

# INITIATIVE ON COASTAL ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE (ICAR)

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA TOWN HALL OVERVIEW

OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 2023



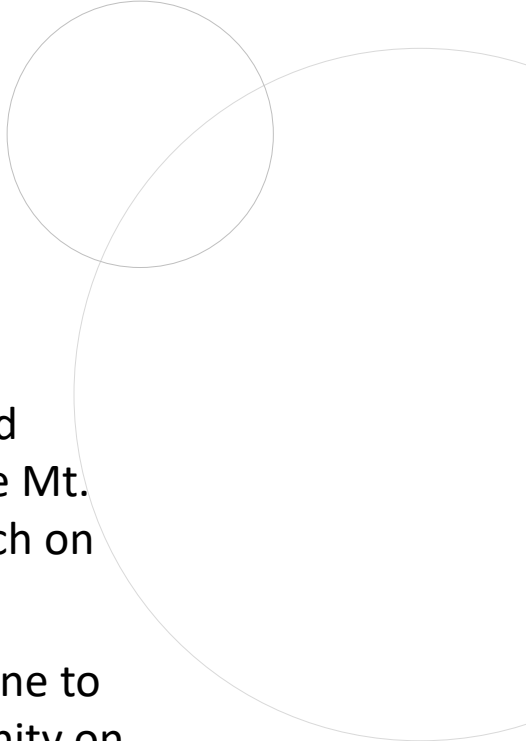
The image shows an aerial view of a coastal city with a large yellow 'iCARE' logo overlaid. The logo is in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the logo, the text 'THE INITIATIVE ON COASTAL ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE' is written in a smaller, yellow, sans-serif font. The background is a clear blue sky with some clouds and a view of the ocean and city buildings.

# iCARE

## THE INITIATIVE ON COASTAL ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

### OUR MISSION

- Use research and education to provide the understanding and ideas needed to make critical decisions regarding our changing and vulnerable coast.
- Engaging stakeholders to facilitate adoption of policies and practices focused on coastal adaptation and resilience.
- This transdisciplinary initiative includes the science, engineering, policy and social sciences and will examine the interactions between climate change, water systems, land use, the built environment and ecosystem functions.



# ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

- The most recent community outreach and education program was held locally in the Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Flyers were distributed encouraging anyone to join in our efforts to educate the community on disaster preparations and resource availability.
- With our sponsors such as but not limited to FEMA, SCEN, FLFPC and others, this provided a safe space for individuals who wanted to share personal experiences and major concerns.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Townhall Meeting**  
**When: Oct 14 from 10 to 1 p.m.**  
**Where: Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church**  
**at 955 20<sup>th</sup> St. S., St. Petersburg**



**Everyone is invited – Admission is FREE - Lunch will be served**

- Learn about Disaster Preparation and Resource Availability
- Share your major concerns  
 Issues that impact your ability to prepare for and recover from a disaster (inflation, food insecurity, housing, health concerns, and more)
- Learn about upcoming neighborhood-level initiatives

**The first 20 attendees will receive \$15 Publix gift card**  
**Free hurricane/hygiene kits** (while supplies last)

**Opportunity to win an emergency weather radio from the raffle drawing**



**Special Recognition Award**  
**For the Most Active Neighborhood-Based Committee Member**  
(The Planning Committee member who recruits the most Town Hall attendees!)





# WELCOME

- 10:00 A.M: Local residents of neighboring communities gathered for provided coffee and pastries after signing in for the event.





# ITINERARY

- 10:10- 10:25 A.M: Welcome and introduction
  - Storm Squad: Erica Hall provides insight on Storm Squad activities within the community
  - iCAR & CRIS (Community Resiliency Information System): Dr. Barnali Dixon explains her research and engagement with Pinellas County communities
  - FLFPC (Florida Food Policy Council)





# FEMA



## ITINERARY

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- 10:25 -10:45 A.M: Overview of Pinellas County resources
  - PCEM (Pinellas County Emergency Management): Mary Burrell discussed her involvement in aiding the local community and provided resources for those in need
  - FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency): Representatives of the organization presented resources on individual assistance, mitigation, small business administration, voluntary agency liaisons



**SCEN**  
Southeast Climate & Energy Network

## ITINERARY

- 10:45- 11:00 A.M: Question & Answer Session moderated by Alex Easdale Southeast Climate and Energy Network (SCEN)

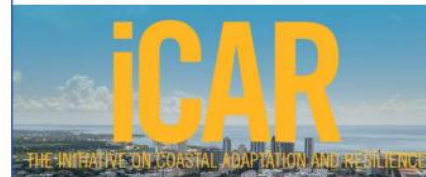


# ITINERARY

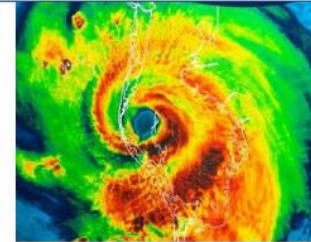
- 11:00-11:15 A.M: Survey
  - Those who attended the town hall meeting were asked to participate in a brief survey for Dr. Dixon
  - In this anonymous survey, participants were prompted to answer questions regarding their personal experiences with food security, income, transportation, preparedness for storms, demographics, disability status, and more...
  - This survey is active and can be completed with the QR code (as seen on the right)



Please Scan the QR code to Access the Survey →



Interested in Helping us Learn about Disaster Preparation and Resource Availability  
Share your major concerns



This project wants to gain an understanding of communities' concerns and challenges about disaster preparation, recovery and resilience. The analysis will provide an overview of what is happening in your neighborhood and allow you to compare your needs with needs of other neighborhoods using **CRIS platform**. Data will be used to develop a community-led action plan (CAP) to help decision makers allocate resources and information.

