

SCDRP 8th ANNUAL MEETING
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA
AGENDA



Moving the Needle
Toward Equitable
Community Resilience
to Natural Hazards

Pre-meeting Events
Monday, January 22, 2024

1:00 - 5:00 PM **Pre-Meeting Tybee Island Resilience Tour**
Tour Guide: Alan Robertson, AWR Strategic Consulting

Tybee is a small community of 3,000 residents that saw 6.5 million visitors last year, with as many as 60,000 people on a holiday weekend in the summer. It is a coastal barrier island about a 20-minute drive from Savannah, within Chatham County, both of which expect to see 20% population growth by 2030. Tybee is bordered on the east by the Atlantic Ocean and to the north by the Savannah River Channel which serves the Port of Savannah, the third largest port in the U.S., and to the west by a tidal salt marsh that extends the length of Georgia's 100 miles of coastline.

The beach, dunes, and marsh are critical habitats for nesting sea turtles, several endangered bird species, fish, wildlife, and hundreds of thousands of migrating shorebirds each year. Surrounded by water on all sides, with a high elevation of only 14 feet and a water table at only 2-3 feet below ground, a growing tourism economy fueled by population growth, and a critical habitat, Tybee is experiencing first-hand many of the various resilience issues communities face by rising sea levels and climate adaptation.

Tybee's resilience initiatives have been recognized nationally as award-winning and innovative. The Resilience Tour will give you a hands-on look at what Tybee is doing, its resiliency enhancements, and the challenges that remain. The tour takes about 2 hours, covers the entirety of the island, and stops at several spots for guests to get out into the field to examine the initiatives up close and learn how everything is connected.

Complimentary transportation on the Old Savannah Trolleys climate-controlled mini-bus is provided courtesy of AWR Strategic Consulting. Boarding the mini-bus will begin out front of The DeSoto hotel at 1:00 PM. Our tour guide, Alan Robertson, will provide an overview of Tybee Island during the 45-minute drive to the island. We will return to The DeSoto hotel at 5:00 PM.

This tour is limited to meeting attendees only, and all participants must RSVP for an "Add On" ticket through the [Eventbrite registration page](#) (the mini-bus only seats 32 people total).

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Download the **Slack** app from the **App Store** then scan our **QR** code to join the Slack workspace for the 8th Annual Meeting.



SOUTHEAST & CARIBBEAN DISASTER RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Monday Night Rendezvous at the [Starland Yard Food Truck Park](#)

Location: Starland Yard Food Truck Park, 2411 Desoto Ave, Savannah, GA 31401.

Utilize the **SCDRP 8th Annual Slack Group app** to connect with folks heading to the Starland Yard. Check your email for an invitation to join the SCDRP Transportation, dinner, and drinks are on your own and at your leisure. Transportation options include shuttle bus, city bus, Uber/Lyft, and walking:

Free City Shuttle Bus from The DeSoto to Starland Yard: 7F Dot Forsyth to Victory Shuttle is Free.

However, it stops service at 7:00 PM. You will need to use other transportation for the way back to The DeSoto after 7:00 PM:

- Walk from The DeSoto to Liberty & Whitaker bus stop to catch a shuttle – 0.1 mile.
- Stop at Whitaker & 40th and walk 60 feet to Starland Yard.

City Bus from Starland Yard to The DeSoto: Route 14 Abercorn Bus (Abercorn and 39th Street) every 30-35 minutes with last stop around 9:45 PM. Cost \$1.50 one-way or \$3.00 all-day pass. Get a pass on the bus.

- Walk from Starland Yard to Abercorn and 39th Street bus stop – 0.3 mile.
- Stop at Abercorn and Liberty St. and walk one block to The DeSoto.

Rideshare an Uber/Lyft: Estimated cost is between \$8.00 - \$16.00.

Walk together: 1.6-mile walk from The DeSoto to Starland Yard (3.2-mile roundtrip).

