



AMERICAN FLOOD COALITION

American Flood Coalition

North Carolina presentation

Agenda

① Who we are

- AFC mission
- Policy platform

② AFC Vision

- State Legislative Priorities
- Federal Priorities

③ State & Federal Update

- Flood Funding Finder
- Dual Disaster Handbook

④ Member Resources

American Flood Coalition Team



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Associate



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Senior Coalition Director



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Senior Advisor



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Senior Scientist



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Director



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Kate Wesner
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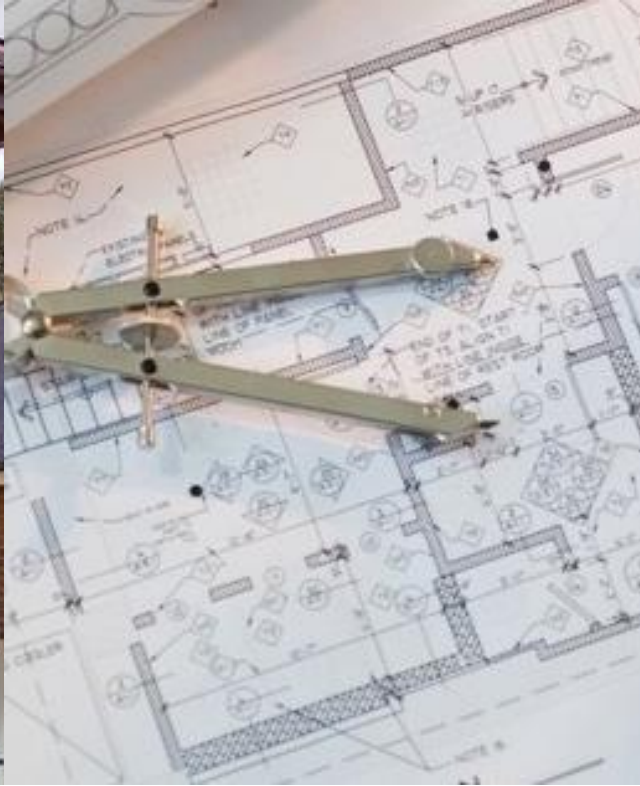
Vashti Williams
Senior Operations Associate



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Senior Advisor



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Government Relations
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Our 4 pillars for coastal and inland solutions

Economy

Invest in infrastructure that boosts the economy and protects property values

Communities

Use proactive planning to keep communities safe and save taxpayer dollars

Rebuilding

Build back stronger to protect communities from future flooding

Military

Ensure our military installations are ready to deploy 365 days a year

We are the American Flood Coalition

A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and nonpartisan coalition advocating for national solutions to flooding and sea level rise



