The 2026 National Disaster Resilience Conference (NDRC26) agenda is designed to advance the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) partnership's goal of delivering the ultimate American "DREAM" home, one that is durable, resilient, energy-efficient, affordable, and modern.

The agenda will feature breakout sessions, keynote presentations, panels, and spotlight interviews showcasing best practices in construction innovation, public policy, and private market programs from expert presenters spanning academia, elected officials, financial services, home builders, leaders, professionals, public officials, researchers, scientists, and other stakeholders committed to disaster resilience.

This Antitrust Statement is to inform meeting participants that whenever competitors within an industry gather together, appropriate care must be taken to ensure that violations of antitrust laws do not take place. To avoid antitrust allegations, it is necessary to avoid discussions of sensitive topics. Agreements to engage in product boycotts, restrictive market allocations, refusal to deal with third parties, and price-restraining activities are automatically illegal under antitrust laws.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026	
11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	**FLASH Board of Directors Luncheon & Meeting** *(Directors & Advisors)* *Location: Pelican Meeting Room, Third Floor*
5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.	**FLASH Board of Directors-Hosted VIP & Presenter Reception** *(Invitation Only)*
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	**Registration Open** *Location: Dunes Foyer, Lobby Level*
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	**Welcome Reception Hosted by the FLASH Board of Directors** *(Open to All Registered Attendees)* Kick off NDRC26 with a warm welcome from FLASH and the Board of Directors. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, food stations, and refreshments as we gather to celebrate the start of this year's conference and look ahead to the conversations, ideas, and insights to come. *Location: Dunes Ballroom, Lobby Level*

Wednesday, November 18, 2026	
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	**Breakfast** *Location: Dunes Ballroom, Lobby Level*
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	**Registration & Exhibits Open** *Location: Dunes Foyer & Dunes Ballroom, Lobby Level*

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	**Welcome Remarks & General Session Introduction** **Arthur Parks, CPCU, CLU,** State Farm Insurance Companies Director – Catastrophe Exposure Management and Chair, FLASH Board of Directors
	Keynote Presentation: *Delivering the D.R.E.A.M.* This opening keynote will launch NDRC26 by exploring how resilience is moving from aspiration and inspiration to action that delivers the ideal D.R.E.A.M. Home - **D**urable. **R**esilient. **E**nergy-efficient. **A**ffordable. and **M**odern. After decades of dedicated engineering, risk communication, and policy research and progress, we have the knowledge, the science, and the will. But is resilience consistently making it to the place where it matters most—the family home? Attendees will be challenged to think boldly about what is possible, examine the opportunities and barriers shaping the future, and consider how each sector can contribute to delivering reliable resilience outcomes. This keynote will establish the vision and momentum for the conference and inspire participants to help discover and advance the practical path to resilience. **Presenter: Leslie Chapman-Henderson**, FLASH President and CEO
9:00 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.	**Spotlight Presentation & Interview: *The Power of Resilience: Deconstructing the Affordability Myth*** This session will explore a new landmark study from the University of Alabama about the relationship between building code adoption and housing prices. Researchers will describe their findings, based on data from more than 2.7 million home sales and 45 code updates across 26 states. The session will answer the question, "Do stronger building codes make homes less affordable?" At a time when housing affordability is one of the nation's most pressing concerns, this session is a must-see for resilience and building code advocates alike. **Presenters:** 1. **Dr. Patrick (Shane) Crawford,** The University of Alabama, Lee J. Styslinger Jr. College of Engineering, Assistant Professor 2. **Dr. Lawrence (Lars) Powell,** The University of Alabama Center for Risk and Insurance Research Executive Director *Interviewer: **John Zarrella**, JZ Media President, Former CNN Correspondent, and FLASH Leadership Partner*

