Interview Questions for Local and Regional Public Officials

1. Could you describe your professional background?

2. Describe your official responsibilities during Hurricane Harvey?

3. Based upon your personal observations, what do you believe your community does right in terms of preparing for, responding to, and recovering from events such as Hurricane Harvey?

4. Based upon your personal observations, what challenges do you believe your community faces in terms of preparing for, responding to, and recovering from events such as Hurricane Harvey?

5. What type of information did your office use to make decisions in preparation and response to Hurricane Harvey?

6. Based upon your personal observations, what do you believe the local government did right in terms of preparing for, responding to, and recovering from events such as Hurricane Harvey?

7. Based upon your personal observations, what challenges does the local government face in terms of preparing for, responding to, and recovering from events such as Hurricane Harvey?

8. Describe what you believe was the most challenging decision-making situation that you personally encountered during Hurricane Harvey? What made the situation especially challenging? What steps did you take to cope with this situation?

9. Your [city/county] issued a [mandatory/voluntary] evacuation order in the face of Hurricane Harvey. Could you describe what went into making that decision? How did the public respond to this evacuation order?

10. Is there anything else that you would like to share about your experience during Hurricane Harvey that you believe would be useful to improve the resilience of communities such as yours?