



Partners in Prevention

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New FEMA Policies Epitomize “DisasterSmart” at Washington Workshop

On Thursday, October 20, Eric Letvin, Deputy Assistant Administrator of FIMA, briefed QuakeSmart Preparedness Workshop attendees on recent federal efforts to advance resiliency, including standards and programs established under the White House National Security Council Office of Resilience Policy.

Mr. Letvin highlighted the proposed disaster deductible and two new FEMA policies that align resources with adoption of current, model building codes. The policies include *Disaster Risk Reduction Minimum Codes and Standards* (FEMA Policy 204-078-2) to encourage integration and use of nationally recognized consensus-based building codes and standards across FEMA programs, and *Public Assistance Required Minimum Standards* (FEMA Recovery Policy FP-104-009-4) to require the integration and use of hazard-resistant provisions of the International Code Council’s suite of building codes for residential and commercial construction or equivalent to be eligible for building restoration projects following disaster.

The presentation was part of the *DisasterSmart Leadership Luncheon* that also introduced a [DisasterSmart Leadership Brief: Leading Resilience in Local Communities](#). The FLASH brief is part of the new *DisasterSmart Leadership Toolkit* designed to provide appointed and elected leaders with case studies and details on opportunities to support community resilience at all levels of government.

The American Institute of Architects hosted the workshop, joining FLASH and presenting partners from Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium, DRB Toolkit, Earthquake Country Alliance, FEMA, National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP), Southern California Earthquake Center, The Great ShakeOut, Legacy Partner Simpson Strong-Tie, and the USGS.

Attendees also joined more than 55.1 million global participants in the [2016 ShakeOut International Day of Action](#) by practicing the *Drop, Cover, and Hold On* earthquake safety drill.

For more information about DisasterSmart or QuakeSmart, email info@flash.org.