AIA Florida

Building a Resilient Future

AIA Florida's Approach to Advocacy & Development

Learning Objectives

Advocacy: Participants will identify effective advocacy strategies for resilient design, equipping them to influence state legislation that protects public health, safety, and welfare.

Minimizing Risk: Attendees will explore how to minimize risks that allow for the formation of committees focused on resilience, ensuring timely responses to issues affecting public safety and well-being across their own state.

Professional Development: Participants will assess their knowledge of resilient related topics through state surveys, identifying professional development needs to enhance their capacity to address public health and safety concerns.

Code Development: Attendees will gain insights into the development of resilience appendices in the Florida Building Code, focusing on addressing moisture, flooding, and resource management to enhance community safety and welfare.

Framing the Challenge: The Rising Cost of Inaction

Economic Costs

- In 2023 alone, our nation grappled with 28 billion-dollars in weather and climate related disasters, reminding us of the profound risks we face.

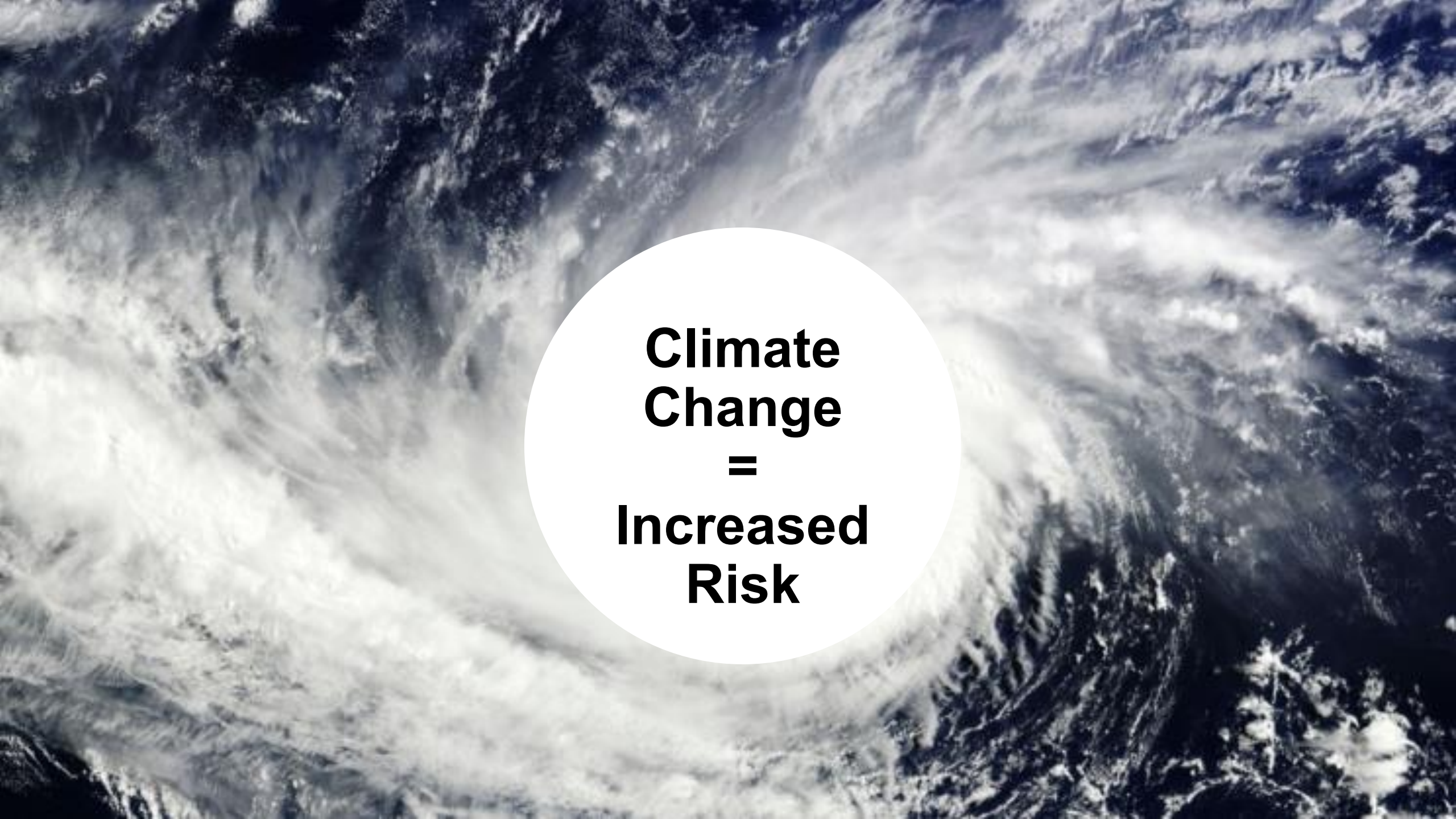
Social Costs

- Inaction to mitigating risks leads to disruptions in communities, loss of livelihoods and impacts health and well-being.

Increased Future Costs

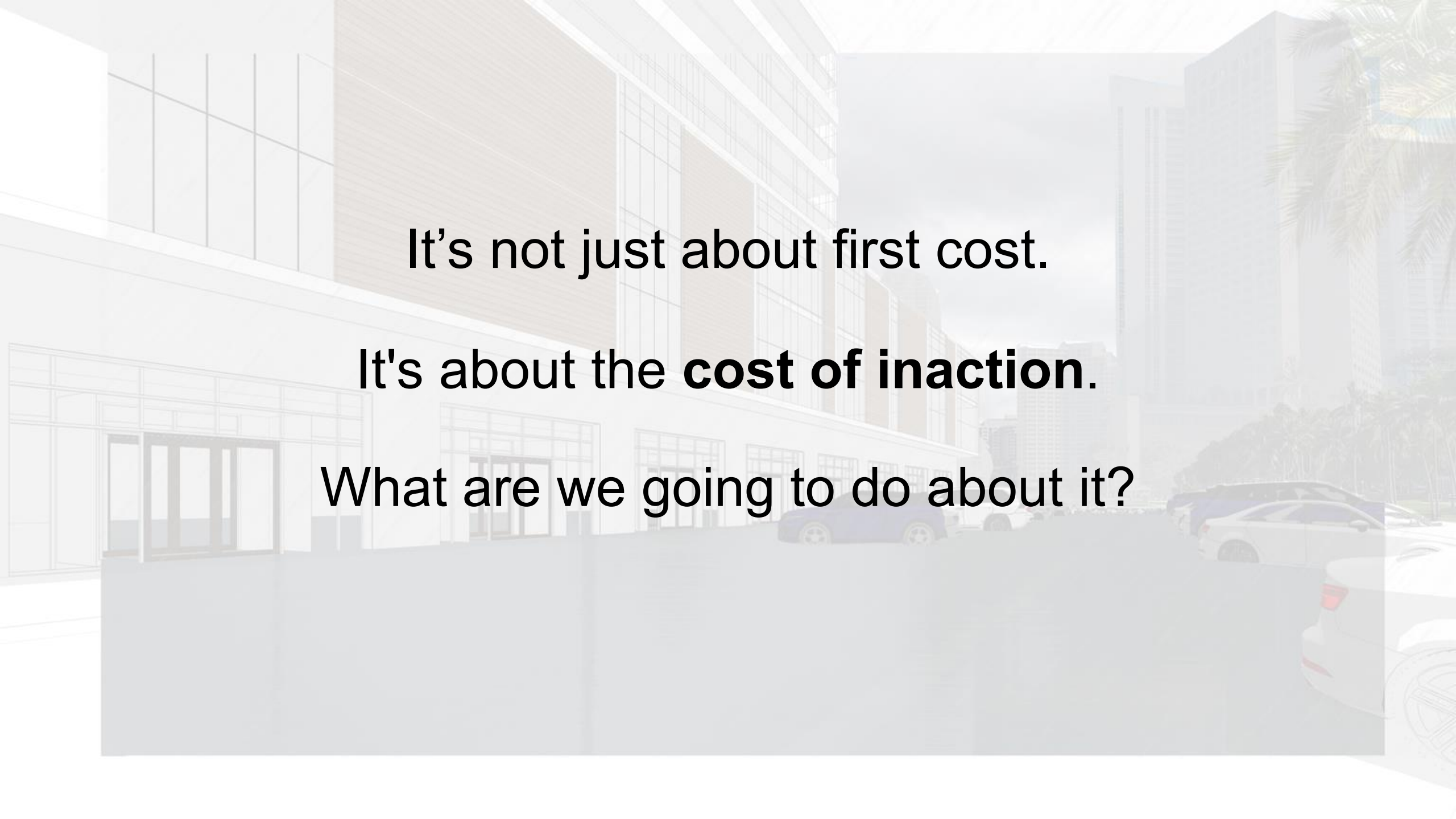
- Delays in mitigating risks can lead to more severe and costly impacts in the future, making it harder to adapt and mitigate

