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Data-Driven Floodplain Management and Regulation in Florida

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Abstract: With the rise in frequency of high impact flooding events and continued growth across the state, communities in Florida are increasingly turning to innovative higher regulatory standards to keep residents safe. Using models and maps that take future conditions into account can help coastal communities at high risk of flooding adapt, but the associated responsibilities of enforcing and educating stakeholders about floodplain management can be a barrier to adoption. This is especially true in communities that are already managing multiple maps, as adding more regulatory mapping may overwhelm resource-constrained building departments. Without effective workflow solutions, even small tasks like communicating regulations to residents or determining the most restrictive mapping for a permit application can become challenging when dealing with complex maps. Using the case study of Forerunner's work with a partner community, this session will outline how the community combines technology with robust outreach strategies to boost resident communication. We'll discuss how software like Forerunner can help communities pull together disparate datasets and mobilize information for property-specific outreach to provide smarter resources to a variety of stakeholders. it'll explore how incorporating digital workflows into outreach can ensure faster response time, better compliance enforcement, and stronger data continuity. The presentation will also include suggestions on how other communities might be able to leverage data to strengthen their floodplain management programs.

Keywords: floodplain management, flood response, flood risk adaptation, flood protection - products and processes, flood risk assessment and recovery, innovative approaches

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