



The Honorable David Joyce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2065 Rayburn House Office  
Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chris Murphy  
U.S. Senate  
136 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Henry Cuellar  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2372 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Katie Britt  
U.S. Senate  
SD-B40A Dirksen Senate Office  
Washington, DC 20510

The American Institute of Architects  
1735 New York Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20006

**T** (800) 242 3837  
**F** (202) 626 7547

March 10, 2023

Dear Chairman Joyce, Ranking Member Cuellar, Chairman Murphy, and Ranking Member Britt:

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) represents over 96,000 licensed architects and design professionals and is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Since 1857, this concern is central to all that we do.

As a key component of this goal, AIA believes federal support is critical to improving community resilience throughout the country. In fact, mitigation efforts, such as adopting the latest editions of published consensus-based building codes, can save up to \$11 per \$1 invested.<sup>i</sup> These savings can and should be promoted in communities across the country.

We recognize that pre-disaster mitigation works as a critical tool to save property – and more importantly – lives. AIA urges Congress to fund key pre-disaster mitigation programs to support communities across the country to better prepare for future disasters. As the Subcommittee on Homeland Security considers the appropriations bill for FY 2024, AIA urges you to include the following priorities for the next year:

- Continue funding to the level of \$200 million for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program.
- Continue FY 2024 FEMA capitalization grants, as established by the STORM Act [Public Law 116-284], at \$100 million for FY 2024.

AIA and its architect members stand ready to work with Committee members (on both sides of the aisle) to better prepare America's built environment for natural disaster threats. We look forward to continuing to work with you.

Sincerely,



Sarah Dodge  
Senior Vice-President of Advocacy & Relationships

CC: The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Speaker  
The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, Minority Leader  
The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Leader  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader

---

<sup>i</sup> [http://2021.nibs.org/files/pdfs/ms\\_v4\\_overview.pdf](http://2021.nibs.org/files/pdfs/ms_v4_overview.pdf)