	Spotlight Presentation: *Moving Past FEMA Flood Maps: Enhancing Public Understanding Through Improved Risk Communication Strategies* Flood maps remain among the most widely used tools for communicating flood risk, yet research shows that many homeowners struggle to understand and act on the information they provide. This session will share findings from focus groups and a multi-state survey of more than 1,200 participants, examining how consumers perceive flood risk, where they seek information, and which communication approaches best motivate preparedness. This session will allow attendees to explore common misconceptions about flood insurance and disaster assistance, barriers to protective action, and emerging strategies that emphasize clearer, localized, actionable messaging delivered through trusted sources. The presentation will highlight how Inspect2Protect.org and other consumer-facing resources resonated with survey participants in terms of competence and confidence. **Presenters:** 1. **Paula Harms, CPCU**, National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC)/Center for Insurance Policy and Research (CIPR) Sr. Research Analyst 2. **Dr. Brenda Rourke,** NAIC/CIPR Communication Research Scientist & Engagement Program Manager *Introduced by:* ***Dr. Natalie F. Enclade****, BuildStrong America Executive Director*
	Panel Presentation: *Strong Homes Initiative: The Power of Resilient Recovery* Disaster recovery is more than rebuilding—it is an opportunity to reduce future vulnerability for survivors and their communities by introducing disaster-resilient building practices and leaving a legacy of better building overall. The FLASH Strong Homes initiative delivers this opportunity through strong partnerships, best practices, and innovative outreach and education. Attendees will hear how cross-sector partnerships not only support smart, resilient recovery but deliver lasting, systemic, and positive changes in the building practices of disaster-affected communities. **Moderator: Eric Vaughn,** FLASH Executive Vice President **Presenters:** 1. **Raphael Osuna, AIA,** Habitat for Humanity International Senior Director of US Housing Disaster Resilience & Recovery 2. **Matt Rollins,** The Home Depot Foundation National Programs and Partnerships – Disaster Response & Critical Home Repairs 3. **Nathan West,** Fuller Center Disaster ReBuilders Director of Operations

	Break *Headshots Available in Foyer – Sponsored by James Hardie, Renew Financial & Travelers*
	Spotlight Interview: *The Power of Partnership – Building and Selling Resilient Homes* What do today's homebuyers want—and how are builders and real estate professionals responding? This engaging conversation explores how resilient construction, informed consumer choices, and trusted industry partnerships are changing the way homes are built, marketed, and valued. From buyer expectations and construction decisions to the long-term benefits of stronger homes, discover how resilience is becoming an increasingly important part of the homeownership journey. **Presenters:** 1. **Jason Meadows**, White Oak Construction LLC President & Owner 2. **Andrea Meadows,** Hill, Spooner & Elliott, Inc. REALTOR & Broker Associate *Interviewer: **Dr. Rick Knabb,** The Weather Channel's Tropical Program Manager, former National Hurricane Center Director, and FLASH Leadership Partner*
	Spotlight Presentation: *The Power of Science: Severe Convective Storms* Severe convective storms continue to drive billions of dollars in losses each year while challenging communities across the country. Our returning presenter, an NDRC attendee favorite, will highlight emerging research and engineering insights that are improving our understanding of these hazards and informing practical strategies to reduce damage, strengthen buildings, and increase resilience. **Presenter: Dr. Anne Cope, P.E.,** Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) Chief Engineer
	Spotlight Presentation: *Advancing Earthquake Resilience Through Innovation, Collaboration, and Public Engagement* Join Dr. Ahmed Elbanna, Director of the Statewide California Earthquake Center (SCEC), for a forward-looking discussion on the future of earthquake resilience and the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration in reducing disaster risk. Drawing on SCEC's leadership in research, science, engineering, policy, and public engagement, Dr. Elbanna will share his vision for advancing resilience through innovation, partnerships, and practical solutions that strengthen communities before disasters occur. **Presenter: Dr. Ahmed Elbanna,** SCEC Director & University of Southern California Professor of Earth Sciences

12:05 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.	**Celebrating Partners in Prevention: *Luncheon, Keynote Presentation, & Recognition Ceremony Hosted by the FLASH Board of Directors*** The NDRC26 luncheon program will celebrate the partnerships, leadership, and innovation helping deliver the D.R.E.A.M.—advancing practical solutions that create stronger, safer, and more resilient communities. This special gathering will give attendees an opportunity to connect, reflect on shared progress, and recognize the collaboration driving meaningful resilience outcomes nationwide. The program will also include a recognition ceremony honoring the invaluable contributions of new and longstanding FLASH Partners whose commitment continues to strengthen communities and advance resilience before and after disasters. **Hosted by: Arthur Parks, CPCU, CLU,** State Farm Insurance Companies Director – Catastrophe Exposure Management and Chair, FLASH Board of Directors, and **Bryan Koon,** IEM President and CEO, Member, FLASH Board of Directors **Keynote Presentation: The Power of Big Ideas – A "Mind Stretch"** What emerging ideas and breakthrough building concepts could reshape the future of disaster resilience? This thought-provoking presentation will stretch your thinking, challenge assumptions, and explore emerging trends, innovations, and possibilities that could influence how we build stronger, safer homes and communities. Drawing on decades of research in wind engineering, natural hazards, and the built environment, Dr. Masters will offer a window into what could come next—and the ideas that could help define the future of resilience. **Presenter: Dr. Forrest J. Masters, P.E.,** Oregon State University, College of Engineering, Connie and Lee Kearney Dean, and Member, FLASH Board of Directors
1:50 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	**Keynote Presentation: *The Power of Leadership: Delivering Resilience at Scale*** Louisiana Insurance Commissioner Tim Temple, recently named a FLASH *Leadership Partner*, will share how leadership, public policy, and mitigation incentives are coming together to advance resilience at scale. Under his leadership, Louisiana has accelerated adoption of the FORTIFIED standard and expanded the Louisiana Fortify Homes Program, helping establish the state as the nation's fastest-growing market for FORTIFIED roofs. Commissioner Temple will share Louisiana's approach to strengthening homes, reducing risk, protecting policyholders, and building a more resilient insurance market, with lessons for communities nationwide. **Presenter: Tim Temple,** Louisiana Insurance Commissioner and FLASH *Leadership Partner* *Introduced by:* **Bryan Koon,** IEM President and CEO, Member, FLASH Board of Directors