**Federal
Champions**



**Cities, Towns
and Counties**



**Elected
Officials**



Businesses



**Military
Groups**



**Civic and
Academic Groups**

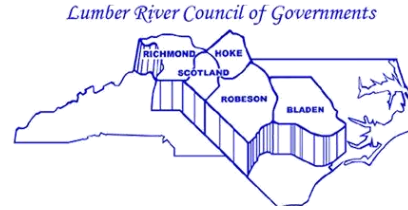
North Carolina: Member Spotlight



**Town of Fair Bluff
North Carolina**



**City of Wilmington
North Carolina**



**Lumber River Council of
Governments**



**Speaker Tim Moore
North Carolina**



**Rep. Marvin Lucas
North Carolina**



**City of Boiling Spring Lakes
North Carolina**



**City of New Bern
North Carolina**



**Mayor Zeb Smathers
Canton, North Carolina**



**Rep. Charlie Miller
North Carolina**



**Rep. Brenden
Jones**

North Carolina Members

 Bladen County	 Brunswick County	 Duplin County	 Pender County	 State Rep. Charlie Miller, (R, NC-19)	 Commissioner Jackie Newton, Pender County, NC	 Former State Rep. Billy Richardson, (D, NC-44)	 Mayor Bill Saffo, Wilmington
 Robeson County	 Belville	 Bladenboro	 Boiling Spring Lakes	 Mayor Zeb Smathers, Canton	 State Rep. Carson Smith, (R, NC-16)	 Former State Rep. John Szoka, (R, NC-45)	 Councilman Owen Thomas, Lumberton, North Carolina
 Brunswick	 Carolina Beach	 Carolina Shores	 Cerro Gordo	 State Representative Mark Pless	 State Rep. Stephen Ross, (R, NC-63)	 State Rep. Shelly Willingham, (D, NC-23)	 Mayor Eulis Willis, Navassa
 Clyde	 Fair Bluff	 Fairmont	 Jacksonville	 Commissioner Rob Zapple	 Cape Fear Council of Governments	 Cardinal Real Estate Partners	
 Kure Beach	 Nags Head	 New Bern	 North Topsail Beach	 Eastern North Carolina Recovery & Resilience Alliance	 LDSI	 Lumber River Council of Governments	 North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association
 Shallotte	 Southern Shores	 Tabor City	 Wallace	 ORC (O. R. Colan Associates, LLC)	 Sig Flood Consultants	 Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines	
 Whiteville	 Wilmington	 Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin	 Wayne Branch	 Rep. Greg Murphy, (R-NC)			
 Greg Cummings	 Commissioner John Cummings, Robeson County	 State Rep. Ted Davis, Jr., (R, NC-19)	 Mayor Olivia Dawson, Burgaw, NC				
 State Rep. Ed Goodwin, (R, NC-1)	 Former State Rep. Charles Graham, (D, NC-47)	 State Sen. Bobby Hanig, (R, NC-6)	 State Rep. Chris Humphrey, (R, NC-12)	 Rep. David Rouzer, (R-NC)			
 Former State Rep. Howard Hunter, III, (D, NC-5)	 Mayor Don Hardy, Kinston, NC	 State Rep. Brenden Jones, (R, NC-46)	 Former State Rep. Perrin Jones, (R, NC-9)				
 Charles Kemp, Fairmont	 State Sen. Michael Lazzara, (R, NC-6)	 State Sen. Michael Lee, (R, NC-9)	 Former State Rep. Pat McElraft, (R, NC-13)				

