



South Carolina Planning Education Advisory Committee (SCPEAC)

July 20, 2026

NOTICE OF DECISION

Title of Program:

Integrating Resilience into Comprehensive Plans

Organization: SC Office of Resilience

The following action has been taken by the SCPEAC on this application:

APPLICATION RECEIVED Date: July 14, 2026

APPLICATION REVIEWED Date: July 20, 2026

ACCEPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION Date: N/A

- a) X ACCREDITED for: 1 Hour (60 minutes) CE credit hours: 1 CE
- b) _____ DENIED ACCREDITATION
- c) _____ RETURNED for more information

If accredited:

- a) Authorized Course No.: 2026-05
- b) Date of accreditation: July 20, 2026

Certification Signature, MASC Administrative Representative: _____

L.P. Floyd

Certification Signature, SCPEAC Representative: _____

Stephanie Monroe Tilden

**For further information, contact Urica Floyd at 803-354-4754
or the committee at SCPEAC@masc.sc.**



Application for Accreditation of a Continuing Education Program or as a Sponsor Organization

NOTE: This certification form, together with the required information referenced therein, shall be submitted to the South Carolina Planning Education Advisory Committee (SCPEAC). Applications are due no later than at least 30 days prior to the first scheduled presentation of a program or class. Once submitted, as the applicant, if you have not been contacted within 5 business days of a submittal, you should reach out with an email or phone call to scpeac@masc.sc or to 803.354.4754 for application status. Approvals are generally granted within 24 to 48 hours. If no objections are raised by a member of the SCPEAC within 10 business days of receipt, the program shall be considered accepted. If an objection is raised, a teleconference meeting shall be scheduled with appropriate public notice, as soon as reasonably possible, to review the application. The Committee will consider extenuating circumstances where the 30-day deadline cannot be met. The primary applicant or staff member organizing the training must meet the minimal educational requirements of at least an undergrad degree, plus 5 years experience in the planning field.

Reason for Application

Choose one:

☐ Request as a Local Official for Continuing Education Program Approval ☒ Request as an Organization for Accreditation of a Continuing Education Training ☐ Request as an Organization to be an Approved Sponsor of Continuing Education Programs

Applicant Information

*The primary applicant or staff member submitting the training for approval must meet the minimal educational requirements of at least **an undergrad degree, plus 5 years experience in the planning field**. The submitting applicant certifies the proposed Continuing Education Program meets the educational requirements in Section 6-29-1340 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and that the proposed presenter is qualified to give the presentation.*

Name

Hope
First

Warren
Last

Municipality/County/Organization

SC Office of Resilience

Position

Strategic Communications Director

Phone

(803) 766-8043

Email

hope.warren@scor.sc.gov

If you are a COG Director, indicate which jurisdiction the certification is being requested for:

Applicant Resume/Vita

Emily Hope Warren simple resume.docx

Information About Organization Providing the Training

Organization Name

SC Office of Resilience

Organization Address

2100 Bull Street

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Columbia

City

South Carolina

State

29201

Zip Code

Organization Phone

(803) 896-4215

Organization Website

https://scor.sc.gov

Name of Training Contact

Emily "Hope" Warren

Title of Training Contact

Strategic Communications Director

Training Contact's Phone

(803) 766-8043

Training Contact's Email

hope.warren@scor.sc.gov

Training Program Information

Title of Planned Training or Program

Integrating Resilience into Comprehensive Plans

Date of Training

10/1/2026

Length of Training Session (i.e. 60 minutes, 90 minutes, 3-hours, etc.)

60 minutes

Training Location

SCAPA Fall Conference, Columbia SC

Brief description of the Training or Program and its relevant content:

The South Carolina Office of Resilience has partnered with Clemson City & Regional Planning Program to provide some guidance on how to integrate the required Resiliency Element into Comprehensive Plans. Integrating resilience into a local comprehensive plan is far more than a regulatory compliance check. It is a strategic opportunity to reduce risk and increase the long-term stability of your community, economy, and ecosystems in the face of environmental change and natural hazards. Backed by the planning education expertise of Clemson and the South Carolina Office of Resilience (SCOR), the agency tasked with coordinating resilience efforts statewide, this interactive workshop moves past basic statutory mandates to deliver practical, real-world application. The workshop will dive into the multifaceted ways resilience can be seamlessly integrated into the core elements of local comprehensive plans and provide actionable guidance and frameworks on how your jurisdiction can assess risk, engage in cross-jurisdictional planning, and identify strategies to address those risks through programs, projects, or policies. Come prepared to share your own stories, exchange ideas with neighboring jurisdictions, and share your own lessons learned.

Method of presentation (in-person; virtual; or other):

In-Person

When will materials be distributed (before or at the time of the program):

before the program

Description of materials to be distributed:

The guidance document, currently in development and being workshopped with planners across the state will be available and presented in an interactive presentation of the key points, considerations, and examples of how to integrate resilience into the comprehensive plan.

Method of Advertisement (Describe how you plan to notify local officials of the program):

Through SCAPA network and through the SCOR database and watershed coordination program.

Additional Comments**Required Attachments**

Brochure, if available:

Course Presenter(s) and credentials (include brief resumes and qualifications, combine into one .pdf document):

Emily Hope Warren simple resume.docx

Copies of all handouts and course materials (combine into one .pdf document). If the course materials is a video/webinar recording include an informational sheet with video summary, links to the host site of the video, etc.:

project overview resilience comp plans spring 2026.pdf

Evaluation Form and method of evaluation (each program must be evaluated, combine into one .pdf document):

Resilience Planning Postfacto survey_draft1.docx

Certification. By submitting this application, the applicant agrees to:

1. Allow in-person observation, without charge, of the Program by the SCPEAC Committee members. Any food, travel, or lodging costs will be the responsibility of the Committee member.
2. The applicant acknowledges that its approval for this Program may be withdrawn for violations of the regulations or failure to comply with the agreements and representations contained herein and as may be required by the SCPEAC.

Emily Hope Warren
hope.warren@scor.sc.gov
(803) 766-8043

EDUCATION

Master of City and Regional Planning

Clemson University
Emphasis: Environmental Planning

Bachelor of Science - Parks, Recreation & Tourism Management

Clemson University
Emphasis: Travel and Tourism

CERTIFICATIONS

American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

American Planning Association

EXPERIENCE

Strategic Communications Director (July 2024-Present)

South Carolina Office of Resilience
Leads and develops communications and public relations strategy for the agency including the creation and dissemination of messaging and materials as well as coordination of public relations and engagement activities to accomplish agency goals and objectives. Supports legislative relations. Coordinates executive communications.

