

## ➔ **HOW URGENT IS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY?** ←

- **WHAT SHOULD THE CITY DO?**
- **WHAT SHOULD RESIDENTS DO?**

**Come & Hear Top Scientists at  
Special Meeting of Cambridge City Council  
Cambridge City Hall, 795 Mass. Avenue  
September 24, 2009, 5:30 pm**

On May 11, 2009, the City Council unanimously recognized that there is now a climate emergency and asked the City Manager to increase the City's response to "a scale proportionate to the emergency." This special meeting of the City Council is being held to determine how urgent it is for the City to increase its efforts to mitigate and prepare for this long-term emergency.

***If you want Cambridge to be a leader in responding to the global emergency,  
—Come to the hearing on Sept. 24 to let the City Council know, and  
—Please forward this notice to friends.***

### **Background:**

- Last March, more than 2,500 climate experts from 80 countries, assembled for an emergency meeting in Copenhagen to prepare for the UN Climate Change Conference in December, declared that
  - "the climate system is already moving beyond patterns of natural variability within which our society and economy have developed and thrived;"
  - "the worst-case IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) scenario projections (or even worse) are being realized;"
  - "there is a significant risk that many of the trends will accelerate, leading to a risk of abrupt or irreversible climatic shifts;" and
  - "*there is no excuse for inaction.*"
- In December 2002, the City of Cambridge adopted a Climate Protection Plan with the goal of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG) city-wide 20% below 1990 levels by 2010.
- **Despite the efforts of City staff and others the City has fallen far short of this goal.**

For more information see <http://greencambridge.wikispaces.com/Calendar+of+Events>