Our coalition has 34 Federal Champions from 15 states



Sen. Tim Scott,
SC



Sen. Mark
Warner, VA



Sen. Marco
Rubio, FL



Sen. Bill Cassidy,
LA



Sen. Gary Peters,
MI



Sen. Chris Coons,
DE



Sen. Shelley Moore
Capito, WV



Rep. Greg
Murphy, NC



Rep. David
Rouzer, NC



Rep. Nancy
Mace, SC



Rep. Bobby
Scott, VA



Rep. Jimmy Panetta
CA



Rep. Gus
Bilirakis, FL



Rep. Lois
Frankel, FL



Rep. Al
Lawson, FL



Rep. Stephanie
Murphy, FL



Rep. Brian
Mast, FL



Rep. John
Rutherford, FL



Rep. María
Elvira Salazar,
FL



Rep. Debbie
Wasserman
Schultz, FL



Rep. Michael Waltz,
FL



Rep. Buddy Carter,
GA



Rep. Rodney
Davis, IL



Rep. Ashley
Hinson, IA



Rep. Garret Graves,
LA



Rep. Seth Moulton,
MA



Rep. Lois Andrew
Garbarino, NY



Rep. John
Katko, NY



Rep. Joseph
Morelle, NY



Rep. Dan
Crenshaw, TX



Rep. Lizzie
Fletcher, TX



Rep. Elaine
Luria, VA



Rep. Donald
McEachin, VA



Rep. Tom Rice, SC

AFC at a glance

Over 350 members nationwide



Federal champions



Cities, towns, & counties



Elected officials



Businesses



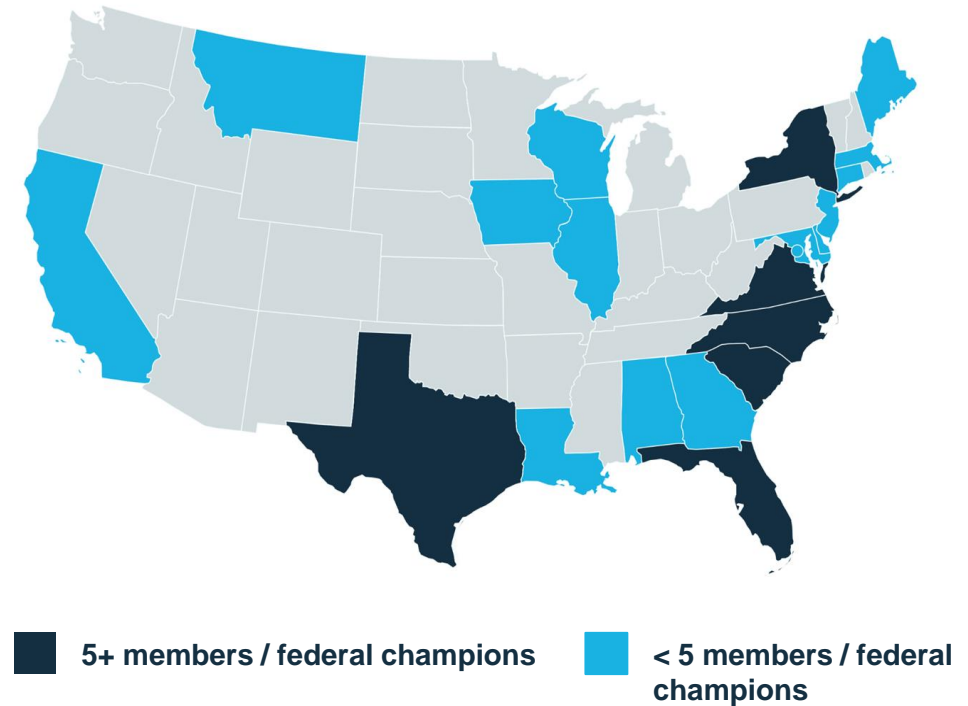
Military groups



Civic & academic

A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and nonpartisan coalition advancing solutions to flooding and sea level rise

Active in 21 states



State Flood Resilience Framework

+ Leadership & Accountability

Who is in charge?

+ Data & Risk Assessment

What's at risk?

+ Planning

What should we prioritize?

+ Funding & Financing

How do we pay for it?

+ Statewide Standards

How can we institutionalize change?

North Carolina's Flood Resilience Blueprint



+ **Leadership & Accountability**

+ **Data & Risk Assessment**

+ **Planning**

+ **Funding & Financing**

+ **Statewide Standards**

We have accomplished much, but more work to be done...

- ① Fund actionable **Flood Resilience Blueprint**
- ② Ensure resilient critical **transportation infrastructure**
- ③ Support riverine and **stream management** to reduce flooding
- ④ Increase resiliency **capacity and technical assistance** to local governments
- ⑤ Fund **flood mitigation and innovative pilot projects**

State Legislative Priority Update

- March 8th Lobby Day:



State Legislative Priority Update



Ensure NC Dept of Environmental Quality has adequate resources to carry out a long term Flood Resilience Blueprint program:

- Governor Cooper's recommended budget calls for SIX permanent DEQ position for Flood Resilience Blueprint
- NC House budget proposal supports the six positions (non recurring)
- A long term Blueprint program will allow for:
 - Regular basin action strategy updates
 - Grant/Contract admin for priority projects
 - Capacity building assistance for local govts.