State Planner (October 2021-September 2023)

Resilience Planning Program Manager (September 2023-July 2024)

South Carolina Office of Resilience
Coordinated the development and completion of the state's first Strategic Statewide Resilience and Risk Reduction Plan. Responsible federal, state and local stakeholder engagement and assisting local, regional and state officials with resilience planning. Assisted with grant application development to coordinate statewide resilience planning and implementation. Responsible for developing and managing watershed-based resilience planning efforts statewide following the completion of the Statewide Plan (reclassified position).

Mitigation Plans & Studies Coordinator (July 2021-October 2021)

South Carolina Office of Resilience
Worked with local governments in 17 counties to apply for and complete plans & studies that mitigate the effects of flooding using Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation funding.

Planner (August 2020-July 2021)

Anderson County, SC Planning & Development
Coordinated the rezoning application process, including property research, geographic information systems mapping and the drafting of ordinances and staff reports. Lead effort to begin the update of the county's comprehensive plan, with an emphasis on socio-economic data and resilience. Conducted research at the request of administration on topics such as resilience, impact fees and subdivision regulations.

Realtor & Broker Assistant (March 2018-August 2020)

Carola Dauchert Real Estate
Represented buyers and sellers in residential real estate transactions. Designed marketing material for residential listings. Maintained appropriate records as mandated by state law.

Hospitality Assistant (May 2017-February 2018)

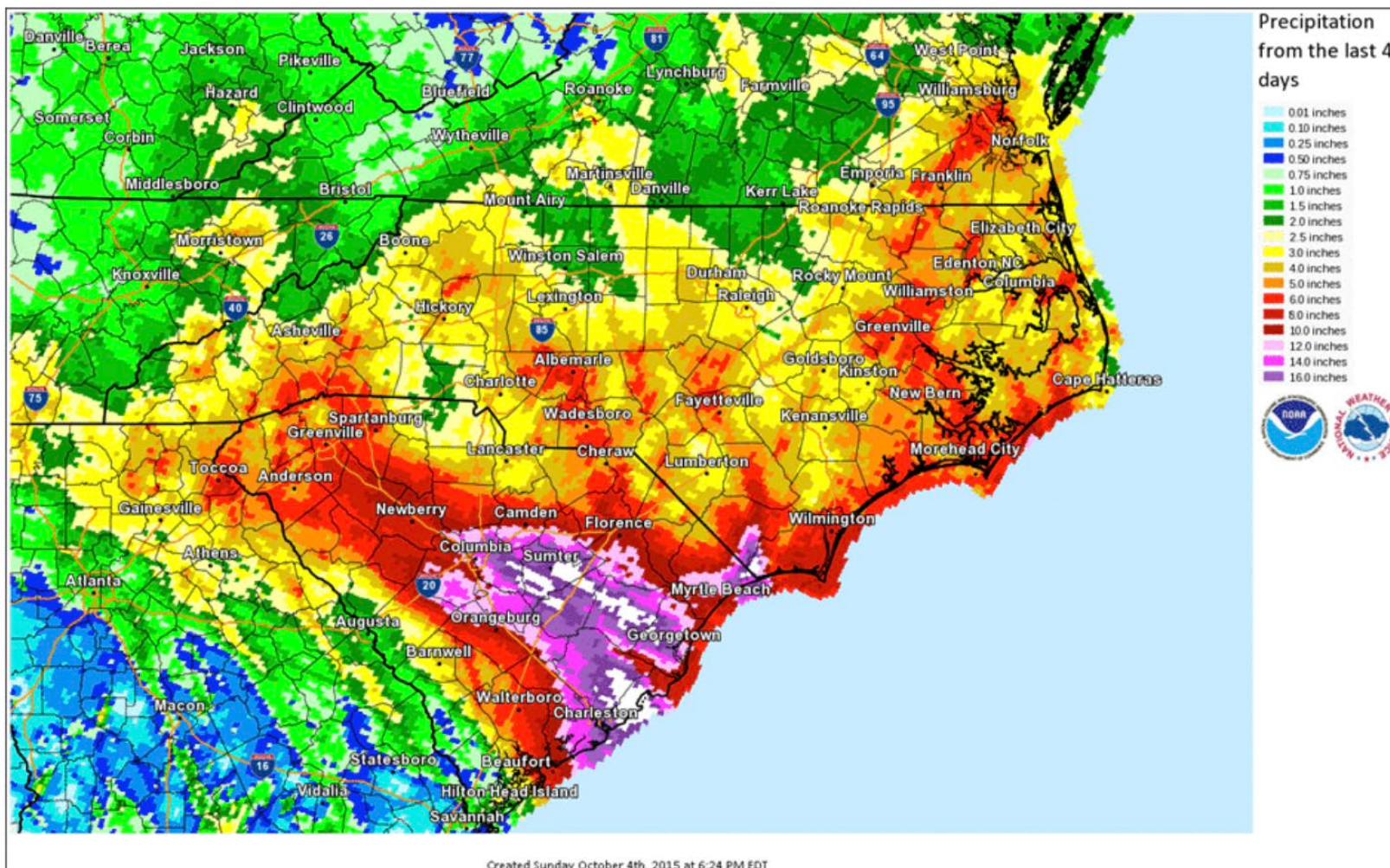
City of Pickens, SC
Research, data collection and editing of a successful Community Development Block Grant application. Community event and tourism coordination, social media content creation, graphic design of marketing materials.