Day 1: SCDRP 8th Annual Meeting Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Location: Madison Ballroom, [The DeSoto Savannah Hotel](#), 15 East Liberty Street, Savannah, GA 31401

The meeting space is the Madison Ballroom located on the first floor of the hotel. Sponsor table displays are located around the perimeter of the Madison Ballroom. **Sponsor Set-up begins at 7:00 am.**

Beverages (coffee, decaf, tea, sodas, water), Lunch, and Snack Breaks are included with your registration and will be served along buffet tables located in the Madison Ballroom. Please note that additional on-site food and drinks can be purchased individually at five different locations within The DeSoto hotel. Details and menus can be found at <https://thedesotosavannah.com/authentic-southern-dining/>.

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Morning Snack: The Busy Bee

Enjoy networking, beverages (coffee, decaf, teas, soda, water), and light bites (Honeycomb & Fresh Fruit Display of Artisanal Cheeses with Muffins & Crackers Honey Candies, Unsweetened Peach & Regular Tea) in the Madison Ballroom.



SOUTHEAST & CARIBBEAN DISASTER RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP

8:00 am - 9:00 am **Registration Table Open**

Location: *Pre-Function Space outside of the Madison Ballroom. Speakers, Panelists, Sponsors, Exhibitors, and Attendees, please check-in at the Registration Table to receive your name tag and meeting materials.*

9:00 am - 9:45 am **Welcome and Keynote Address**

Heather McCarthy, Executive Director, SCDRP
Mayor Van Johnson, City of Savannah, Georgia
Reverend Dr. Gerald Durley, Waterkeeper Alliance, Interfaith Power & Light

9:45 am – 10:00 am **Quick Beverage Break**

Enjoy all-day beverages (coffee, decaf, tea, water) in the Madison Ballroom.

10:00 am - 11:15 am **Session 1: RESILIENCE UPDATES FROM THE STATES AND TERRITORIES**

Moderator: Lindy Betzhold, NOAA Office of Coastal Management
Brian Byfield, North Carolina DPS Office of Recovery and Resiliency
Alex Butler, South Carolina Office of Resilience
Jennifer Kline, Georgia DNR Coastal Resources Division
Dr. Duane De Freese, Indian River Lagoon Council and National Estuary Program
Dr. Yasmin Detres, CARICOOS, Puerto Rico
Hilary Lohmann, U.S. Virgin Islands DPNR Division of Coastal Zone Management

11:15 am – 11:30 am **Quick Beverage Break**

Enjoy all-day beverages (coffee, decaf, tea, water) in the Madison Ballroom.

11:30 am - 12:30 pm **Session 2: REGIONAL RESILIENCE**

Moderator: Jon Philipsborn, Atlanta Regional Commission
Kimberly Brown, Miami-Dade County
Katherine Zitsch, Atlanta Regional Commission
Dr. David Iwaniec, Georgia State University

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm **Express Lunch**

*Location: Lunch will be served from buffet tables in the Madison Ballroom.
Choose 1 Sandwich: **Veggie Wrap** (Avocado, Cucumber, Tomato, Crumbled Goat Cheese, Roasted Red Pepper, Spring Mix & Green Goddess Dressing Served on a Spinach Tortilla) or **Carved Turkey Club** (Oven-Roasted Turkey Breast, Pecan-Smoked Bacon & Cheddar Cheese Served on Whole Wheat Bread)*

Session 3: INSIGHTS FROM COMMUNITY PARTNER AND PRACTITIONER PAIRS

Sponsor: Florida International University Institute of the Environment and Florida International University Institute of Extreme Events

1:30 pm - 2:10 pm **Part 1. EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EQUITABLE ACCESS TO RESOURCES & FUNDING**

Moderator: Courtney Reich, Georgia Conservancy
Kait Morano, Coastal Equity and Resilience Hub, Georgia Tech
Jazz Watts, One Hundred Miles and Vulnerable Communities Initiative
Nick Deffley, Southeast Sustainability Directors Network
Dawud Shabaka, Harambee House: Citizens for Environmental Justice