State Legislative Priority Update

House Bill 313 (=S300)		H314
	Last Action:	Ref to the Com on Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House on 3/9/2023
	Sponsors:	Pless; Miller; Davis (Primary) Autry; Harris; Harrison; Humphrey; F. Jackson; Willingham
	Attributes:	Public; Contains Appropriations; Contains Local Appropriations
	Counties:	No counties specifically cited
	Statutes:	No affected General Statutes
	Keywords:	APPROPRIATIONS, BUDGETING, DISASTERS & EMERGENCIES, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, EMERGENCY SERVICES, FUNDING, FUNDS & ACCOUNTS, GRANTS, INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC, REPORTING, ROADS & HIGHWAYS, SESSION LAWS, TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC SAFETY DEPT.
HISTORY		Transportation Resiliency Fund Mods./Disaster. 2023-2024 Session
ACTION	DOCUMENTS	
Ref to the Com on Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House		
Passed 1st Reading		
Filed	DRAFT: DRH10157-NBa-94	VIEW BILL DIGEST
		VIEW AVAILABLE BILL SUMMARIES
		EDITIONFISCAL NOTE
		Filed
		Edition 1

Transportation Flood Resilience Grants:

- Significant need at local and regional level
- \$15m in 2021 Budget
- More funding
- Expanded eligible applicants
- Expanded allowable uses

Thank You To State Leaders!

- Introduced in House/Senate for \$50m
-House Bill 313 -Senate Bill 300
- \$40m in Governor Cooper's budget proposal
- \$25m in House budget proposal

Need your help...

- Call your Senator

Recovery and Mitigation Grants

Applicant Name/Project	Initial Award Amount (\$)	
Trenton/King Street	\$	94,350.00
Wilmington Police Dept./Traffic Intersections	\$	482,000.00
Duck/NC12 elevation, natural planting	\$	549,659.50
Wilkesboro/Woodfield Way bridge	\$	2,495,230.44
Mountain Project/Haywood Public Trans. Generator	\$	36,852.07
Pollocksville/Flood Resil. Main Street	\$	548,800.00
Lillington/E.Duncan Culvert Replacement	\$	790,000.00
Havelock/Lee Drive	\$	190,541.00
Elizabeth City/Regional VRA	\$	395,000.00
Leland/Reslient Rt. Assessment	\$	950,000.00
Elizabeth City/Rivershore Rd Bridge Replacement	\$	1,971,000.00
Kinston/Adkin Branch Phase II	\$	1,208,590.00
Boiling Spring Lakes/Drayton Road Improvement	\$	922,306.00
Navassa/3 road crossing A&E	\$	485,000.00
Carteret County/Auto Fuel refilling upgrade	\$	225,000.00
Mt. Olive/Maple & Nelson St. Stormwater Improv.	\$	964,100.00
Pender County/NC210 evacuation Rt. Study	\$	200,000.00
Conserving Carolina/Davidson River Rd RR Trestle	\$	120,000.00
Transylvania County/Hart Rd flood MIT	\$	2,365,016.00
Total	\$	14,993,445.01

Woodfield Bridge



Woodfield Bridge



Woodfield Bridge



Woodfield Bridge



AFC Federal Policy & Government Relations Update





Our Federal Policy Vision provides a roadmap for an effective federal role in flood and adaptation policy

Fix federal data collection and communication

- Federal data drives trillions in investment and engineering decisions — yet it is routinely incomplete, inaccurate, and not up-to-date. This forces state and local governments to build for the future while blindfolded
- Fixing these data issues would impact trillions of dollars of investment, shift thousands of planning efforts for the better, and ensure infrastructure is built to last

Reform the post-disaster recovery process

- Post-disaster recovery programs disproportionately influence state and local efforts to recover and take on long-term planning. Federal programs are slow, complex, and opaque, delaying short-term recovery and long-term planning
- Streamlining and strengthening these programs would shorten recovery timelines and truly transform our approach to disasters

Incentivize long-term and local state planning

- The federal government is not utilizing the resources at its disposal to properly incentivize and direct the type of long-term planning that will empower state and local governments to address their flood and disaster risk
- We need to help state and local governments to make accurate risk assessments and planning to help prioritize projects and drive longer-term policies