Sources: Stockholm Environment Institute; Climate Policy Initiative


Climate
Change
=
Increased
Risk

The risks of these hazards are increasing in scope and scale as climate change persists.

We need to design and build to manage the risks of a rapidly changing climate.



It’s not just about first cost.

It's about the **cost of inaction**.

What are we going to do about it?

Quantify various risks and give talking points on how to **advocate for sustainable and resilient design strategies** that can mitigate these risks.

$7 + $6 = $13

Amount of saved in economic impact and cleanup costs for every $1 invested in resilience strategies

Source: U.S. Chamber of Commerce's 2024 Climate Resiliency Report. June 2024

AIA Florida's Resilience Committee

- **Mission:**
  - AIA Florida is committed to transforming the way buildings and communities are design, built, and operated to address a more sustainable future – and resilience is a clear extension of this work.

- **Vision:**
  - To educate and transform the Florida built environment to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change and other stresses or shocks our communities will experience.

Tools for Transformation: Advocacy

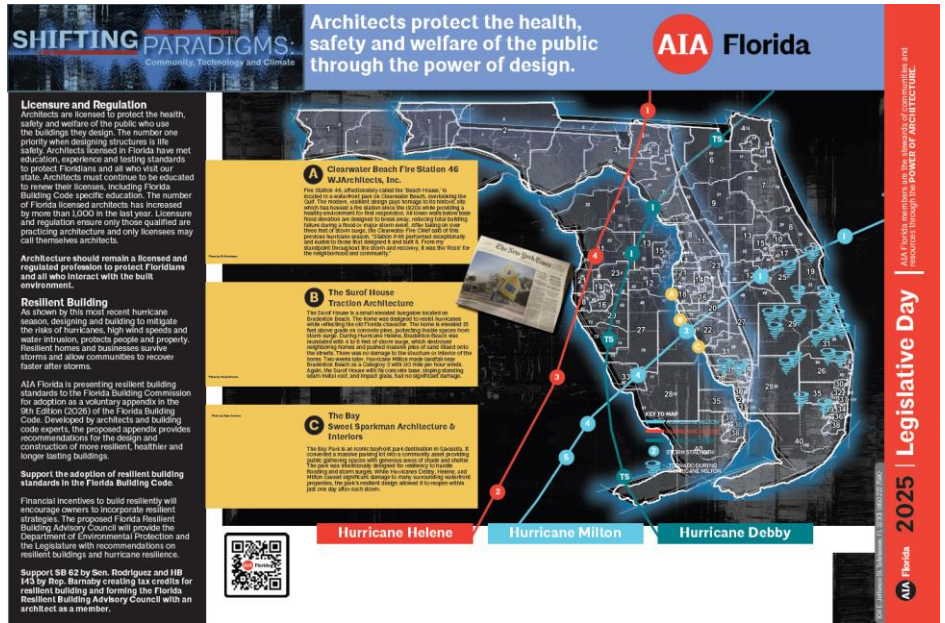
AIA Florida has been presenting resilience issues to the Florida Legislature for several years.

2025 Resiliency Legislative Issues

- SB-50: Nature-based Methods for Improving Coastal Resilience
- SB-62: Resilient Buildings
- HB 143: Resilient Buildings

2021 Resiliency Legislative Wins

- AIA Florida successfully advocated for the adoption of long sought-after legislation that provides architects protection of liability when responding to declared emergencies. Allowing Architects to be at the table for disaster response.