2:10 pm - 2:50 pm **Part 2. EQUITABLE ACCESS TO DATA & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMS**

Moderator: Henry Saxon, Center for Sustainable Communities
Keisha Long, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Robert Reese, Lower Richland Community, South Carolina
Dr. Daniel Kilpatrick, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina
Skip Mikell, Rosemont Neighborhood Council, South Carolina

2:50 pm - 3:20 pm **SUPER COLLIDER: MOVING THE NEEDLE ON EQUITABLE RESILIENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

Afternoon Snack: The Energizer

Enjoy networking, beverages (coffee, decaf, teas, soda, water), and light bites (Trail Mix & Dried Fruit, Granola & Protein Bars, Assorted Body Armor Beverages) in the Madison Ballroom.

3:20 pm - 4:00 pm **Session 4. FINDING SOLUTIONS TOGETHER: EQUITABLE RESILIENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley, Waterkeeper Alliance, Interfaith Power & Light
Facilitator: Garry Harris, Sustainability Solutions Group and Institute
Kait Morano, Coastal Equity and Resilience Hub, Georgia Tech
Jazz Watts, One Hundred Miles and Vulnerable Communities Initiative
Nick Deffley, Southeast Sustainability Directors Network
Dawud Shabaka, Harambee House: Citizens for Environmental Justice
Keisha Long, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Robert Reese, Lower Richland Community, South Carolina
Dr. Daniel Kilpatrick, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina
Skip Mikell, Rosemont Neighborhood Council, South Carolina

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm **SCDRP FULL PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING**

Heather McCarthy, Executive Director, SCDRP
Tina Jackson, Program Coordinator, SCDRP

Ricardo Mercado, Assistant Program Coordinator, SCDRP

This is a planning and discussion meeting with the SCDRP Staff, Advisory Board Members, and all SCDRP Members in Good Standing.

**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Tuesday Night Rendezvous at the [Plant Riverside District](#)
Resilient Sites Scavenger Hunt**

Location: *Martin Luther King Jr Park, Plant Riverside District, 400 W River St, Savannah, GA 31401*

*Meet in The DeSoto Hotel lobby at 6:00 PM and join fellow attendees to embark on the Resilient Sites Scavenger Hunt! During the 1.7-mile scavenger hunt walk from The DeSoto hotel to the Plant Riverside District, you will learn about historic sites and resilience efforts around the City of Savannah. The Resilient Sites Scavenger Hunt ends at Martin Luther King Jr Park in the Plant Riverside District, where you can meet other SCDRP partners and explore the evening options. **Winners of the Resilient Sites Scavenger Hunt** will be announced Wednesday morning! Up to five winners will receive surprise prize bags courtesy of the Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve and your SCDRP Staff! Good luck mingling and meandering!*

*Utilize the **SCDRP 8th Annual Meeting Slack Group app** to connect with others who are interested in the same dining options and activities as you. Transportation, dinner, and evening activities are on your own and at your leisure. Restaurants and local points of interest are described on The DeSoto website here:*

<https://thedesotosavannah.com/savannah/>

Transportation options include Uber/Lyft and walking. The Resilient Sites Scavenger Hunt is 1.7 miles one-way, and a straight walk from The DeSoto hotel to the Plant Riverside District is 0.9 miles one-way.



The banner is divided into three sections. The left section has a yellow background with a blue map outline and the text "JOIN OUR SCAVENGER HUNT!" and "Learn more about Savannah & resilience efforts in our area!". The middle section has a white background with a blue header "Learn more about resilience efforts in our area while visiting historic site across Savannah" and instructions to download the ACTIONBOUND APP from Google PlayStore or Apple Store, and to select the 'Scan Bound' button on the app. The right section has a blue background with the text "SCAN ME!" and a QR code.

