

Abstract

**Planning for Resilient Communities in the Age of Climate Change**

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Currently, many approaches to solving climate change problems seek to create community-based solutions for improving community resiliency which also contributes to building resiliency at national and global scales. I argue that the planning function of local government forms the core of these emergent approaches. However, over three decades of research in the closely aligned field of natural hazard mitigation planning suggests that local action through planning will be constrained by public indifference in reaction to “public risks” produced by climate change, despite general awareness and concern for the risks. I then draw on a model of anticipatory governance to offer new explanations about whether or not communities overcome this indifference by taking action through planning and assuming a greater shared responsibility for addressing public risks. The paper concludes with a discussion of the implications of the anticipatory model for practitioners and for future research on local adaption to climate change.