For More Info Check out CRIS platform:  
<http://cris-community-resiliency.org/>

For Information about iCAR:  
<https://www.stpetersburg.usf.edu/resources/icar/index.aspx>







# ITINERARY

- 11:30-12:00 P.M: Breakout Sessions
  - Small groups at random were created to engage in conversation regarding questions within the survey.
  - These questions included:
    - When you shop, what are you prioritizing for purchase and why?
    - What are the major concerns that impact your ability to prepare?
    - During hurricane season, what concerns do you have about a power outage?
    - Any concerns about sheltering in place or transportation to the nearest shelter?
    - Any health-related concerns when preparing for disaster, during and after?



# ITINERARY

- 12:00-12:30 P.M: Large Group Discussion:
  - The small groups gathered back in order to review the small group's major concerns and ask follow-up questions

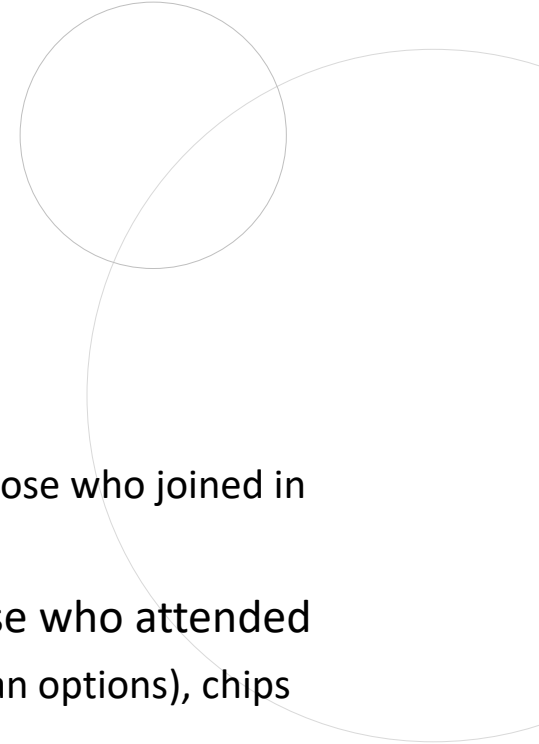




## ITINERARY

- 12:30- 12:45 P.M: Attendant Raffle
  - Those who attending the town hall meeting received a raffle ticket upon arrival and signing in
  - The first 20 attendees received a gift card
  - The attendee who recommended the most number of attendees won a gift basket
  - An arrangement of 7 gifts were awarded by raffle ticket
    - These gifts ranged from lamps, ponchos, emergency radio systems and more



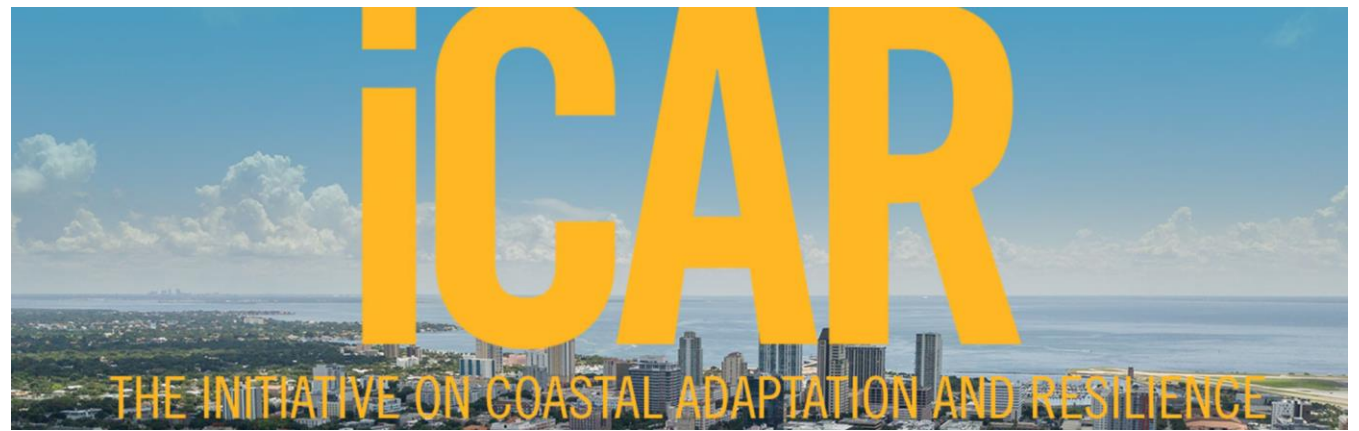


# ITINERARY

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- 1:00 P.M: Thank you
  - A warm thank you was given to all those who joined in the town hall meeting
- Boxed lunches were provided for those who attended
  - A lunch wrap (with meat or vegetarian options), chips and a drink were included





Barnali Dixon Ph.D  
Professor, School of Geosciences  
Executive Director of iCAR  
Director of Geo-Spatial Analytics Lab  
Associate Editor, Journal of the American Water Resources Association (JAWRA)  
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<http://cris-community-resiliency.org/>

<https://www.stpetersburg.usf.edu/resources/icar/index.aspx>

<https://www.modmail.com/printing-company/locations-st-pete>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University\\_of\\_South\\_Florida\\_St.\\_Petersburg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_South_Florida_St._Petersburg)

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<https://www.clearlycoffee.com/dunkin-donuts-coffee-box-explained-photos/>

<https://pinellas.gov/department/emergency-management/>

<https://www.fema.gov/>

<https://www.scen-us.org/>

<https://www.tasteofhome.com/collection/sandwich-wrap-recipes/>

<https://www.brennanscatering.com/product/assorted-bags-of-chips.html>