

Improving Infrastructure Resilience through Partnership and Planning: Case Studies in Enhancing George Mason University's Resilience to Utility Failures

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ABSTRACT

This presentation will outline the process used by George Mason University (Erik's former campus) to identify critical infrastructure as well as the needed improvements to that infrastructure to meet institutional and mandated mitigation and protection efforts. The presenter will provide examples of effective partnerships between facilities administration and emergency management functions, multiple perspectives on how to identify or define critical infrastructure based on local and regional demands, and creative ways of funding protection and mitigation projects.

BIOGRAPHY

Erik C. Backus, PE, LEED AP, FMP, recently the Engineering Planner for George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, is now the Director of the Construction program at Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY. In his recent role he was responsible for the planning of the infrastructure at all campuses and sites of the University. Erik previously served as the Engineering Division Chief at JBM-HH and he was the Lead Design Engineer for MNC-I during 2007-2008 Iraq war surge. Erik is Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Reserve serving at the Pentagon, and works on the Faith Based Community Action Team for the USGBC.