Tools for Transformation: Minimizing Risk

What can AIA Florida bring to our communities?

Climate
Mitigating Climate / Extreme Weather

Public Health
Continued delivery of essential services and promoting health equity

Technological
Maintain critical business functions or services despite disruptions

Social and Emotional
Social well-being of a community / access to resources needed to adapt

Economic
Capacity of a community to withstand economic shocks.

Approach of Resilience
- **Engagement**
  - (Leadership, community, etc.)
- **Assessment**
  - Comprehensive
- **Intervention**
  - (Level and specificity – mitigation and adaptation strategies)

Scale of Resilience
- Individual
- Building
- Community/Campus
- City or district
- Regional

Tools for Transformation: Professional Development

Resilience Webinars

Magazine Article

Resilience Resources

Case Study:

Resilience Appendix Chapter

Appendix Summary

Complete Appendix

AIA Florida

ENHANCING THE RESILIENCE OF BUILDINGS: MOISTURE, RESOURCES AND FLOOD

SUMMARY

The provisions contained in the proposed appendix document present recommendations for the design and construction of more resilient, healthier, and longer lasting buildings in Florida. The users of these recommendations are encouraged to implement them in their projects to increase building resilience and life span. These provisions become mandatory requirements for more resilient design and construction of Florida buildings only when adopted by local ordinance. Local Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs) will enforce implementation and compliance.

Resilience Appendix Chapter: Moisture

MOISTURE

This section of the proposed Florida Building Code Appendix focuses on moisture control in buildings. It addresses the harmful effects of moisture migration into and through the building envelope, which can degrade materials and negatively impact indoor air quality. The section provides guidance on designing and constructing resilient building envelope systems, with an emphasis on moisture control and improvement of energy efficiency, occupant health, and building longevity. It outlines the importance of adhering to the Florida Building Code, Florida Product Approval (FPA) requirements, Notices of Acceptances (NOA's) in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, and stresses the need for clear and concise communication of detailed design intent and proper construction practices. Additionally, it highlights specific requirements for exterior walls, balconies, roofs, and terraces, including detailed drawing checklists and testing protocols.

Resilience Appendix Chapter: Resources

RESOURCES

With a growing population constantly increasing the need for water for human habitation, industry, and agriculture, Florida is in a seemingly counterintuitive situation of running the risk of having an inadequate water supply for the State's needs. As the aquifer is increasingly drained, saltwater intrusion from the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf becomes an ever-greater risk. Water is a basic need of any human population, as well as for the State to thrive and be resilient, without resorting to costly desalination plants and incurring water shortages. This appendix provides the tools to achieve that. ensure the state population has plentiful water available by using the existing resources with increased efficiency.

Resilience Appendix Chapter: Flooding

FLOOD

The flood-resistant construction guidelines establish enhanced standards to protect public health, safety, and welfare by mitigating the impact of flood hazards. These guidelines aim to reduce flood-related damage, ensure continuous access to essential public services, and minimize economic loss. They apply to all new construction in flood-prone areas, requiring the use of advanced construction practices that exceed the minimum standards set by the Florida Building Code and ASCE regulations. Critical facilities, such as hospitals, storm shelters, and essential infrastructure, are subject to stricter construction requirements to maintain functionality during and after flood events.

The guidelines also address flood resilience measures for existing buildings and design features below the flood elevation. Non-substantially improved buildings are encouraged to incorporate flood-resistant retrofits, such as elevating essential equipment and employing dry or wet floodproofing techniques. The use of flood damage-resistant materials is recommended to reduce repair costs and minimize disruptions following a flood. Additionally, the design of building elements below the flood elevation shall allow the free passage of water, limit the use of enclosed spaces, and the size and function of accessory structures in high-risk flood zones. These measures collectively aim to reduce the long-term costs of flood recovery, ensure public safety and support community resilience.

As architects, we design for the present, with an awareness of the past, and for a future which is essentially unknown.

Cost dictates the present but at the risk of devaluing the future.

INVESTING IN RESILIENT FACILITIES TO DECREASE RISK IS COMMON SENSE

This is for your students and their children.

AIA Florida

For more information:
aiafla.org/resilience.cfm