	Panel Presentation: ***The Power of Prevention: Building Wildfire Resilience Through Codes, Collaboration, and Action*** Wildfire resilience requires more than awareness—it demands a coordinated, all-hands approach that combines education, preparedness, building codes, mitigation, and implementation. While modern building codes provide the foundation for reducing future wildfire risk, making millions of homes more wildfire-resilient will take more than codes alone. It requires multiple solutions, cross-sector collaboration, and complementary initiatives such as Wildfire Prepared Home and WildfireStrong that help homeowners and communities take meaningful action. Bringing together leaders in wildfire mitigation, code advancement, fire service leadership, insurance, and public outreach, this panel will explore practical strategies, partnerships, and proven programs to accelerate wildfire resilience and move communities from awareness to action—helping protect homes, businesses, and neighborhoods. **Moderator: Eric Nelson,** Travelers Senior Vice President of Enterprise Catastrophe Risk Management and Member, FLASH Board of Directors **Panelists:** 1. **Dr. Rebekah Dowd,** James Hardie Building Products, Inc. Government Relations Manager 2. **Alister Watt,** IBHS Chief Product Officer 3. **Eric D. Vaughn,** FLASH Executive Vice President 4. **Justice Jones,** International Code Council Senior Fire and Disaster Mitigation Program Manager
	Break *Headshots Available in Foyer – Sponsored by James Hardie, Renew Financial & Travelers*

	Spotlight Interview: *Unlocking Resilience for Homeowners* Building stronger homes requires more than awareness—it requires access. This session will explore how innovative financing approaches can help remove barriers to resilience by making mitigation and home improvement investments more attainable for homeowners. Attendees will learn how financing solutions can support upgrades that reduce disaster risk, strengthen long-term property performance, and help advance homes that are durable, resilient, energy-efficient, affordable, and modern. Join the discussion on how new models and partnerships are helping deliver the D.R.E.A.M. through practical, scalable solutions that empower homeowners to invest in resilience. **Presenter: Matthew Choy,** Renew Financial Government Affairs, Regional Director and Member, FLASH Board of Directors *Interviewer: **John Zarrella**, JZ Media President, Former CNN Correspondent, and FLASH Leadership Partner*
	Panel Presentation: *The Power of Garage Doors: How much power can one resilience product deliver?* Wind-rated garage doors may be the most overlooked opportunity to boost resilience. However, compelling analysis from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and others, along with the coalition cited in the new FLASH *Garage Doors on the Rise* commentary paper, is raising awareness of this powerful solution beyond the coasts and into the Midwest. This session will explore the emerging dual-objective tornado-based design philosophy, advances in garage door technology, and the research insights demonstrating how stronger garage doors can reduce damage, protect homeowners, reduce losses, and improve insurability. Join leaders in science, industry, and resilience to learn how this evolving approach is driving innovation and influencing the future of resilient construction. **Moderator: Leslie Chapman-Henderson,** FLASH President and CEO **Presenters:** 1. **Dr. Marc Levitan,** NIST Lead Research Engineer, National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program 2. **David L. Monsour,** PE, Door & Access Systems Manufacturers Association (DASMA) Technical Director 3. **Kent Nafziger,** Haas Door Vice President and Member, FLASH Board of Directors