Planning for Places We Love



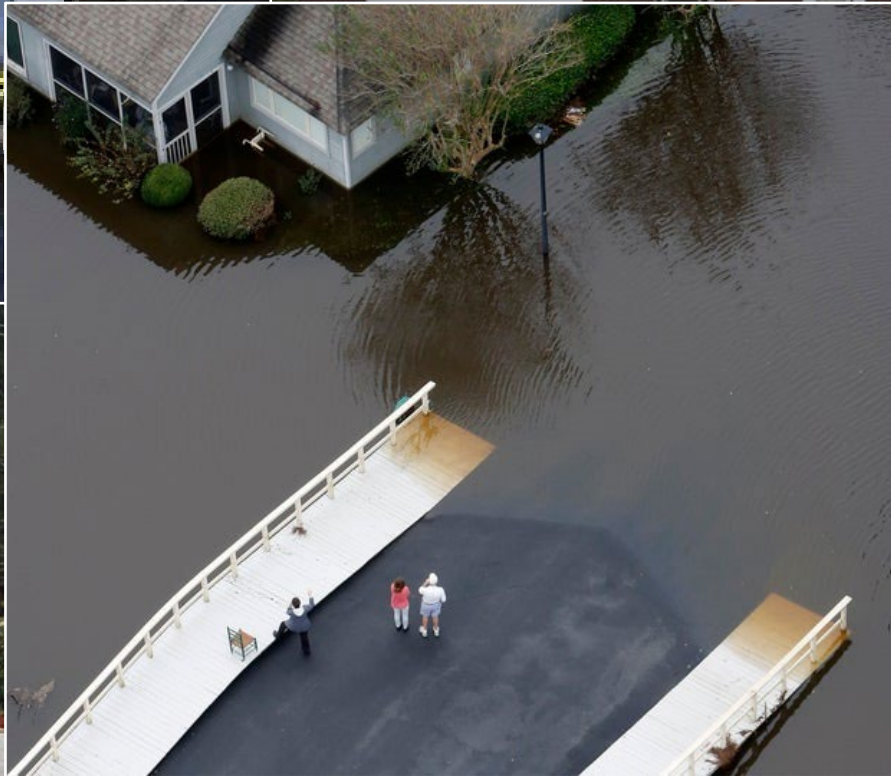
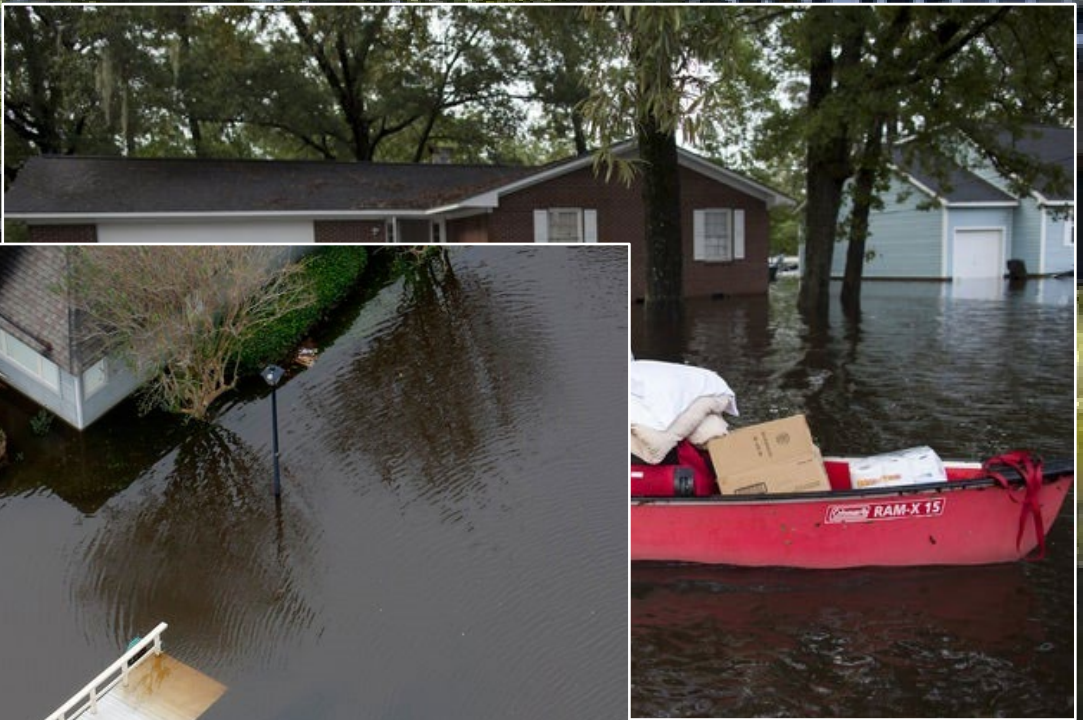


Rainfall from the last 4 days



Published on: 10/04/2015 at 6:29PM

Hurricane Joaquin



Photos: CBS News

Hurricane Matthew



Photo: WBTW News



Hurricane Florence



Hurricane Helene

Every community is a vulnerable community. The geography just determines which kind.

Photo: PBS





That is not just an emergency management problem.

This is a planning problem.

Our comprehensive plans, in many cases, simply weren't built for what resilience actually requires.

The South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Statute

SC Code Section 6-29-510

South Carolina Code of Laws Unannotated

Title 6 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT—PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS AND OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

CHAPTER 29

South Carolina Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994

(10) a resiliency element that considers the impacts of flooding, high water, and natural hazards on individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, economic development, public infrastructure and facilities, and public health, safety and welfare. This element includes an inventory of existing resiliency conditions, promotes resilient planning, design and development, and is coordinated with adjacent and relevant jurisdictions and agencies. For the purposes of this item, "adjacent and relevant jurisdictions and agencies" means those counties, municipalities, public service districts, school districts, public and private utilities, transportation agencies, and other public entities that are affected by or have planning authority over the public project. For the purposes of this item, "coordination" means written notification by the local planning commission or its staff to adjacent and relevant jurisdictions and agencies of the proposed projects and the opportunity for adjacent and relevant jurisdictions and agencies to provide comment to the planning commission or its staff concerning the proposed projects. Failure of the planning commission or its staff to identify or notify an adjacent or relevant jurisdiction or agency does not invalidate the local comprehensive plan and does not give rise to a civil cause of action. This element shall be developed in coordination with all preceding elements and integrated into the goals and strategies of each of the other plan elements.