**Day 2: SCDRP 8th Annual Meeting
Wednesday, January 24, 2024**

Location: *Madison Ballroom, [The DeSoto Savannah Hotel](#), 15 East Liberty Street, Savannah, GA 31401*

*The meeting space is the Madison Ballroom located on the first floor of the hotel. All Exhibitor tables are located around the perimeter of the Madison Ballroom. **Exhibitor Set-up begins at 7:00 am.***

Beverages (coffee, decaf, tea, sodas, water), Lunch, and Snack Breaks are included with your registration and will be served along tables located in the Madison Ballroom. Please note that additional on-site food and drinks can be purchased individually at five different locations within The DeSoto hotel. Details and menus can be found at <https://thedesotosavannah.com/authentic-southern-dining/>.



8:00 am – 8:30 am Morning Snack: The Bakery

Enjoy networking, beverages (coffee, decaf, teas, soda, water), and light bites (Scones & Cinnamon Rolls Chocolate Filled Croissants Individual Iced Coffee, Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee & Assorted Hot Teas) in the Madison Ballroom.

8:00 am - 10:00 am BLENDED EVENTS: DATA TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION AND WALKING TOUR OF CHATHAM EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

8:00 am - 8:05 am Welcome Back

Heather McCarthy, Executive Director, SCDRP

8:05 am - 8:20 am DATA TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

Part 1. LIGHTNING ROUND: Overview of Exhibits

Megan Shaw, Office and Events Manager, SECOORA

Attendees will enjoy an introductory look at the cutting-edge data tools and technologies that they will encounter at each of the Exhibitor's tables during Part 2. Each tool or technology showcased is useful in resilience and climate-adaptation efforts and decision-making. Exhibitors will be presenting data tools and technology developed and/or made available by groups in the following categories:

- 1. Public Agency/Open Source (no additional training required, no costs to users)*
- 2. Academic/Research-oriented (additional training/credential may be required)*
- 3. Corporate/Private (generally proprietary and often fee-based)*
- 4. Nonprofits (no additional training required, generally no costs to users)*

8:20 am - 10:00 am Part 2. TURBO TABLE HOPPING: Attendees Visit Tables

Exhibitors include the following:

- Table 1: **Zulu Marine and Aerial** (Rusty Batey, Jamie King, Zulu)
- Table 2: **KnowYourRiver.com** and **HowsMyWaterway.com** (Tonya Bonitatibus, Savannah Riverkeeper)
- Table 3: **NOAA Digital Coast** and **NOAA CCAP (Coastal Change Analysis Program)** (Matt Pendleton, NOAA)
- Table 4: **MapSpot** community engagement tool (Kait Morano, GA Tech Coastal Equity and Resilience Hub)
- Table 5: **Tetra Tech** Tools (Dr. Vamsi Sridharan, Tetra Tech)
- Table 6: **Table of Low-cost Tools Useful to Communities** (Dr. Russell Clark, GA Tech CEAR Hub)
- Table 7: **Real Time Hurricane Decision Support** (Dr. Jason Fleming, Seahorse Coastal Consulting)
- Table 8: **Designing for Sea Level Change: Simple Adaptation Techniques for Communicating Uncertainty** (Chris Mack, Moffatt & Nichol)
- Table 9: **Climate Mapping for Resilience & Adaptation tool** (Dr. Lydia Olander, Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environmental and Sustainability, Duke University)
- Table 10. **USGS Coastal Change Hazards Tools** (Dr. Donya Frank-Gilchrist, USGS)

This exhibition is limited to meeting attendees only, and all participants must RSVP for an “Add On” ticket through the [Eventbrite registration page](#).

9:00 am - 9:30 am **GROUP A: WALKING TOUR OF CHATHAM EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**
9:30 am - 10:00 am **GROUP B: WALKING TOUR OF CHATHAM EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**
Tour Guide: Randall Mathews, Deputy Director, Chatham Emergency Management
Departing from The DeSoto Lobby.
Each group is limited to 15 people each.

