the City's climate goals and provide accountability and feedback on barriers and opportunities to improve effectiveness.*

***Officer Section of Bylaws***

*Officers will be elected on an annual basis. Elections will take place in September of each year unless the Committee decides otherwise.*

*Chair*

*The chair shall be responsible for setting the agenda in coordination with City staff, for facilitating meetings, for organizing Committee work program and subcommittees in coordination with City staff, and for signing Committee correspondence.*

*Vice Chair*

*The vice chair shall assist the chair in his/her duties and fill in for the chair in his/her absence.*

*Secretary*

*The secretary shall be responsible for meeting minutes and attendance records.*