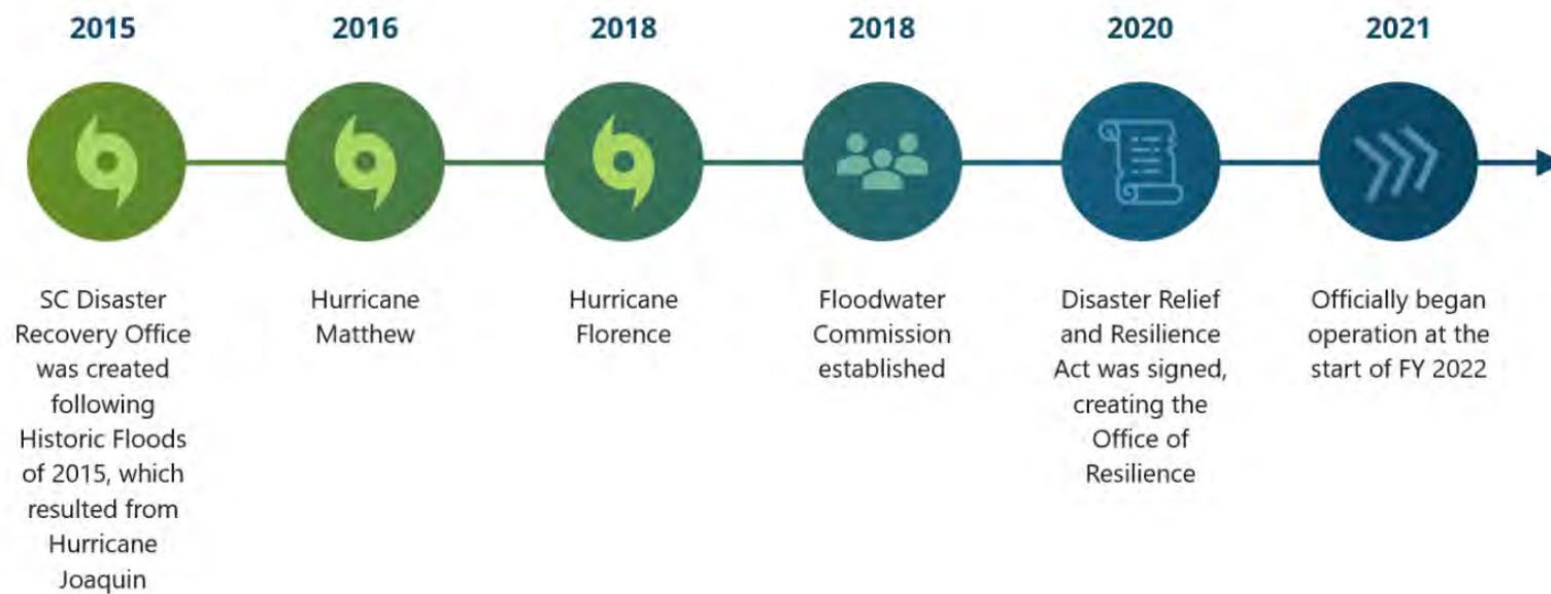
SC Code Section 6-29-510

Title 6 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT—PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS AND OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

The statute requires that every comprehensive plan in South Carolina include a resiliency element.

Carolina include a resiliency element.

SC Office of Resilience Timeline



The South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Statute

SC Code Section 6-29-510

The question isn't whether your
community needs to do this.
The question is how, and how well.

aws

PURPOSE DISTRICTS AND OTHER POLITICAL

CHAPTER 29

South Carolina Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994

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Are you doing this merely for compliance,
or because you believe you can improve your
community?

South Carolina Comprehensive Plans

Plan Acquisition

- **118** Comprehensive plans downloaded for analysis
- **92%** collected with cities with populations over 6,000
 - 76 plans collected from cities out of 270 (28%)
 - Many smaller cities relied on the comprehensive plans created by the county
- **97%** of plans collected from counties with populations over 30,000 (30/31)
 - 89% collected among all counties (41/46)



The Best Plans...

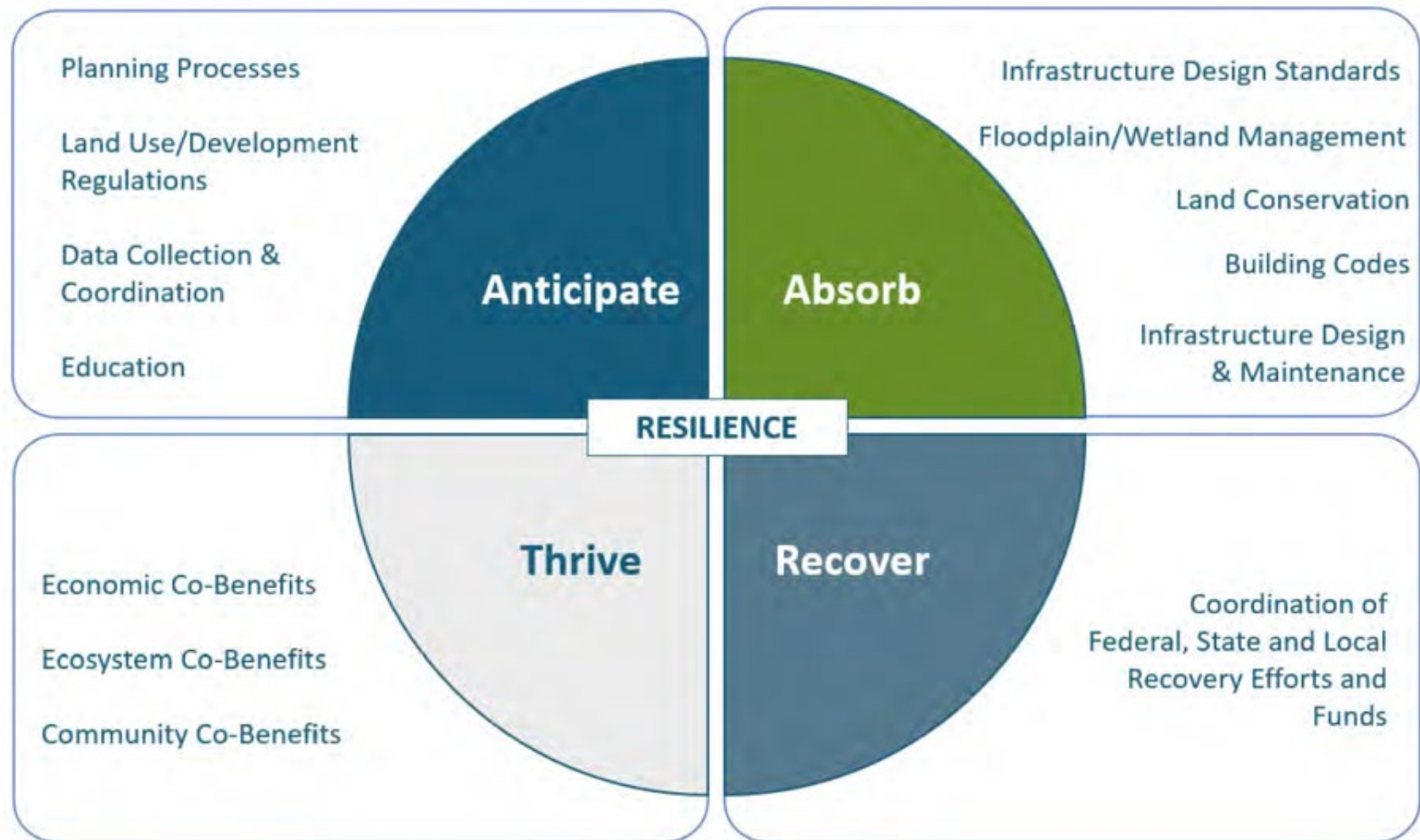
- **Clearly identify locally relevant hazards** and explain why they matter
- **Connect hazard** exposure to land use, housing, transportation, infrastructure, and community facilities
- **Recognize where vulnerability is concentrated** and where impacts may be most severe
- **Integrate resilience** into planning rather than treating it as an add-on
- Link goals to specific actions, tools or resources to do it well, and realistic timeframes
- **Use maps, graphics, and plain language** to make technical issues understandable
- **Emphasize land use and development policy** as long-term tools for reducing future risk
- **Identify funding, partnerships, and coordination needs** early rather than leaving them as after-thoughts

The statutory mandate outpaced the available guidance. Communities were told what to do without being given the tools or resources to do it well.

What Is Resilience?



The ability of communities, economies, and ecosystems within South Carolina to anticipate, absorb, recover, and thrive when presented with environmental change and natural hazards.



