



the John Scott Dailey

FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT
at Florida State University

Natural Disasters:

**Bridging Research, Rural Communities, and Investment to Build Broadband
and Communications Infrastructure Resiliency**

March 2, 2021 | 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. (EST)

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This webinar is intended to support a three-year National Science Foundation research grant awarded to Florida State University. The goal of the project is to study and develop natural disaster emergency plans that target distinct needs of rural communities with a focus on the resilience divide—including infrastructure resiliency. While the overall project will study many forms of infrastructure resiliency, this webinar focuses on the work being conducted around Broadband and Communications infrastructure.

This initial webinar will include presentations from select members of the research team and include remarks from a panel of regional and local professionals and residents from the Panhandle—the initial study area of the project. There will be ample opportunity to provide input and present questions from those who participate on the webinar. This effort is intended to provide critical research that can influence federal and state policymaking as well as identify critical resiliency infrastructure that demands funding.

The grant is focused on gaining a real world understanding of the critical social, mental, physical, and economic challenges experienced by communities during and subsequent to natural disasters (including Hurricanes and Pandemics); the grant is also focused on determining critical resiliency factors and infrastructure improvements needed to address the various impacts created by natural disasters.