



January 13, 2010

## Planning Committee Membership

- Patrick Bonck, Harrison County Zoning Department
- Jack Covarrubias, University of Southern Mississippi-Gulf Coast
- Ann Farrar, CARRI
- Alice Graham, Mississippi Coast Interfaith Disaster Task Force
- Don Halle, Gulf Commercial Construction Co.
- Eddie Hartwell, Mississippi Coast Interfaith Disaster Task Force
- John Hosey, Mississippi Coast Interfaith Disaster Task Force
- Jerin Howard, Home Builders Association of the Mississippi Coast
- Misty Maaya, Mississippi Development Authority Disaster Recovery Division
- Tom Napier, Resilient Home Program
- Kelly Palermo, Home Builders Association of the Mississippi Coast
- David Perkes, Gulf Coast Community Design Studio
- Timothy Smail, Resilient Home Program
- Craig Steenkamp, Back Bay Mission
- James Wheeler, Gulf Coast Community Design Studio

Greetings,

We are writing to invite and encourage your strong support of the Gulf Coast Resilient Home Building Conference, taking place March 19-21, 2010 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Biloxi, Mississippi. This event is a unique opportunity to continue branding the Mississippi Gulf Coast as a national leader in community and regional resilience.

Created through a partnership between the Community and Regional Resilience Institute (CARRI) and the Home Builders Association of the Mississippi Coast, the Resilient Home Building Conference will bring local, regional and national leaders together with building professionals and homeowners from the region to learn about resilient building technologies and techniques and how they can be applied to enhance community resilience on the Gulf Coast.

CARRI is a major effort of The Southeast Region Research Initiative (SERRI) supported by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and operated by the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory, in conjunction with a variety of other federal, regional, state, and local partners. CARRI has been working with community leaders on the Mississippi Gulf Coast since 2007, and is dedicated to helping communities and regions throughout the U.S. anticipate risk, limit impact, and bounce back rapidly from natural or man-made disasters. CARRI seeks to develop an accepted national framework for community and regional resilience so that any community can get back on its feet following a natural or man-made disaster as quickly as possible.

The 2010 Gulf Coast Resilient Home Building Conference will feature educational sessions and a demonstration exhibit about state-of-the-art technology and techniques for building disaster-resilient homes, as well as retrofitting existing homes and repairing damaged homes. Experts from the Gulf Coast Community Design Studio ([www.gccds.org](http://www.gccds.org)) and the Resilient Home Program ([home.resilientus.org](http://home.resilientus.org)) will lead the educational sessions. Experts from FEMA and the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) will also share their expertise.



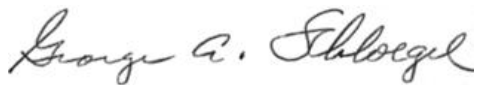
The success of the Gulf Coast Resilient Home Building Conference depends upon the strong participation and financial support of organizations like yours that are interested in increasing awareness of resilient building methods throughout the region. That is why we are writing to personally invite you to get involved in this event and join us in this important work as a Gulf Coast Resilient Home Building Conference sponsor.

Please review the enclosed information outlining the conference sponsorship opportunities. Then complete and return your pledge form as soon as possible to confirm your level of support.

Additional information about the Resilient Home Building Conference, including a current list of organizations who have already pledged their support, can be found at [www.resilientus.org/rhbc](http://www.resilientus.org/rhbc). More information about the year-round activities of CARRI can be found at [www.resilientus.org](http://www.resilientus.org).

I know you will agree that this year's Gulf Coast Resilient Home Building Conference is important to continuing regional and national momentum toward resilient communities and regions, and ultimately a resilient nation. We look forward to working with you in the months ahead as we prepare for a highly successful 2010 Gulf Coast Resilient Home Building Conference.

Sincerely,



Mayor George A. Schloegel  
City of Gulfport, Mississippi



Mayor A.J. Holloway  
City of Biloxi, Mississippi



Don Halle  
Gulf Commercial Construction Co.  
Past President, Home Builders Association of  
the Mississippi Coast



Eddie Hartwell  
Chairman of the Board  
Mississippi Coast Interfaith Disaster Task Force