As our nation faces millions of acres of forest fires that have burned communities to the ground and Gulf Coast communities face flooding and damage from multiple hurricanes, how is your downtown preparing for the next disaster? How is climate change affecting your community and what can you do about it? The Main Street Community Disaster Preparedness and Resilience program--funded through the Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the National Park Service--presents the second in a series of three national workshops.

Hear from national experts in the planning, real estate, and disaster preparedness specialists as they share their experience on disaster recovery and climate adaptation from communities across the country. Learn from leaders throughout South Florida as they plan and implement climate adaptation strategies. Learn how a neighborhood commercial district in Miami’s Allapattah neighborhood is using the Main Street Approach to adapt to “climate gentrification.” How is that impacting small businesses along their corridor?

During the second half of the day, get some hand-on knowledge on disaster preparation. Hear from FEMA on available tools and best practices to plan for the next disaster. And finally, meet with your colleagues from across the country in an optional hands-on session to get started on your disaster preparedness plan.

General Session Agenda

11:30AM ET: Introductions and Overview
- Lindsey Wallace, National Main Street Center
- Manuel Ochoa, Ochoa Urban Collaborative/National Main Street Center

11:45AM ET: Disaster Resilience: The Challenge for Communities and Downtown
- Katharine Burgess, Urban Land Institute (moderator)
- Shonterria Charleston, Housing Assistance Council
- Patrice Frey, National Main Street Center
- Laurie Schoeman, Enterprise Community Partners
- Seth Tinkham, National Park Service

Hear from the Urban Land Institute on how this national organization of real estate developers, designers, and builders is adapting buildings and downtowns to disaster threats. Learn why the National Park Service and the National Main Street Center launched this national effort. And, engage with national organizations such as Enterprise Community Partners and the Housing Assistance Council in a conversation on the future of downtowns.
12:45PM ET: Building Resilience-Lessons from South Florida

- Amy Knowles, City of Miami Beach
- Jim Murley, Miami Dade County Resilience Officer
- Julie Medley, ULI South Florida/Caribbean
- Tanya Wilson, City of North Miami

South Florida is ground zero from rising sea levels, “sunny day” flooding, increased rainfall and hurricanes. Learn how Miami-Dade County, the City of Miami Beach, and the City of North Miami are adapting their infrastructure and preparing for climate impacts. What steps and considerations are local governments taking to prepare commercial districts and small businesses? What should your downtown think about now to build more resiliently?

1:45PM ET: Break

2:00PM ET: Allapattah: How to Survive and Thrive from Climate Gentrification

- Mileyka Burgos-Flores, The Allapattah Collaborative CDC
- Christine Rupp, Dade Heritage Trust
- Ahmed Mori, Catalyst Miami

What is climate gentrification? Is this a real phenomenon? Learn how development pressure is endangering long-time Latino businesses and how the Allapattah Collaborative CDC switched gears from advocating for equitable development to COVID-19 response. How is historic preservation a tool for redevelopment and is the Main Street Approach guiding their work?

3:00PM ET: Preparing Your Community For Disaster

- Aaron Levy, FEMA
- Sebra Yen, FEMA

Get tips on how to engage your community in disaster preparedness planning, hear about the Integrating Historic Property and Cultural Resource Considerations Into Hazard Mitigation Planning guide, and learn how to use Ready.gov planning guides and worksheets for small businesses and community organizations.

4:00PM ET: Five Takeaways from the Day

4:15PM ET: Adjourn

Hands-on Sessions Agenda

4:30PM ET: Getting Started on Your Disaster Preparedness Plan

Work with your colleagues from across the country in a facilitated hands-on session on how to engage your Main Street, BID, or downtown development organization’s board in disaster preparedness. Make a checklist of items to find out what your organization has already accomplished and take concrete steps on what your organization should work on next in preparation for the next disaster. One-hour session in breakout groups of no more than 10 participants plus a facilitator.

7:00PM ET: (Repeat) Getting Started on Your Disaster Preparedness Plan

Work with your colleagues from across the country in a facilitated hands-on session on how to engage your Main Street, BID, or downtown development organization’s board in disaster preparedness. Make a checklist of items to find out what your organization has already accomplished and take concrete steps on what your organization should work on next in preparation for the next disaster. One-hour session in breakout groups of no more than 10 participants plus a facilitator.