

Cambridge Compact for a Sustainable Future

Preamble

Local universities, organizations, businesses, individuals, and the city government have a history of working together successfully to address challenges facing our community. Now threats to our environmental, social, and economic sustainability call for a collective response. This Cambridge Compact for a Sustainable Future (Cambridge Compact) creates a framework agreed upon by the signatories to bring to bear our combined commitment to address these challenges.

Declaration

The signatories to this Cambridge Compact are increasingly concerned about the crisis of global climate change and the many challenges it presents. This crisis threatens the ability of the planet to support secure, healthy, productive, and enriching lives for current and future generations.

Together, the signatories will strive to create a more healthy, livable and sustainable Cambridge community by addressing global environmental challenges including climate change. The signatories will work cooperatively to harness the community's capacities in research, innovation, entrepreneurship, social enterprise, and governance to strive toward a more sustainable future. The signatories recognize that greater collaboration is key to successfully addressing the urgent challenges facing our community.

The Cambridge Compact

Building on successful collaboration, the City of Cambridge, Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have developed this Cambridge Compact for a Sustainable Future to encourage even further collaboration and to deepen our commitment to a more healthy, livable and sustainable local community. The signatories will work to create broader collaboration among themselves and with other community partners in order to leverage the combined capacities in research, teaching, innovation, entrepreneurship, and program development. This will demonstrate that a more creative and sustainable future can be realized for the entire community of Cambridge.

The Cambridge Compact is a living and voluntary document that will evolve over time to maximize local impact and enhance the sharing of ideas and solutions beyond Cambridge, and will be used to invite stakeholders throughout Cambridge to participate in building a better future together.

Through this Cambridge Compact the signatories will:

- Join with other community leaders who share the same goals and commitment to advance a sustainable Cambridge.
- Continue to advance Cambridge as a leader in community sustainability.

- Leverage the unique collaborative power of their organization's staff with other signatories' staff.
- Create a framework to facilitate continued collaboration among the Cambridge Compact's signatories on projects and actions.
- Build on existing programs and actions to enhance effectiveness.
- Develop and share new and innovative strategies, technologies, services, products, and best practices that can be used as replicable models for others, considering cost-effective solutions.
- Promote research with Cambridge as a living laboratory offering rich learning and entrepreneurial opportunities for everyone.
- Develop a structure for effective coordination and communications.
- Report annually and collectively to the community on progress toward a more sustainable future.
- Convene annually to discuss the state of sustainability in the city.

The signatories will focus on the following possible **key areas of collaboration**:

- Building Energy Efficiency
- Climate Change Mitigation and Preparedness Planning
- Renewable Energy Systems
- Sustainable Transportation
- Waste Management (recycling, composting and waste reduction)
- Water Management
- Urban Natural Resources
- Public Information and Education
- Green Tech Incubation and Promotion

The signatories will **build capacity and support** for institutionalizing the Cambridge Compact by:

- Working together to build a coalition of community partners to engage in sustainability programs and initiatives under the Cambridge Compact, including growing the number of signatories within the Cambridge community.
- Establishing a steering committee of signatory partners who will meet quarterly to coordinate activities under this Cambridge Compact.
- Developing a framework to collect and analyze data to document progress toward the goals of the Cambridge Compact.
- Creating a forum for signatories to report annually on progress toward the goals of this Cambridge Compact and a strategy to communicate actions, activities, and metrics to the community.
- Exploring processes to facilitate matching interested researchers with community needs and initiatives.
- Exploring processes to better connect students with entrepreneurs and social enterprises in the sustainability field that are seeking employees.
- Identifying obstacles to the goals of this Cambridge Compact that can be jointly addressed by the signatories.

Agreed to on this day _____.

For _____:
Organization

Name, Title