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**CONTACT: Pamela Williams**  
**(202) 315-5100**

## **BuildStrong Coalition Shares Resilience Outlook During U.S. Chamber, FEMA Virtual Events**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – This week, the BuildStrong Coalition led panel discussions on the future of resilience during the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Building Resilience Through Public-Private Partnerships Conference and the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Summer Engagement Series.

During the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual edition of the Chamber Foundation event, participants from around the country tuned into BuildStrong’s session on encouraging innovative, cost-effective, risk-reducing disaster mitigation and resilience efforts through FEMA’s Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, among other methods. A unique iteration of the Coalition’s ongoing Disaster Mitigation and Resilience Forum Series, the Chamber session featured former FEMA Deputy Administrator and Marsh & McLennan Public Sector Managing Director Daniel Kaniewski, FEMA Deputy Assistant Administrator for Mitigation Eric Letvin and BRIC Section Chief Camille Crain, Maryland Emergency Management Agency Executive Director Russell Strickland, and IBHS President and CEO Roy Wright as participating panelists.

“Even in the midst of COVID-19, we are constantly reminded as disasters continue to destroy homes and lives that we must stay vigilant in working to better protect American communities,” said Jimi Grande, Senior Vice President for Government Affairs at the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies and Chairman of the BuildStrong Coalition. “This week’s events showed how important it is to bring together the right stakeholders to discuss ways we can improve the nation’s resilience to natural catastrophes, including ensuring the successful implementation of the BRIC Program.”

BuildStrong also joined FEMA’s ongoing Summer Engagement Series to host a discussion with leaders in states, communities, tribes and territories on how building code implementation and enforcement are the cornerstones to the BRIC program and other disaster mitigation provisions from the Disaster Recovery Reform Act. The engagement series, part of the agency’s effort to share key elements of the newly-developed BRIC program in advance of the release of the grant program’s notice of funding opportunity next month, also featured FEMA Acting Deputy Administrator for Resilience Carlos Castillo.

Launching in 2019, the BuildStrong Coalition Disaster Mitigation and Resilience Forum Series convenes state, federal, and local leaders, as well as industry representatives from the insurance and infrastructure sectors, to explore the future of mitigation and resilience. Visit [forums.buildstrongamerica.com](https://forums.buildstrongamerica.com) to learn more.

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