ASFP# Legislative and Policy Priorities

- **Promote importance of hazard mitigation to public safety, reduction of losses and reduction of disaster costs.**
  
  This includes the integration of hazard mitigation into federal programs, legislation and regulations; promote proper incentives and eliminate perverse disincentives for incorporating flood loss reduction, mitigation, and sustainable measures in all federal, state and local programs. Train state and local officials on NAR, legal and Policy issues and their role in mitigation. Educate decision makers, media and public on the need for public policy that supports the basic concepts of “those who live at risk should pay for the cost of living at risk” and not externalize that cost to others, especially the federal taxpayers. Promote delegation of mitigation programs to qualified states.

- **Continue to improve the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) including the National Flood Mapping Program**
  
  With passage of the 2012 NFIP reform, which starts to move flood insurance premiums to full risk rates we will promote discussion and development of ways to address affordability of flood insurance and group flood insurance policies. ASFP will also work with FEMA on implementation of the National Flood Mapping Program including funding, delegation of mapping to qualified states, standing up TMAC, and a robust implementation of all mapping requirements as outlined in the ASPFM’s “Mapping the Nation” report. Push for FEMA rulemaking needed to implement all Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) enhancements and raise the cap to $50,000. Continue to build state floodplain management capability through CAP-SSSE and mentoring, and local floodplain management through improved “base” floodplain management standards. Work with FEMA and USACE on levees, including mapping, levee database, accreditation and managing residual risk lands.

- **Work to Improve the Stafford Act and Hazard Mitigation**
  
  Support Stafford revisions that promote effective mitigation both pre and post disaster, including planning, in a shared responsibility with all levels of government and property owners. Seek modifications to speed the approval of HMGP projects post-disaster, including program delegation and advancing 25% of funding to states as already authorized. Promote legislation and policies that require mitigation in reconstruction post disaster, and that provide for mutual aid for post-disaster damage determinations and permitting to build capacity for state and local mitigation efforts. Work to elevate the importance of hazard mitigation at DHS and at FEMA.

- **Support Legislation, Policy and Federal Funding in 2013 that Encourage Effective Flood Risk Management**
  
  Evaluate bills that impact coastal and riverine flood risk management, including coastal management, levee and dam risk management, farm bill, insurance and re-insurance, integration of water quantity and quality programs, federal technical assistance to communities and states and support those that are effective. Review WRDA provisions for levee or dam risk management programs, USACE technical assistance, cost sharing, other flood policy and authorizations. Suggest ways to make WRDA more effective in supporting long term flood risk reduction, with a balanced approach to the economy, society and the environment, while ensuring wise use of taxpayer funding that will all result in sustainable communities and water resource ecosystems. Support adequate funding for the range of federal programs that provide communities and states the data, technical assistance and programs to assist locals and states reduce their flood risk and create sustainable development and ecosystems. Support incentivized federal cost sharing that reward such locals and states that are doing more to become sustainable.

- **Support Comprehensive Flood Risk Management, including Managing Catastrophic Losses**
  
  Encourage the President’s office to support improved agency implantation of existing Executive Orders and policy that impact flood risk and community sustainability, support the Federal Interagency Floodplain Management Task Force initiatives and collaboration. Support legislation and initiatives to address catastrophic disaster losses with appropriate incentives and disincentives to help communities, states, citizens and businesses manage catastrophic losses through land use, development approaches, reinsurance and innovative approaches.