Resilience Planning in South Carolina

Building Resilience in Comprehensive Plans



Resilience Planning in South Carolina

Building Resilience in Comprehensive Plans

- **Part One. The Foundation.** Providing a clear definition of resilience, and what we learned from analyzing existing South Carolina plans.
- **Part Two. The Roadmap.** The practical heart of the document, walking through each component of a compliant resiliency element.
- **Part Three. The Toolkit.** A self-assessment scoring rubric, a resource directory, a terminology index, model language for different types of communities, and a planning assistant developed by Clemson.

Resilience Planning in South Carolina

Building Resilience in Comprehensive Plans

***Resilience is not a chapter.
It is a planning lens.***



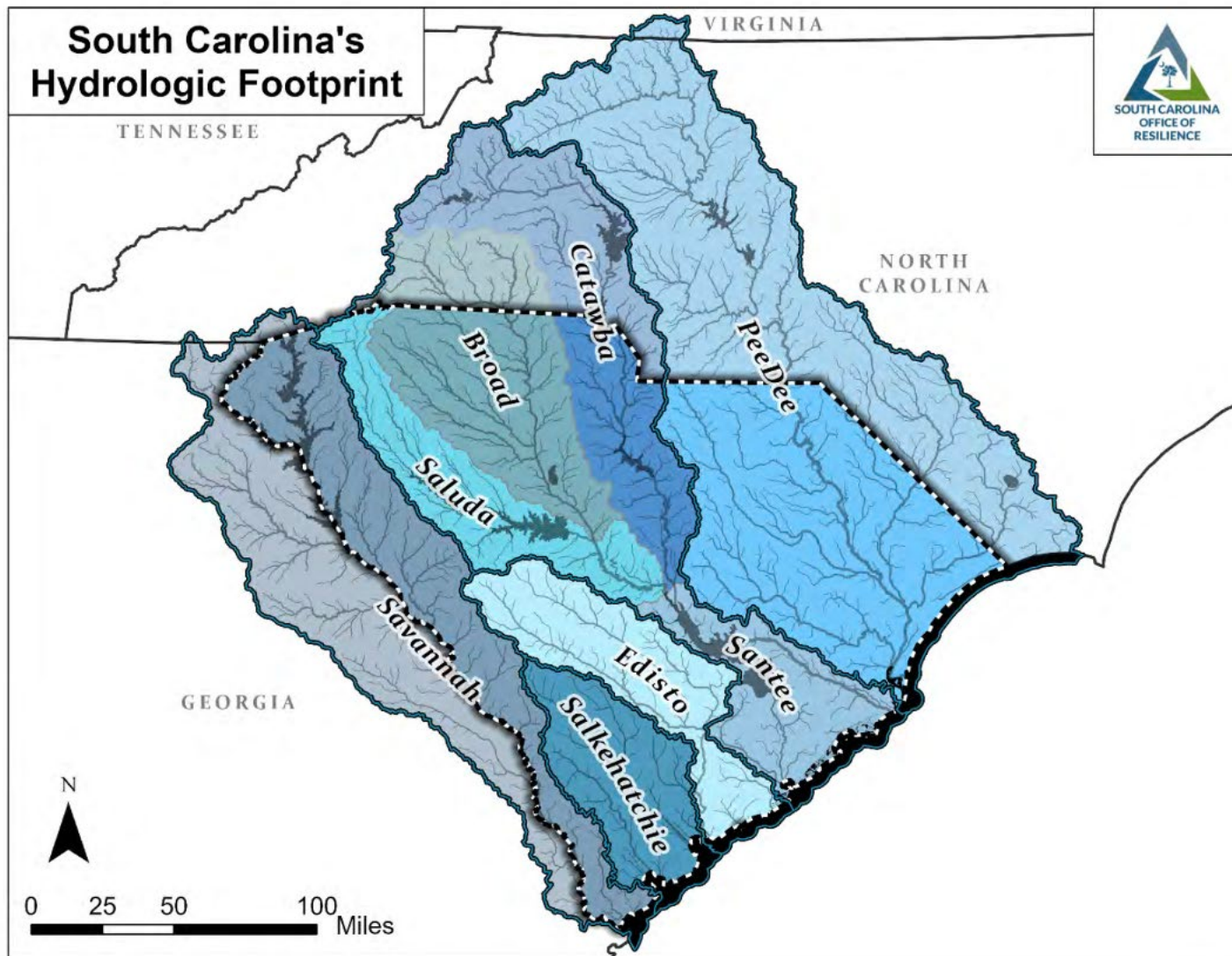


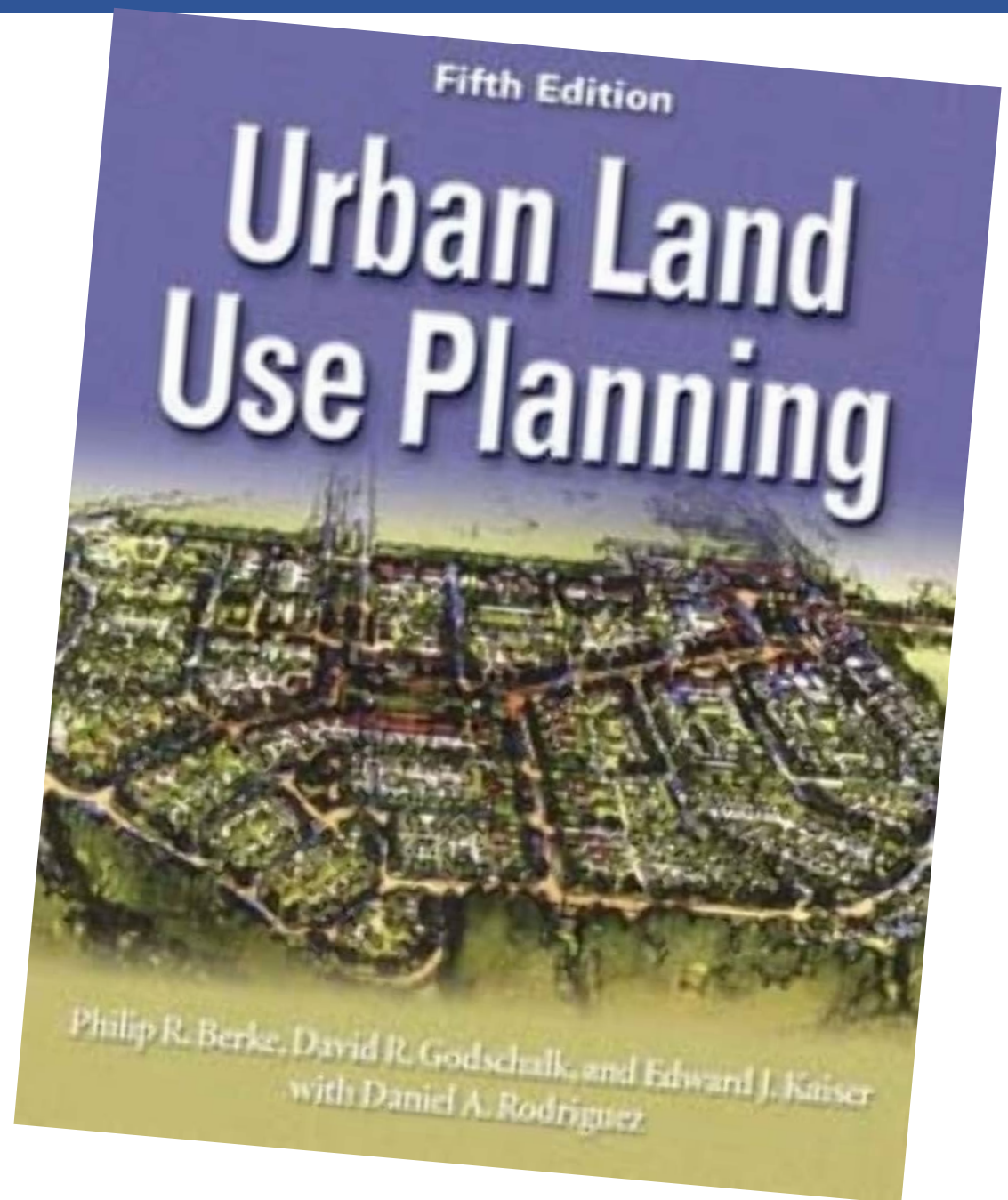
Figure 15. South Carolina Hydrologic Footprint

