



EPDM Roofing Association
1701 K Street, NW
Suite 207
Washington, D.C. 20006

May 27, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

On behalf of the EPDM Roofing Association (ERA), which represents leading manufacturers of the widely used and high-performance EPDM roofing materials, we want to congratulate you and indicate strong support for your recent announcement regarding immediate increased funding for FEMA pre-disaster mitigation initiatives that will be made available to states and localities around the country.

The ERA has a long history of basing its positions upon sound science and today's position on the need for a national, resilient built environment is no exception. Together with other advocacy groups who wanted to improve the existing FEMA disaster response implementation strategy, we supported the adoption of the 2018 amendments to the Stafford Act that created the unprecedented pre-disaster assistance program now known as Building Resilience in Communities (BRIC). Your decision to double the amount of money from \$500 million to \$1 billion for BRIC in your recent announcement reflects the presidential leadership that is necessary for this country's building sector to focus upon the challenge at hand – creating more resilient structures that tie into the transportation and energy infrastructure improvements so important to your "American Jobs Plan." In addition, as the National Institute for Building Sciences has concluded in their study in 2019, every dollar spent on resilient initiatives saves an additional \$11 in damages.

For a number of years the ERA has promoted the resilience concept for the building sector in a number of forums. In addition to publishing our annual report "Resilience – the Roofing Perspective" we have worked tirelessly with the American Institute of Architects and other like-minded organizations to draw attention to resilient building designs and products.

Again Mr. President, our industry thanks you and stands ready to help in anyway to assist in creating a more resilient nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen Thorp".

Ellen Breipohl Thorp, M.A., CAE
Executive Director