Attendees will have the opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at how large-scale emergency responses can be coordinated in the Chatham County Emergency Operations Center. Located in the Old Courthouse in historic Downtown Savannah, you will see how partner organizations work together to coordinate responses for a multitude of different events such as natural disasters, public health crises, and other critical incidents. The tour will highlight how agencies and organizations work together to develop a common operating picture, allocate resources, and support the overall response and recovery of an incident.

This tour is limited to meeting attendees only, and all participants must RSVP for an “Add On” ticket through the [Eventbrite registration page](#).

10:00 am – 10:10 am **Reconvene in Madison Ballroom**
Enjoy all-day beverages (coffee, decaf, tea, water) in the Madison Ballroom.

10:10 am - 11:15 am **Session 5: NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS: EVALUATION OF SUCCESS**
Sponsor: Zulu Marine and Aerial
Moderator: Dr. Michelle Covi, Georgia Sea Grant Marine Extension & Georgia Sea Grant
Dr. Lydia Olander, Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment and Sustainability, Duke University
Dr. Mariko Polk, North Carolina Sea Grant
Dr. Brian Haus, University of Miami
Joy Brown, The Nature Conservancy

11:15 am - 12:15 pm **Session 6: INITIATIVES THAT SUPPORT COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**
Moderator: Aranzazu Lascurain, NOAA Office for Coastal Management
Dr. Kim Waddell, University of the Virgin Islands
Damon Mullis, Ogeechee Riverkeeper
Andrea Young Jones, Georgia WAND
Alicia Brown, City of Savannah, Georgia
Christian Kamrath, Miami-Dade County, Florida

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm **Express Lunch**
Location: Lunch will be served from buffet tables in the Madison Ballroom.
*Choose 1 Sandwich: **Veggie Wrap** (Avocado, Cucumber, Tomato, Crumbled Goat*



*Cheese, Roasted Red Pepper, Spring Mix & Green Goddess Dressing Served on a Spinach Tortilla) or **Grilled Chicken** (Grilled Chicken, Pesto, Provolone, Spinach, Served on Ciabatta Bread)*

1:15 pm - 2:15 pm **Session 7: FINANCING AND FUNDING FOR RESILIENCE**
Moderator: David Johnston, Hamilton Advisors
Pamela Williams, FEMA
Alan Robertson, AWR Strategic Consulting
Tonya Bonitatibus, Savannah Riverkeeper and Waterkeeper Alliance
Patrick Howell, Institute for Building Technology & Safety (IBTS)
Mary Boyer, The World Bank

2:15 pm - 2:45 pm **SUPER COLLIDER: MOVING THE NEEDLE ON RESILIENCE FINANCING, FUNDING, AND INSURANCE**
Afternoon Snack: The Ballpark
Enjoy networking, beverages (coffee, decaf, teas, soda, water), and light bites (Warm Soft Pretzels with Beer Cheese, Popcorn, Pigs in a Blanket, Assorted Soda) In the Madison Ballroom.

2:45 pm - 4:00 pm **Session 8: RESILIENCY IN A CHANGING RISK LANDSCAPE**
Moderator: David Johnston, Hamilton Advisors
Pamela Williams, FEMA
Ray Farmer, former Director of South Carolina Department of Insurance
Raghuveer Vinukollu, Munich RE
Jonathan Gonzalez, Raincoat Insurance Inc.

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm **Wrap-Up and Closing Remarks**
Heather McCarthy, SCDRP Executive Director

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm **Feedback Surveys & Casual Socializing until 5:00 PM**
Enjoy all-day beverages (coffee, decaf, tea, water) in the Madison Ballroom.

Take our survey



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Before you leave today, please scan the QR code on the left to be taken to our End of Meeting Survey. The survey should take less than 5 minutes. We appreciate your time!



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