	Spotlight Interview: *Modernizing My Safe Florida Home: Technology, Innovation, and the Homeowner Experience* The My Safe Florida Home Program is embracing technology to improve how homeowners access critical resources to strengthen their homes against hurricanes and severe weather. In this Spotlight Interview, Gustavo Fusaro of AtkinsRéalis joins Keith Wechsler of USAA to explore the program's IT modernization initiative and how a more intuitive, efficient, and user-friendly platform is transforming the homeowner experience. From streamlined processes and improved navigation to maintaining continuity for existing applicants, the conversation will highlight how technology and innovation can strengthen program delivery and support Florida's ongoing commitment to disaster resilience. **Presenter: Gustavo Fusaro, PMP, PMO-CP**, AtkinsRéalis Director *Interviewer: **Keith Wechsler**, USAA Vice President, Go-To-Market Regional Leader and Member, FLASH Board of Directors*
	Wrap & Reflect **Arthur Parks, CPCU, CLU,** State Farm Insurance Companies Director – Catastrophe Exposure Management and Chair, FLASH Board of Directors
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	**Networking Dinner: An Evening of Connection** *Location: Dunes Ballroom, Lobby Level* Join your fellow attendees for dinner and an evening of conversation and networking at the event most often cited by NDRC attendees as a conference favorite. Reconnect with longtime colleagues, make new connections, and spend time with resilience leaders and professionals from across the country.

Thursday, November 19, 2026	
We encourage attendees to wear their conference shirts and take part in the official group photo that everyone will be talking about!	
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	**Breakfast** *Location: Foyer, Third Floor*
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	**Exhibits Open & Headshots Available** – *Sponsored by James Hardie, Renew Financial & Travelers* *Location: Dunes Ballroom, Lobby Level*
Concurrent Breakout Sessions *This morning's breakout sessions will enable attendees to gain additional expert knowledge through interactive, robust dialogue. The breakouts are designed to inspire fresh thinking and bold action, encouraging all participants to consider how they can play a pivotal role in advancing resilience.*	

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	**Breakout Session #1 – *The Power of Partnership: Advancing Building Codes Through Collaboration*** Building codes are one of the most powerful tools available to reduce disaster risk—but advancing them requires evidence, engagement, and action. This panel will examine how analysis and research can strengthen the case for modern codes, how awareness campaigns can elevate understanding and support, and how advocacy can drive meaningful change at the local, state, and national levels. Join leaders from across the resilience ecosystem as they share strategies to move from information to implementation and accelerate stronger, safer communities. **Facilitator: Leslie Chapman-Henderson**, FLASH President and CEO **Subject Matter Experts:** 1. **Dr. Natalie F. Enclade,** BuildStrong America Executive Director 2. **Dr. Milad Shabanian,** MS Built Environment Solutions LLC President 3. **T. Eric Stafford, P.E.,** T. Eric Stafford & Associates President 4. **Dominic Sims,** Jupiter Advisory Group, LLC President and Member, FLASH Board of Directors *Location: Sandpiper Meeting Room, Third Floor*
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	**Breakout Session #2 – *The Power of Science and Engagement: A New Code and a Call to Action*** What does the science tell us—and how do we turn it into action? This breakout session will explore the technical foundations that drive resilience, including building performance, emerging research, code advancements, implementation strategies, and evolving standards, such as those of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Through a facilitated discussion, subject matter experts will focus on translating data and building science into practical solutions that improve construction practices, strengthen outcomes, and accelerate resilience across communities. **Facilitator: Stuart Adams,** STARRII Building Science Lead **Subject Matter Experts:** 1. **Jeffrey Herd, Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM)** Senior Policy Associate 2. **John Ingargiola, EI, CFM,** Flood-Resilient Codes and Standards Advocate *Location: Egret Meeting Room, Third Floor*

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	**Breakout Session #3 – *The Power and Influence of Risk Communication*** How do we bring resilience to new audiences and inspire broader action? This moderated dialogue will explore emerging opportunities to expand resilience engagement through trusted voices, digital platforms, live experiences, storytelling, and new channels of influence. Building on ideas, insights, and themes emerging from NDRC26, the discussion will examine how social media, technology, creators, community gatherings, and evolving communication trends can help move resilience beyond traditional audiences. A panel of subject matter experts (SMEs) will contribute perspectives, respond to audience questions, and help identify practical approaches to increase awareness, drive participation, and deliver resilience messages that inspire action. **Facilitator: Mike Coyne,** National Weather Service (NWS) Office of Future Readiness Director and Advisor, FLASH Board of Directors **Subject Matter Experts:** 1. **Dr. Rick Knabb,** *The Weather Channel's* Tropical Program Manager, former National Hurricane Center Director, and FLASH Leadership Partner 2. **Tom Sorrells,** Florida Weather Authority Founder 3. **Amy Sweezey,** Florida Weather Authority Owner & Founding Partner 4. **Mark Taylor,** MDT and Associates, LLC President and Advisor, FLASH Board of Directors *Location: Ibis Meeting Room, Third Floor*
10:10 a.m.	**Group Photo:** *Join the official group photo everyone will be talking about!* *Location: Meet in Dunes Ballroom, Lobby Level*
General Session *Location: Dunes Ballroom, Lobby Level*	

