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Local, National, and Global Leaders to Headline Two-Day Climate Summit in Boston this Fall

The Climate Beacon Project Aims to Challenge Inertia and Affect Real Progress Toward a More Resilient Climate Future

BOSTON — <u>The Climate Beacon Project</u>, a newly-formed nonprofit organization, announced today it will host its inaugural conference in Boston this fall. The Climate Beacon Conference will convene climate experts, local, state, and federal elected officials, policymakers, private sector leadership, and problem solvers to help transition Massachusetts to a clean energy economy and to take on some of the most pressing issues facing the environment.

Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey, Senator Ed Markey, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and Gina McCarthy, who served as White House Climate Advisor for President Joe Biden and as Environmental Protection Agency Administrator for President Barack Obama, will serve as honorary co-chairs of the event.

"Climate change is our biggest threat and it's also our greatest opportunity – to strengthen our communities with good jobs, clean air and water, and strong healthy futures," said **Governor Healey**. "By creating this space to convene experts, practitioners, and elected officials we are demonstrating our continued commitment to leading the world in clean energy and bringing all the benefits of a green and resilient economy to the people of our state."

The Climate Beacon Conference is the latest in a series of signature climate events to take place in the city, including the Earthshot Prize that was hosted in Boston in December.

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"Climate Beacon is yet another example of how Massachusetts remains at the forefront of the climate change race " said **Executive Director Alex Richman**. "Our goal is to convene some of the best minds in government, non-profit, and business to highlight scalable solutions to some of the most immediate challenges facing our planet."

In addition to headline speakers and panels over the course of the two-day event, participants will visit and tour local companies and nonprofits that are on the leading edge of climate change research and solutions.

"Boston is home to some of the best minds working on climate change and I am confident the answers to some of our most complex questions will be answered in our City and put to work across the globe," said **Mayor Wu**. "Climate Beacon represents a unique opportunity to convene and put theory into action in both the public and private sectors, building a community of change agents who can guide us forward."

More than 500 people are expected to take part in the conference which will take place Tuesday, October 10 and Wednesday, October 11 in Boston.

"Climate change doesn't affect everyone equally, but it does affect us all—and as a result, if we take action on the climate crisis, those solutions will help every one of us build a more livable future," said **Senator Markey.** "Massachusetts is the brain state—the home of the ingenuity and innovation that has and will continue to inspire climate action. At the Climate Beacon Conference, we will break down barriers, make meaningful progress, and find common ground across the Commonwealth. Together, we will fight to create good-paying clean jobs and tackle environmental injustice."

"Meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement requires all of us to step up, make the switch to clean energy, and stop our dependence on fossil fuels as quickly as possible," said **McCarthy**. "This summit comes at a pivotal moment in the lead-up to the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP28. Massachusetts can serve as a real leader – showcasing for cities, states, and countries across the world how you can put in place strong climate action plans that strengthen our economy, deliver good paying jobs, save our families money, and build healthier and more just communities."

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ABOUT CLIMATE BEACON: Climate Beacon is building a platform for productive partnerships that challenge inertia and affect real progress toward a more resilient

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climate future. We're convening experts and leaders around a common purpose: to share ideas across sectors, expand our knowledge base, and celebrate proven, scalable solutions at home and around the world. Learn more at www.climatebeacon.org