

Long-term Recovery Planning + Plan Integration = RESILIENCE



**LINCOLN WALTHER, FAICP
NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION ASSOCIATION**



OCTOBER 8, 2014

NORTHEAST RISK & RESILIENCE LEADERSHIP FORUM

Lincoln Walther Consulting | Hazard Mitigation & Recovery Planning
Lincolnwalther@gmail.com

The Jersey Shore



New York City



Will this Happen Again?

Recent Storms

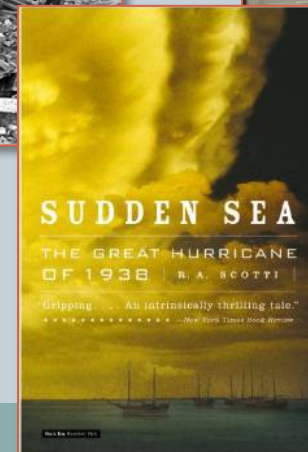
- “Superstorm Sandy” – October 2012



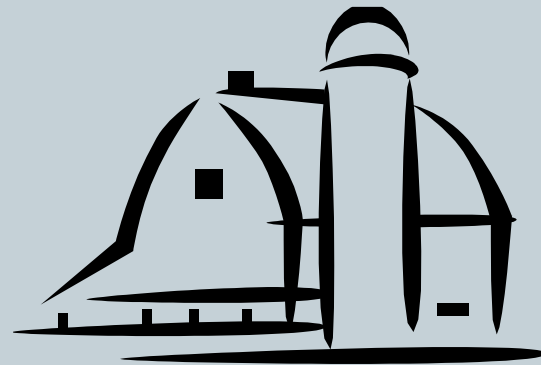
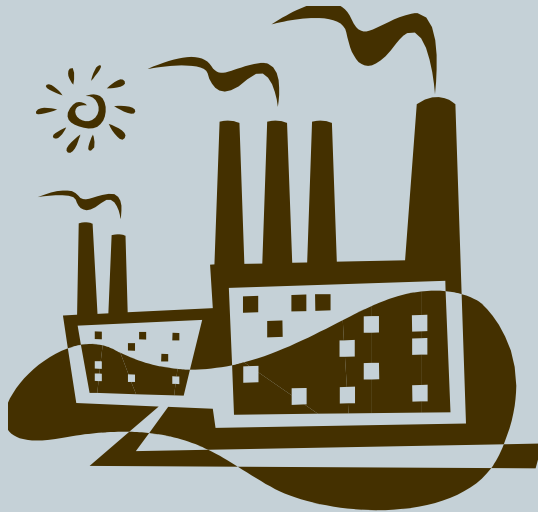
- Hurricane Irene – 2011
- Tropical Storm Lee – 2011

Historic Storm

- Long Island Express – 1938



Managing Disaster Recovery by Smokestacks and Silos



Resilience



- Capacity to absorb severe shock and return to a desired state
- It involves technical, organizational, social, and economic dimensions
- Resilient communities proactively protect themselves, build self-sufficiency, and become more sustainable





- Improve quality of life and efficiency of recovery
- Assist in requesting resources in a coordinated manner
- Demonstrate capability to maintain local control
- Provide opportunity for public involvement in defining recovery goals and priorities
- Determine their vision for the recovered community
- Identify potential obstacles and opportunities to reach their future

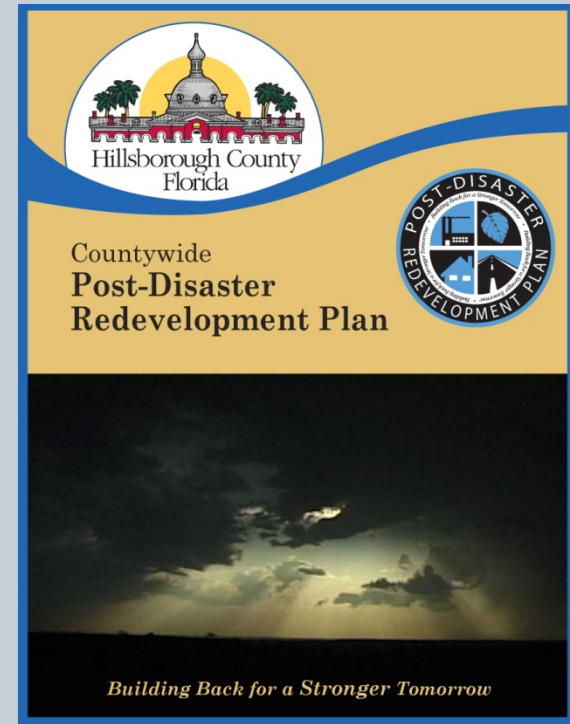


Benefits of Long-Term Recovery Planning in a Pre-Disaster Mode

Hillsborough County/Tampa



“Building Back for a Stronger Tomorrow”



Benefits of Plan Integration



- Reduction in long-term loss prevention
- Formation of beneficial partnerships
- Expansion of external funding opportunities
- Facilitation of quicker recovery (speed vs. deliberation)
- Resolution of issues locally rather than by external parties

More Benefits



- **Avoids duplication of efforts**
- **Avoids conflicts in policy matters and procedures**
- **More effective utilization of scarce resources**
- **In Florida, Comprehensive Plans have the force of law**
- **Integration into Comp Plan “puts teeth” into mitigation**

Obstacles to Achieving Plan Integration



- **“It has always been thus.”**
- **Challenges centers of power**
- **Challenges “big egos”**
- **Moving bureaucracy – slow, slower, slowest**

Keys to Overcoming the Obstacles



- “Doggedness”
- Patience and persistence
- Long-term commitment
- “Stay the course”
- Don’t expect rapid reversal of old ways
- Creating collaborations
- Documenting success – “4 to 1 benefit”

Final Thoughts



Optimizing resiliency through pre-disaster planning requires the integration of risk management plans and procedures across an entire local/state decision-making framework

Thank you