# **Defining and Building Capacity for Disaster Mitigation** September 20, 2023 J 3.00 pm ET

The Webinar will begin shortly



Hosted by the National Association of Counties with support from The Pew Charitable Trusts

Pew

February 10, 2023 / Washington, D.C.

- Follow up from previous roundtable event held in February 2022
- Roundtable comprised of county elected officials and chief resilience officers, state resilience officers, and county agency heads
- Officials represented Atlantic and Gulf Coast counties and states
- Joined by NOAA leadership, NACo and Pew staff

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### **KEY FINDINGS**

- State and local reliance on federal funding for disaster resilience is significant, but capacity to seek federal funds varies
- Emergency management offices are not well equipped to lead on mitigation and resilience, but should be strong partners at the table

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### **KEY FINDINGS**

- When possible, counties should incentivize resilience activities through zoning and planning authority
- Partnerships across regions, with universities and the private sector allow counties to pool resources and operate across jurisdictional boundaries

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### **KEY FINDINGS**

- Promote a reasonable perception of risk to help communities better understand and prepare for current and future hazards and vulnerabilities
- Budget authorities need additional education on risk and resilience to better understand the value of investing in assessments, plans, and projects

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### **6 ELEMENTS OF CAPACITY FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE**

- 1. Funding for mitigation planning and project implementation
- 2. Staffing and, in some cases, dedicated agencies
- 3. Authority to enact policy and practice that support mitigation efforts
- 4. Effective strategic partnerships
- 5. Ability to collect, analyze, and interpret data for decision making
- 6. Education and improved perception of risk

### **SPEAKERS**



#### **Mr. Mathew Sanders**

Senior Officer, U.S. Conservation The Pew Charitable Trusts



#### Hon. Archie Chaisson, III

President Lafourche Parish, La.



**Ms. Megan Houston** *Chief Resilience Officer Palm Beach County, Fla.* 



#### Mr. Ben Duncan

Chief Resilience Officer South Carolina Office of Resilience, S.C.