



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

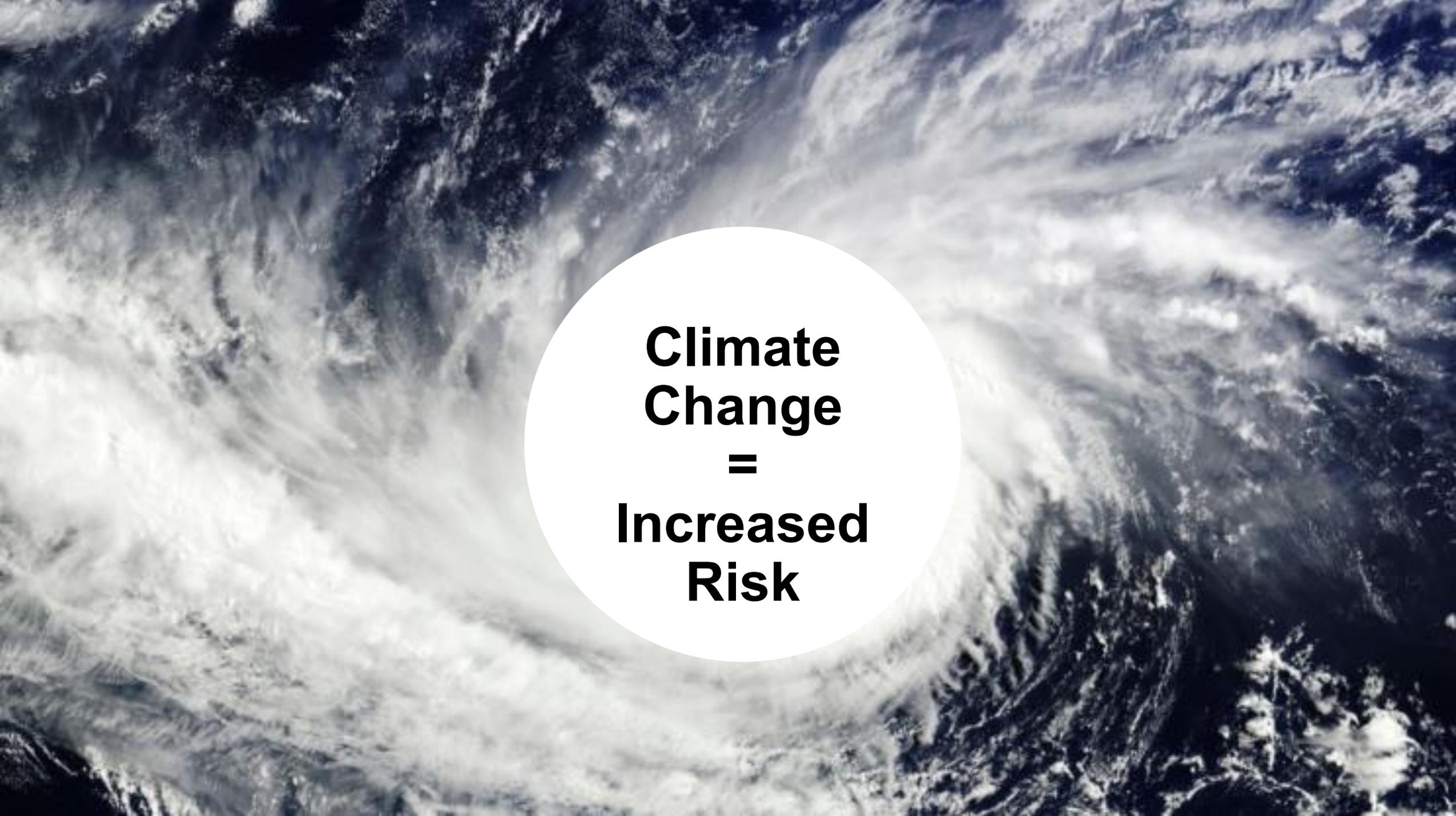
- In 2023 alone, our nation grappled with 28 billion-dollars in weather and climate related disasters, reminding us of the profound risks we face.