Risk Is Not Distributed Equally

The communities most exposed to hazard risk are often the communities with the fewest resources to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.

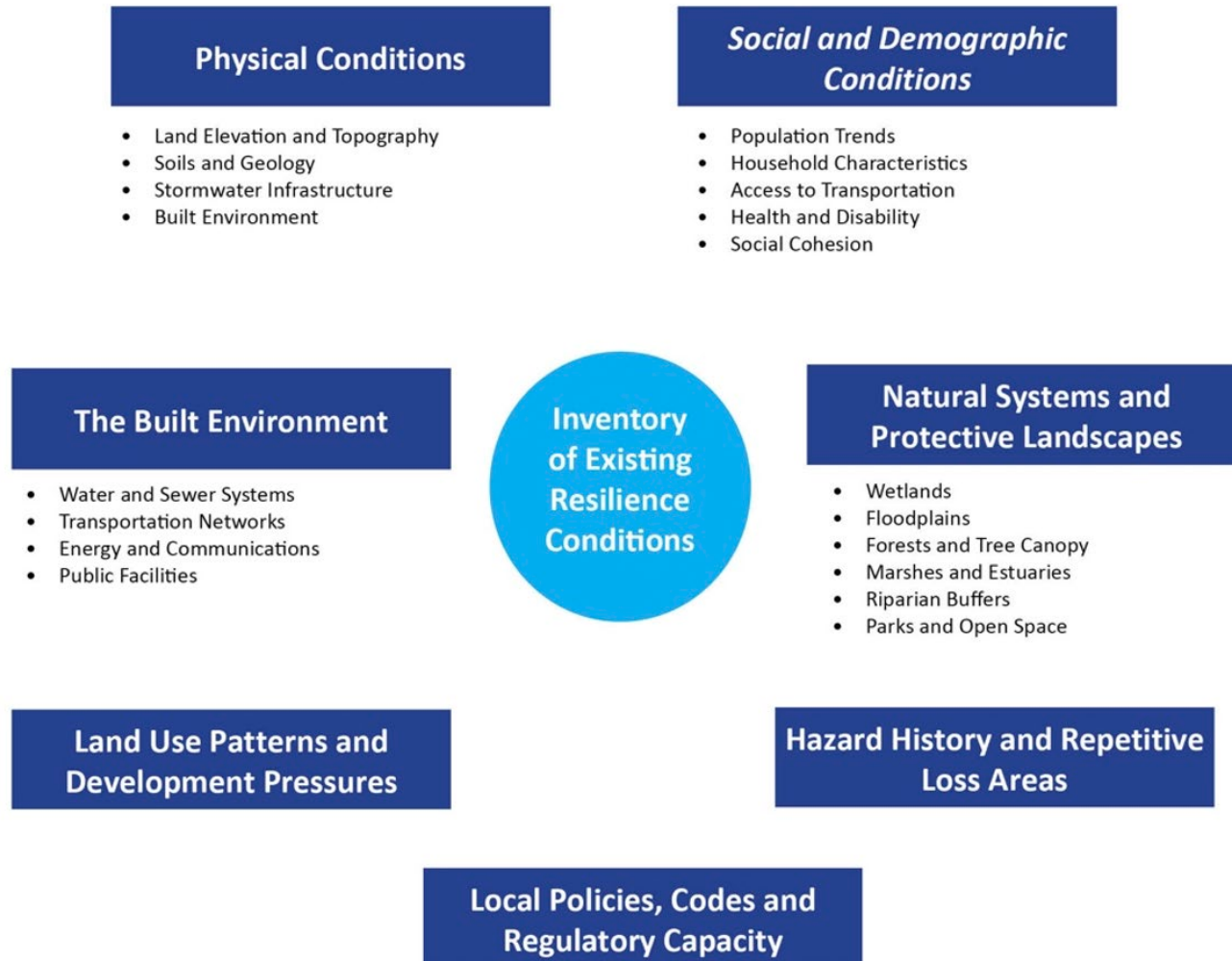


Land Use Planning



Building Your Baseline:

Inventory of Resilience Conditions



Building Capacity Where It's Needed Most

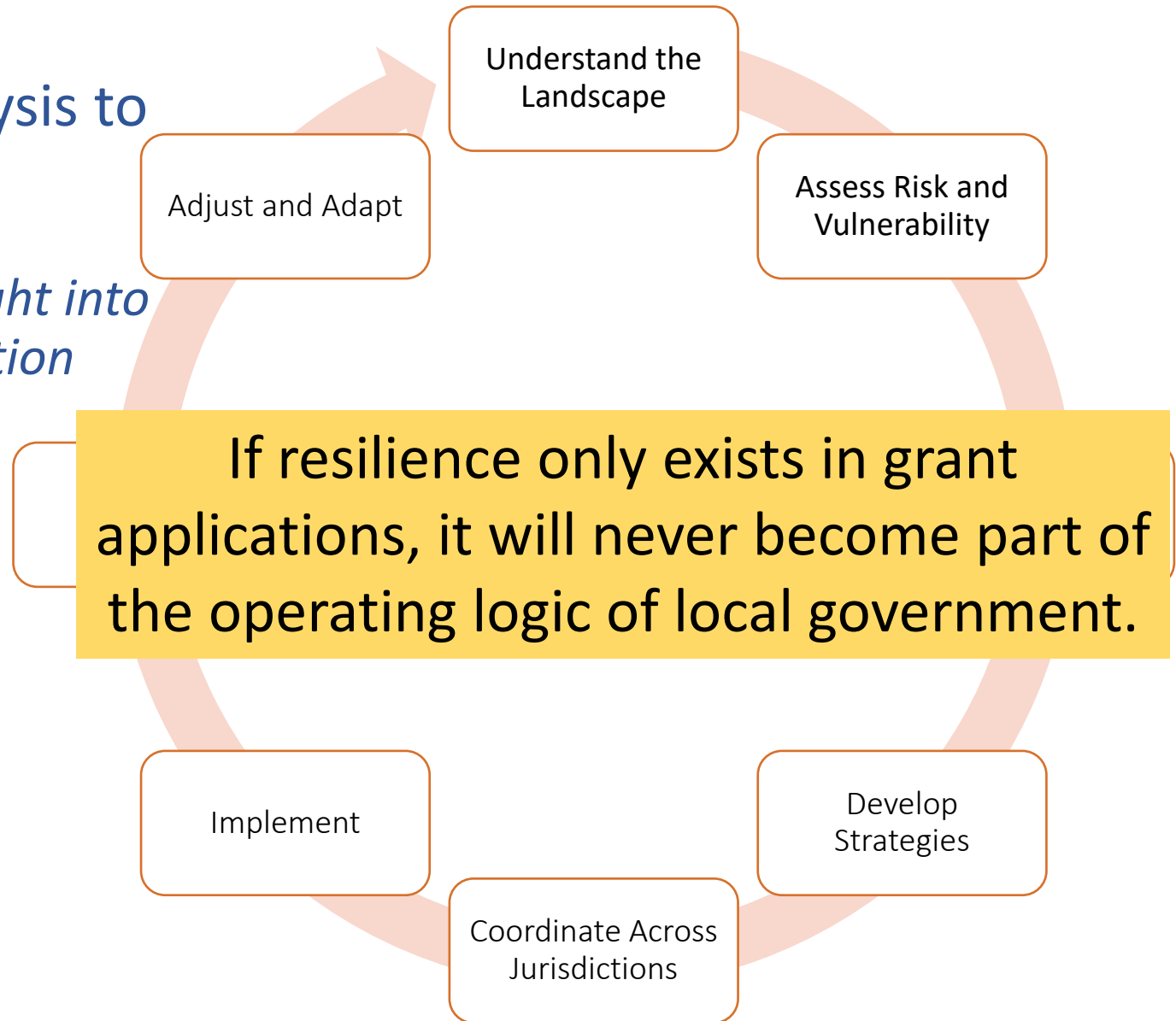
South Carolina has enormous variation
in local planning capacity.

Self Assessment Scoring Sheet

Criteria	Max	Your Score	What to Look For
1. Resilience Integration	20		
Resilience woven throughout plan elements	5		Resilience appears in land use, housing, transportation, economic development, not isolated
Explicit connections between hazards and policies	5		Clear links showing how specific hazards inform specific land use decisions
Forward-looking environmental considerations	5		Plan addresses changing conditions over 20+ year horizon, not just current risks
Resilience goals aligned with community vision	5		Resilience framed as supporting quality of life, not just compliance
2. Risk & Vulnerability Assessment	15		
Identifies flooding, high water, natural hazards	4		Comprehensive hazard identification specific to your jurisdiction
Analyzes impacts on people and systems	4		Goes beyond hazard maps to assess consequences for residents, businesses, infrastructure
Uses current, local data sources	4		References SC Resilience Atlas, FEMA maps, local flood history, not generic info
Maps vulnerable areas and populations	3		Visual representation of where risks concentrate and who is most affected
3. Resilience Conditions Inventory	10		
Inventories community lifelines	4		Documents condition of safety/security, food/water, health, energy, communications, transportation, hazmat
Assesses infrastructure capacity and vulnerabilities	3		Evaluates stormwater, utilities, critical facilities against known risks
Documents natural assets providing protection	3		Identifies wetlands, floodplains, open space that reduce flood impacts
4. Implementation Framework	15		
Strategies have measurable outcomes	5		Goals include specific targets, benchmarks, or indicators of success
Responsible parties clearly assigned	4		Each action identifies who will lead implementation
Realistic timelines established	3		Short, medium, and long-term phases with target dates
Funding mechanisms identified	3		References specific grant programs, budget allocations, or financing strategies
5. Interjurisdictional Coordination	10		
Adjacent jurisdictions consulted	3		Evidence of outreach to neighboring counties/municipalities
Watershed-scale issues addressed	4		Recognizes that flood risks cross political boundaries
State and regional agencies referenced	3		Connects to SCOR, COGs, SCDNR, SCEMD resources and programs
6. Integration with Other Plan Elements	10		
Resilience linked to land use element	3		Future land use map considers hazard areas; development policies reduce risk
Resilience linked to housing element	3		Housing strategies address safe locations, building standards, displacement
Resilience linked to transportation/infrastructure	2		Capital investments prioritize resilience; evacuation routes identified
Resilience linked to economic development	2		Economic strategies consider disaster impacts on businesses and workforce
7. Data Quality & Presentation	10		
Current, reliable data sources cited	3		Data is recent, properly attributed, from authoritative sources
Clear maps and graphics support analysis	4		Visuals enhance understanding; hazard areas clearly delineated
Document is well-organized and accessible	3		Easy to navigate; jargon explained; usable by diverse audiences
8. Community Engagement	5		
Engagement process documented	2		Describes how community input was gathered and incorporated
Diverse voices represented	3		Evidence of reaching vulnerable populations, not just typical participants
9. Vulnerability Considerations	5		
Vulnerable populations identified	2		Recognizes who bears disproportionate risks (elderly, low-income, minorities)
Strategies address disparities	3		Actions specifically target reducing inequitable impacts
TOTAL SCORE	100		