10:20 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	**Spotlight Interview: *#HurricaneStrong – Stories from the Front Lines*** Join the USAF Hurricane Hunters for a special conversation exploring the power of partnership, preparedness, and perseverance in advancing resilience. Through the lens of the #HurricaneStrong blue-sky collaboration, this session will highlight how trusted partnerships help communities prepare before disaster strikes and recover stronger afterward. This spotlight will reflect on the importance of forecasting, communication, and courage in protecting lives and strengthening communities—and why resilience begins long before a storm makes landfall. **Presenters:** 1. **Maj. Alex Boykin,** U.S. Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunters 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron Instructor Pilot *Interviewed by:* **Dr. Rick Knabb,** *The Weather Channel's* Tropical Program Manager, former National Hurricane Center Director, and FLASH Leadership Partner *Introduced by:* **Keith Wechsler**, USAA Vice President, Go-To-Market Regional Leader and Member, FLASH Board of Directors
	Resilience Roundtable: *The Power of Innovation* Resilience requires more than preparation—it requires innovation. This session will highlight breakthrough technologies and practical solutions that are transforming disaster resilience and helping communities adapt to emerging risks. Through examples spanning wildfire mitigation, resilient roofing, enhanced building components, and other emerging technologies, panelists will share how innovation can accelerate implementation, strengthen performance, and deliver measurable outcomes for homeowners, businesses, and communities. **Facilitator/Presenter: Chris Morris,** The Stonegate Group LLC CEO and Member, FLASH Board of Directors **Presenters:** 1. **Mike Kyne,** USAA Executive Director, Innovation 2. **Chris Rizer, E.I.,** Simpson Strong-Tie Co. Branch Engineer, Southeast US, and Member, FLASH Board of Directors 3. **Kevin Schaff,** CitroTech Global Head of Business Development

	Featured Presentation: *Weathering the Future – Communicating Risk, Building Resilience, and Inspiring Action* Join Tim Smith, Chief Meteorologist at *KRGV-TV* and the *2026 National Weatherperson of the Year*, for a compelling discussion on the evolving role of weather communication in building stronger, safer communities. Drawing on more than three decades of experience forecasting and communicating high-impact weather across the Rio Grande Valley, Tim will share lessons learned from the front lines of severe weather, explore how trusted voices can influence preparedness and protective action, and reflect on why resilience begins with informed communities. The session will also offer a special preview of the *2027 National Weatherperson of the Year* award, building excitement for public voting set to open in December and the opportunity to recognize the meteorologists and weather communicators making a difference in communities nationwide. **Presenter: Tim Smith,** *KRGV-TV* Chief Meteorologist, National Tropical Weather Conference Co-Founder, & *2026 National Weatherperson of the Year*
	Building Momentum for What Comes Next & Closing Luncheon This closing luncheon and interactive session will bring attendees together to reflect on breakout session dialogue, key insights, emerging priorities, and practical solutions identified throughout NDRC26. Through a facilitated discussion informed by conference sessions and attendee engagement, participants will explore what is needed to accelerate resilience outcomes and turn ideas into action across sectors and communities. The conversation will focus on opportunities to strengthen collaboration, advance innovation, and identify tangible next steps that support stronger, safer, and more resilient communities. Key themes and recommendations from the session will help shape post-conference communications and future resilience initiatives. *Facilitator:* ***Dale Thomure, CBO, CFM,*** *WSP USA Assistant Vice President - Project Management* **Breakout Session #1** – *The Power of Partnership: Advancing Building Codes Through Collaboration:* **Dr. Natalie F. Enclade,** BuildStrong America Executive Director **Breakout Session #2** – *The Power of Science and Engagement: A New Code and a Call to Action:* **Stuart Adams,** STARRII Building Science Lead **Breakout Session #3** – *The Power and Influence of Risk Communication:* **Mike Coyne,** National Weather Service (NWS) Office of Future Readiness Director, and Advisor, FLASH Board of Directors

Closing: ***Delivering the D.R.E.A.M. – Reflections, Recognition & What's Next***

Join FLASH President and CEO Leslie Chapman-Henderson as she brings NDRC26 to a close with reflections on key themes, ideas, and momentum generated throughout the conference. This closing session will acknowledge the collective contributions of speakers, sponsors, partners, exhibitors, and attendees whose leadership and collaboration continue to advance resilience nationwide.

Presenter: Leslie Chapman-Henderson, FLASH President and CEO

*Invited