



# Homeland Security

## Real estate is a critical part of the nation's infrastructure. Today the industry faces an array of threats from natural catastrophes, international and domestic terrorism, criminal activity, cyber-attacks, and more.

The Roundtable prioritizes strengthening the security and resilience of the commercial facilities sector as it is essential to safeguarding any facility where people live, work, shop, and play.

### HSTF and RE-ISAC

Through increased cross-agency information sharing and cooperation with key law enforcement and intelligence agencies, The Roundtable's Homeland Security Task Force (HSTF) and Real Estate Information Sharing and Analysis

Center (RE-ISAC) remain focused on measures that businesses can take to address these issues, including risk mitigation measures that increase resilience and resistance to physical damage and cyber breaches. Through these bodies, The Roundtable acts as a convener between public and private sector entities to address some of the most pressing security issues facing our country.

Among the HSTF's activity, the group held a [virtual meeting](#) ahead of the 2022 midterm elections where members heard from government experts and discussed the potential for political violence and cyberattacks while sharing [resources](#) and mitigation strategies.

HSTF and RE-ISAC meet regularly and continue to work closely with federal, state and local officials on potential cyber and physical threats to our industry, organized criminal activity, and work against the misuse of commercial real estate assets in the subversion of domestic or international law.

## Cyber and Physical Threats

Growing geopolitical conflicts have raised security concerns about cyberattacks and exposed existing vulnerabilities in the nation's cybersecurity regime, heightening the necessity to build robust domestic defense systems.

The real estate industry is particularly vulnerable to cyber attacks, which are growing increasingly common. In response, Congress and federal agencies have mandated or proposed many new cyber incident reporting requirements for critical infrastructure and public corporations.

In May 2022, The Roundtable, alongside its partners in the Coalition to Insure Against Terrorism issued a [comment letter](#) pointing out gaps in the current terrorism insurance program related to cyber terrorism. For years, The Roundtable has advocated for a policy that creates more insurance protection against these kinds of attacks.

In June 2022, the Government Accountability Office officially recommended an assessment of the need for an insurance backstop for digital attacks on critical infrastructure, and in September, the Treasury and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency asked for comments on the structure and scope of a potential National Cyber Insurance Program.

While the path for federal legislation remains uncertain, The Roundtable will continue to help strengthen information sharing and threat analysis capabilities between public and private entities while ensuring any cyber incident reporting legislation creates a compliance mechanism that provides affected businesses with clarity in reporting, encourages public-private cooperation, and limits legal liability.



# \$9.44M

average cost of a breach in the U.S., the highest of any country, and a 4.3% increase from 2021<sup>26</sup>



# ↑ 57%

Increase in cyberattacks in the U.S. between 2021 and 2022<sup>27</sup>

*Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA) serves as Chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence.*

## **Planning for Significant Events**

As part of the *2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)*, Congress mandated that the president develop a Continuity of the Economy Plan (COTE) to maintain and restore the economy of the United States in response to a significant event. Among other things, the plan requires an analysis of U.S. distribution and supply chains to identify the critical economic actors and functions that must be operational if the U.S. is to maintain its defense readiness, public health, and national security.

The Roundtable's focus is on the Commercial Facilities (CF) Sector and the potential impacts on real estate from a wide-scale event.

Given the crucial role that the commercial facilities sector plays in facilitating interaction and communication with critical infrastructure owners, operators, and relevant stakeholders, The Roundtable is including key partners in our discussions with the COTE Project Team to provide insights and input on the COTE scoping effort from our community.

The Roundtable will continue aiding efforts by CISA's National Risk Management Center to develop the COTE plan.



**Working with federal security agencies through HSTF and RE-ISAC to fortify critical infrastructure, supply chains, and other commercial real estate assets against all threats will continue to be a top priority of The Roundtable.**