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



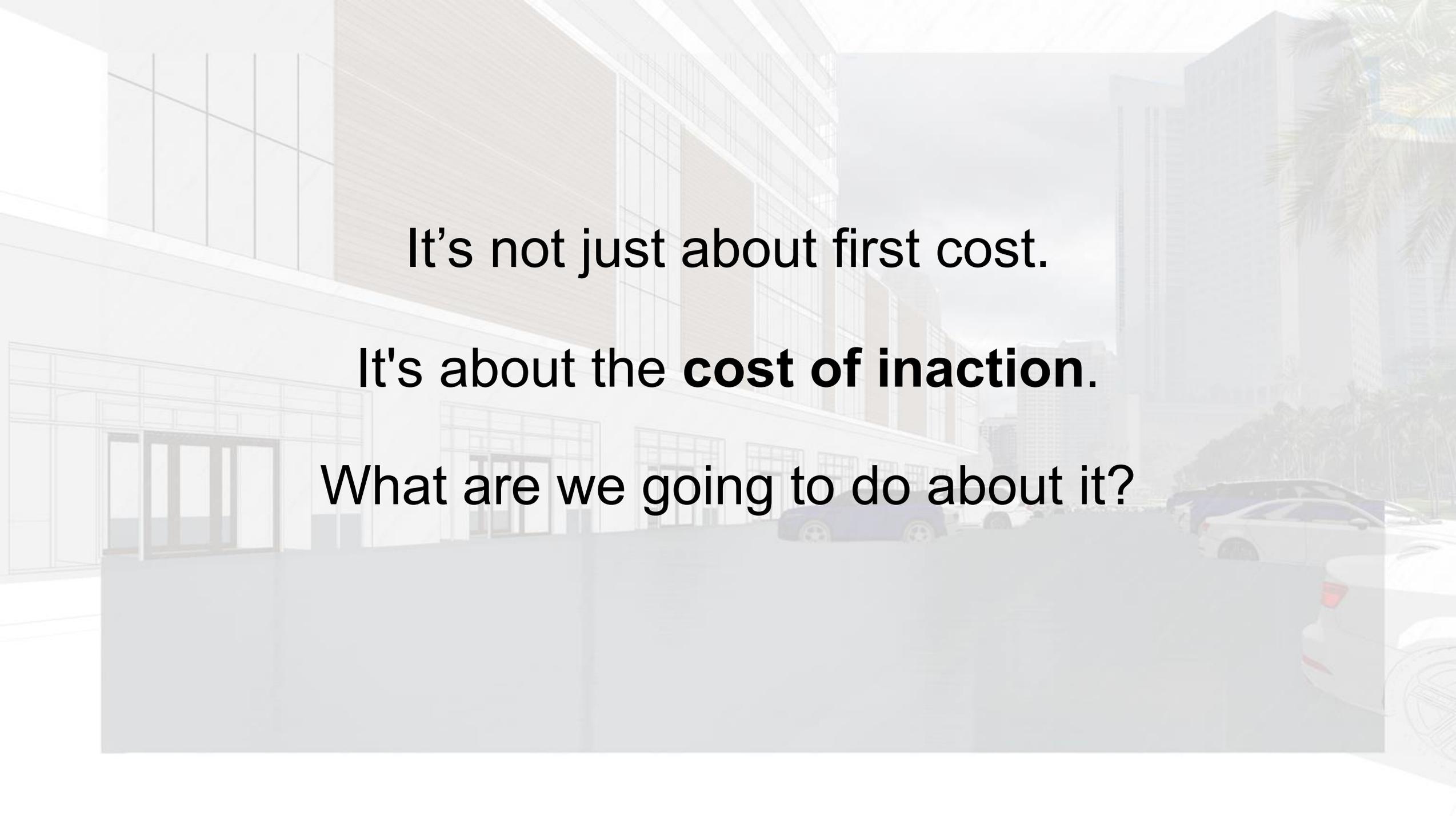
**Climate
Change
=
Increased
Risk**



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

An architectural rendering of a modern building courtyard. The building on the left has a facade of large glass windows and light-colored wood paneling. The courtyard features a paved walkway, a covered walkway with a glass roof, and a grassy area with tall grasses. Several people are shown walking and standing in the courtyard. In the background, there are tall skyscrapers under a clear blue sky.

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?



 ***** \$X,XXX,XXX
Initial Building
 ***** \$XX,XXX
Cost of Inaction

RESILIENCY STRATEGY COST \$X,XXX
 Flood Barrier \$X,XXX
 Permeable Paving

RESILIENCY STRATEGY SAVINGS (-\$X,XXX)
 Flood Barrier (-\$X,XXX)
 Permeable Paving

COST OF PROACTION
\$XXX
 \$XXX Total Savings

MEMBER BENEFITS
 Health and performance benefits
 Education and Advocacy tool
 Reduced healthcare and insurance costs

THANK YOU FOR BUILDING BETTER!

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](#)

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

Key to Five Flooding Threats in Florida

1 Issue 1
2 Issue 2
3 Issue 3
4 Issue 4
5 Issue 5

2025 Legislative Day

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.

SHIFTING PARADIGMS: Community, Technology and Climate

Architects protect the health, safety and welfare of the public through the power of design.

AIA Florida

Licensure and Regulation
Architects are licensed to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public who use the buildings they design. The number one priority when designing buildings is life safety. Architects licensed in Florida have met education, experience and testing standards to protect Floridians and all who visit our state. Architects must continue to be educated to renew their licenses, including Florida Building Code specific education. The number of Florida licensed architects has increased by more than 1,000 in the last year. Licensure and regulation ensure only the best qualified are practicing architecture and only licensees may call themselves architects.

Resilient Building
As shown by this most recent hurricane season, designing and building to mitigate the risks of hurricanes, high wind speeds and water intrusion, protects people and property. Resilient homes and businesses are stronger and allow communities to recover faster after storms.

AIA Florida is presenting resilient building standards in the Florida Building Code for adoption as a voluntary appendix in the 6th Edition (2020) of the Florida Building Code. Developed by architects and building code experts, the proposed appendix provides recommendations for the design and construction of more resilient, healthier and longer lasting buildings.

Support the adoption of resilient building standards in the Florida Building Code.

Financial incentives to build resiliently will encourage owners to incorporate resilient strategies. The proposed Florida Resilient Building Advisory Council will provide the Department of Environmental Protection and the Legislature with recommendations on resilient buildings and hurricane resilience.

Support SB 62 by Sen. Rodriguez and HB 143 by Rep. Barnaby creating tax credits for resilient building and forming the Florida Resilient Building Advisory Council with an architect as a member.

AIA Florida members are the ultimate of communicable and resources through the POWER of ARCHITECTURE.

2025 Legislative Day

»» 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



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.

Case Study:

Resilience Appendix Chapter



 Appendix Summary



 Complete Appendix

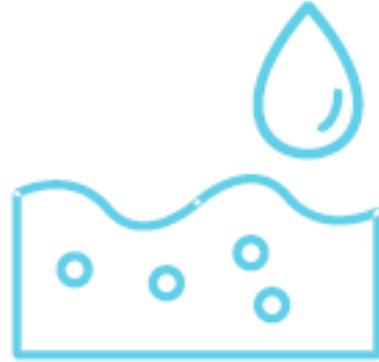
» Resilience Appendix Chapter: Moisture



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.**



For more information:
aiafla.org/resilience.cfm