From Analysis to Action

Turning Insight into Implementation

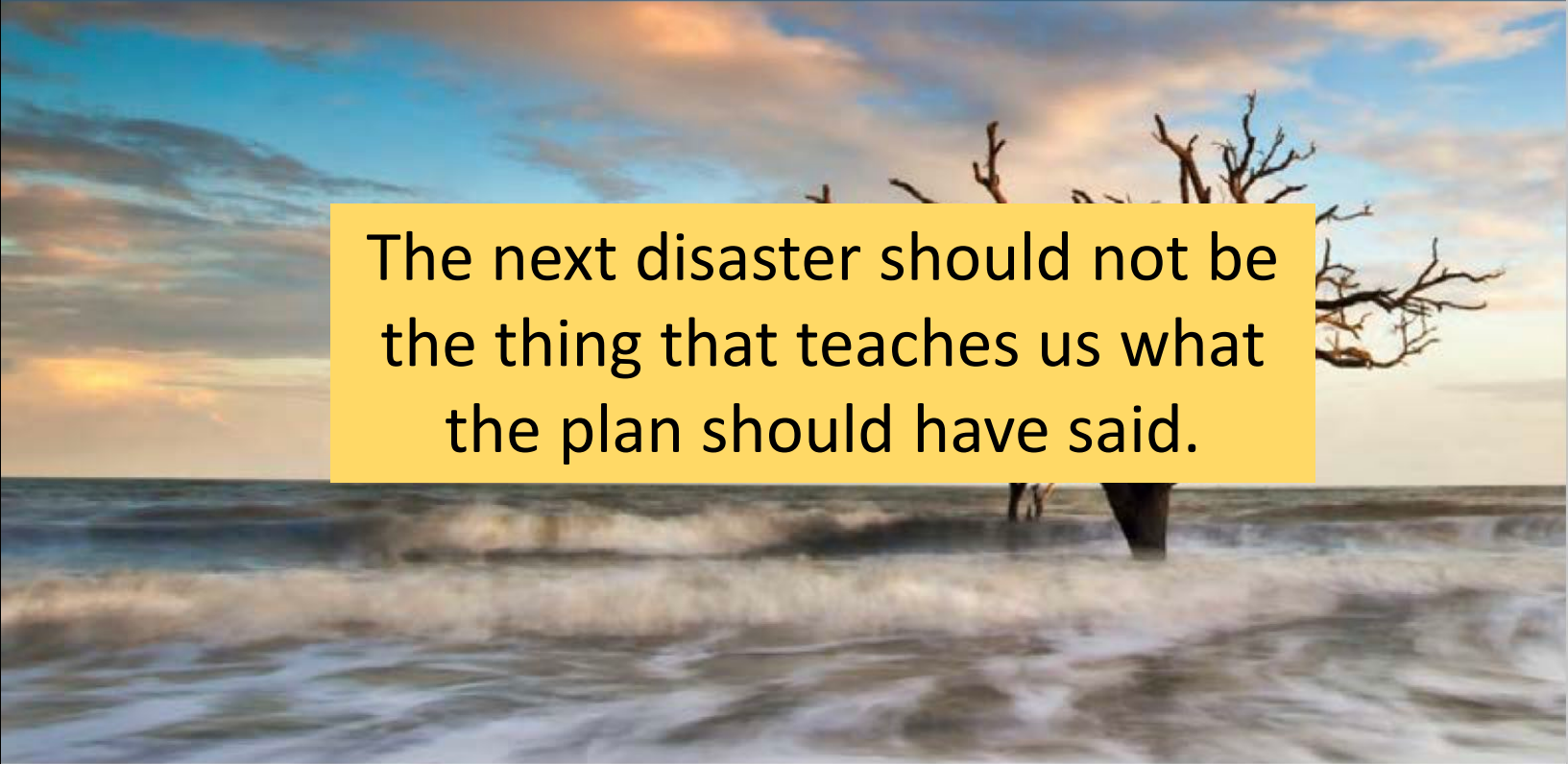




Resilience Planning Workshops

Resilience Planning in South Carolina

Building Resilience in Comprehensive Plans



The next disaster should not be the thing that teaches us what the plan should have said.



Who We Are

The SC Office of Resilience exists to increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to property, and suffering and hardship by lessening the impact of future disasters.

Vision

We envision a South Carolina where the risks of adverse impacts from extreme weather events are significantly reduced, empowering citizens and communities to withstand and recover from disasters.

Mission

We lessen the impact of disasters on the communities and citizens of South Carolina by planning and coordinating statewide resilience, long term recovery and hazard mitigation.

The Resiliency Planning Guidance Workshop (2026) Post facto Survey (Survey Draft 1_jg_7/8)

Please complete the anonymous and voluntary survey to help us better understand how well the presented materials was understood and identify next-step improvements for following workshops.

Thank you.

John Gaber, Ph.D., FAICP

Greenville (7/14/26)

1.) Resilience mitigation focuses on ...

- A. economic recovery when a major employer leaves the community.
- B. only human created disasters such as a chemical spill at a factory.
- C. the ability for communities, economies, and ecosystems within South Carolina to anticipate, absorb, recover, and thrive when presented with environmental change and natural hazards.

2.) The South Carolina Disaster Relief and Resilience Act (SC Code §48-62-10) mandates that communities create ...

- A. resilience plan.
- B. vision statement on community perceived environmental threats.
- C. rainy-day fund to help communities recover from hurricane disasters.

3.) The South Carolina Office of Resilience was created by a federal mandate.

- A. **True.** After Hurricane Isais hit the East Coast in 2020, congress mandated all states create an office of resilience.
 - B. **False.** The South Carolina Office of Resilience (SCOR) was a state driven initiative in 2020 and was based on the recommendation by South Carolina Floodwater Commission, Governor Henry McMaster, and the S.C. General Assembly
-

4.) A resilience plan needs to be grounded in the local community to generate widespread support and insure implementation. Why does a resilience plan need a regional focus?

- A. Resilience planning is expensive and several communities need to pool shared resources.
- B. Most environmental hazards in South Carolina operate across jurisdictions: watersheds, drainage network. In addition, communities are connected and development decisions on one jurisdiction can increase runoff, alter drainage patterns, or worsen access conditions in another jurisdiction.
- C. It is always good to know the competition.

5.) What are the Four Components of Resilience?

- A. 1.) Anticipate, 2.) Absorb, 3.) Recover, and 4.) Thrive.
- B. 1.) Research, 2.) Plan, 3.) Fund, and 4.) Review.
- C. 1.) Vision, 2.) Regulate, 3.) Fund, 4.) Recover.

6.) How does the South Carolina Disaster Relief and Resilience Act (SC Code §48-62-10) mandate relate to a community's Comprehensive Plan?

- A. All cities and or counties now need to create a new section (Resilience Plan) and add it to the 10 Elements identified in state statute Comprehensive Plan SC Code § 6-29-510(D).
- B. The statute states that this element **“shall be developed in coordination with all preceding elements and integrated into the goals and strategies of each of the other plan elements.”** That language is important because it establishes the central expectation of this guidance: resilience is not complete when the chapter is written. It is complete when the rest of the plan reflects it.
- C. It is only embedded in Element 7, Land Use.

7.) (Diagnostic) Identify 2 aspects in the workshop that helped you think differently about resilience.

- 1.)
- 2.)

8.) (Diagnostic) Provide 2 suggestions how the workshop can better meet your resilience planning needs.

- 1.)
- 2.)