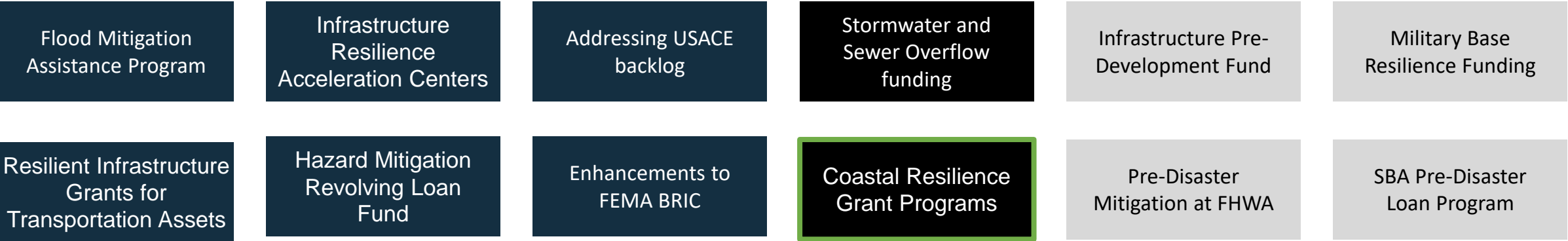


As Congress considered infrastructure policy, AFCA pushed for 12 priorities totaling \$38.2 billion to bolster flood resilience

Our approach to infrastructure year

We saw this as a **once-in-a-generation opportunity** to secure investment in infrastructure — not only through dedicated resilience investments but also through applying a resilience lens to all infrastructure investments

We laid out **12 ambitious priorities to establish a marker** for the investment we think is needed, recognizing that we likely would not achieve all of them, but we will set a strong foundation for what is needed



■ Request included in infrastructure package

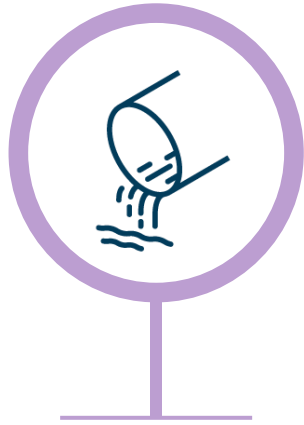
■ Request not included in package, but will be pursued by AFCA in future

We are elevating flood resilience as Congress works on the following items in 2023 and 2024



Appropriations

Spending bill to fund the federal government for fiscal year 2024



Water Resources Development Acts

Legislation provides funding for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers' water infrastructure programs



Farm bill

Legislation sets national agriculture, nutrition, conservation, and forestry policy



National Defense Authorization Act

Military spending bill; passed annually



National Flood Insurance Program

Reauthorization and reform of the NFIP; no long term extension since 2017



As the 2023 Farm Bill ramps up, we are focused on expanding policies that support flood adaptation and piloting innovative farming solutions

AFCA Farm bill priorities

Priority A

Make **USDA disaster assistance more responsive**, so that communities have the resources and capabilities to recover swiftly after a disaster

Priority B

Elevate **flooding as a priority in USDA conservation programs** which enable producers to lead on innovative practices that reduce flooding

Priority C

Develop **data at USDA to determine conservation practices' effect** as a flood solution

Priority D

Strengthen **USDA's Small Watershed Programs** which enable communities to address flooding across jurisdictional boundaries and at the watershed scale

Piloting local innovation



AFCA has partnered with Northeast Iowa Resource Conservation & Development to measure the flood reduction impact of multi-cropping.



We are also pushing efforts to boost proactive state resilience and improve post-disaster recovery processes

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program

- Flexible, permanent authorization of CDBG-DR, which provides the bulk of long-term disaster recovery funding, would save money, expedite recoveries, and ease challenges among state and local recipients.

Championing Local Efforts to Advance Resilience (CLEAR) Act

- Bipartisan proposal that would fund state resilience offices, drive coordinated resilience planning, and other metric-driven activities.

Disaster Assistance Simplification Act and Disaster Survivors Fairness Act

- Senate and House bipartisan bills that would establish a universal disaster assistance application for disaster survivors to apply for federal assistance programs across various federal agencies.

AFC has selected 6 communities for our Flood Resilient Communities Cohort, which we will walk through the federal infrastructure process to identify barriers to funding

Flood Resilient Communities Cohort



Overview

We have selected **6 communities** in the **Carolinas** represented by **local governmentt** and **CBOs**. We will help them navigate the infrastructure process and use their experience to drive policy reform.

What we offer



Best-in-class educational guides

Scalable educational resources to meet our members' needs



Tools for effective communication

Opportunities and tools for communicating about flooding with stakeholders at all levels



Networks of leaders on flooding

Forum to connect virtually and in-person with other leaders and share learnings



Competitive local resilience pilots

Competitive local pilots that promote deeper engagement on flooding and sea level rise



Platform for advocacy and education

Strong platform that makes local voices and needs heard at the federal level

Member resource: Flood Funding Finder

This new tool breaks down federal grant and technical assistance programs best suited for flooding and sea level rise initiatives

Identifies programs by characteristics including:



Requires Presidential Disaster Declaration



No local cost share requirements



Special considerations for small municipalities



Supports project planning



Administered by state



Member resource: Dual Disaster Handbook



Find additional information and guidance on dual disasters at
www.floodcoalition.org/covid19

- In collaboration with the American Public Health Association, this guide highlights **six recommendations** for community leaders to prepare for the dual disasters of flooding and COVID-19
- Many places face an **overlap of COVID-19 and hurricane activity** alongside long-term budget strain
- Local leaders are **grappling with unique challenges**, such as sheltering and evacuation during the pandemic
- Smaller, under-resourced communities are **disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and flooding** and could be left behind

Member resources: Adaptation For All Guide



- The main purpose of the guidebook is **to help local leaders determine approaches to flooding or sea level rise that can work best for them**
- **Highlights 26 approaches** broken down by cost, benefits, and implementation considerations
- Most of the case studies found in the guide are from **communities with populations less than 50,000**
- **The guide will make it easier for communities of any size** to evaluate how those approaches can fit into their flood resilience strategies

AFC offers several forms of communications support to members

Social media

Promote members on social media.



American Flood Coalition
@floodcoalition

Member Spotlight Congratulations to the City of Kinston on receiving a \$500k grant through the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund for their work on Emma Webb Park!

@KinstonTeens @MayorDonHardy1 @chrisjsuggs @KinstonPublServ

Newsletters highlights

Spotlight members in our monthly newsletter.



Op-eds and blogs

Co-write and promote op-eds and blogs.



OPINION: 4 years after Florence, N.C. is building a flood-resilient future

Bill Saffo and Jackie Newton Guest columnists

Published 6:00 a.m. ET Sept. 11, 2022

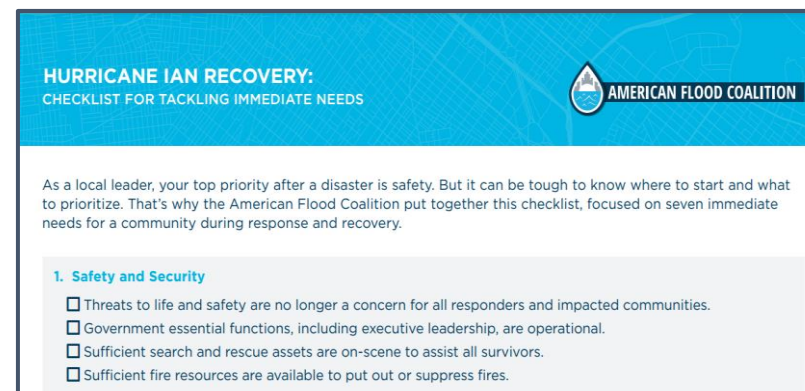
Q&A series

Interview key flood resilience leaders.



Resources

Share out resources tailored to assist our members.





AMERICAN FLOOD COALITION

Thank you!



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