

With a high volume of media coverage in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, Good Jobs New York is keeping the spotlight on how government money is proposed to be spent in the rebuilding process. For more information on transparency and opportunities for community involvement, follow us on Twitter @GoodJobsNewYork #EyeOnSandyMoney. Also, let us know how we can adjust this alert to make it better

Keeping an Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Money Weekly News Round-up: July 17-24

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Transparency Tip

The State of New Jersey [posted](#) the newly revised list of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program awardees and each recommended allocation amount.

Like our weekly round-up? Please forward to a friend.

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[Have you heard?](#)

Good Jobs New York launched a new [Eye on Hurricane Sandy Money database](#) to help boost transparency about

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

Gov. Cuomo announced that New York State will cover remaining costs not reimbursed by FEMA for damage to infrastructure in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. [Newsday](#) and [Long Island Herald](#)

Mayor de Blasio says New York City is back on track to meet goals for disbursing disaster relief funds and beginning construction on storm-damaged homes. [The New York Times](#) and [The Real Deal](#)

Senators Gillibrand (D-NY) and Schumer (D-NY) [announced](#) that over \$7 million in FEMA funds will go to reimburse Nassau County for decontamination work on nearly 400 homes that were inundated with sewage and stormwater during Sandy.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is granting \$4.7 million to Northeastern states including New York to clear out remaining shoreline debris from Hurricane Sandy. [WSHU](#)

A new bill introduced into Congress, the Natural Disaster Tax Relief Act, would provide disaster victims with a variety of tax credits and deductions and would allow small businesses to create a pre-tax natural disaster savings fund. [Insurance News.net](#)

In its legislative agenda, the New York City Council is requesting federal aid for a number of city projects, including expediting the release of Hurricane Sandy relief funds. [New York Daily News](#)

The Red Cross unveiled two disaster relief supply trailers stocked with equipment to be used in the event of another hurricane. The trailers will be stored at the College of Staten Island's Willowbrook campus. [Staten Island Advance](#)

The District Court of Eastern New York dismissed a policyholder's lawsuit against an insurer for breach of contract for failing to honor claims for property damage and business interruption due to Hurricane Sandy. The decision is a victory for insurance companies and is expected to set a precedent for similar lawsuits. [Insure Report](#)

A new smartphone accessory, GoTenna, is being marketed as a disaster relief tool because it allows users to text even if cell service is disabled. [Wired](#)

how much and which government agencies have allocated Hurricane Sandy funds in New York City.

Check it out - and tell us what you think!

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

This [Staten Island Advance editorial](#) calls for a comprehensive waterfront plan for Staten Island and argues that the borough was an afterthought in the Robert Moses-era and now is rebuilding from Sandy in a haphazard way without a master plan.

The Christie Administration approved a deal that would establish a bank to fund small power-generating facilities to keep electricity running for critical infrastructure, including hospitals and wastewater treatment facilities. [NJ Spotlight](#)

ALSO: This blog anticipates that planned reforms intended to create a more resilient energy grid in New York could spark changes in other metro areas as well. [Green Tech Media](#)

A recent convening of the American Institute of Architects Regional Recovery Working Group symposium discussed regional infrastructure, transportation, and critical buildings. [CityBizList](#)

A report released by the U.S. Geological Survey notes that the East Coast is at a greater risk for earthquakes than previously understood. [Crain's New York Business](#)

Architect Koen Olthuis answers questions about techniques he recommends for cities to create water resilient buildings and infrastructure that allow more people to live on the shoreline. [Inhabitat](#)

Housing

Residents of the Rockaways express concern over the Department of Homeless Services siting of a homeless shelter in the area, which currently has 5,000 public housing units and 6,000 nursing home beds. [DNAinfo](#)

Jobs

Citing the extreme effect of Hurricane Sandy on its members, 1199 SEIU announced its opposition to the Keystone XL pipeline and support for the People's Climate March in NYC in September. [Capital New York](#)

Events

List your upcoming event here! Email elizabeth@goodjobsfirst.org

Action Item

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has proposed new [Coastal Zone Management Rules](#); a public comment period is open through **August 1, 2014**. Comments may be [filed online](#) or mailed to:

Gary J. Brower, Esq.
ATTN: DEP Docket No.03-14-04
NJ Department of Environmental Protection Office of Legal Affairs

Mail Code 401-04L;
PO Box 402401 East State Street, 7th Floor
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

Thursday August 7, 10:00 AM: New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) public hearing on a newly proposed rule that would allow building owners to use some public streets or sidewalks to install removable flood barriers around their buildings. 55 Water Street, Bid Room A, New York, NY 10041

Regional Events

Ongoing, citywide: New York Free Disaster Assistance Legal Clinics.

Do you have a group interested in helping with the Sandy rebuild? Check out this list of ongoing service opportunities to help with hurricane Sandy rebuilding and revitalization.

Friday, August 1, August 15. 9 am - 11 am: NJ Volunteer Lawyers for Justice offers free legal clinics for Sandy victims. Brick Presbyterian Church 111 Drum Point Road, Brick, NJ.

Wednesday, August 6th - Thursday August 7th: UPROSE presents the 4th NYC Climate Justice Youth Summit. Urban Assembly School for Green Careers, 145 W. 84th Street, New York, NY 10024

Sunday, September 21: People's Climate March: A Weekend to Bend the Course of History. Details on location to come.

Bronx

Monday, August 4, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Public Forum: A Resilient Future for The East Bronx Waterfront. Providence Rest Nursing Home, 3304 Waterbury Ave., Bronx NY 10465

Brooklyn

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10:00-3:00: Jubilee Legal Clinic, Coney Island Gospel Assembly, 2828 Neptune Avenue. Visit website for additional hours and information including income requirements.

Tuesday July 29, 7:00 - 9:00 pm: A Resilient Future for Southeast Brooklyn Waterfront. Presented by the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program and the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, the community is invited to share ideas with the Planning Committee. Carmine Carro Community Center in Marine Park, 3000 Fillmore Ave.

Monday, September 8, 7:00 pm: Canarsie NYRCR Public Engagement Meeting #2: The public is invited to come learn about the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program and to share ideas with the planning committee. Hebrew Educational Society (HES), 9502 Seaview Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11236

Queens

Thursday, June 24, 6:00 pm: Climate Change Training Hosted by Rockaway Wildfire, facilitated by the Climate Justice Alliance and Ruckus Society. This training will discuss the root causes of climate change and what a just transition would look like. This training is aimed at Sandy survivors and those living in vulnerable communities. Arverne Pilgrim Church 74-16 Beach Channel Drive, on the corner of 75th St.

Advocacy Reports

NYU Furman Center: The Price of Resilience: Can Multifamily Housing Afford to Adapt?

[Stakeholder Engagement Report: Environmental Justice Climate Change Preparedness in New Jersey](#) [to view the report, follow the link and click on 'Environmental Justice']

The New York League of Conservation Voters: [Taking Stock: Sustainability and Resiliency Progress during Mayor de Blasio's First Six Months](#)

The International Economic Development Council released a guide to help local economies recovering from a disaster: [Leadership in Times of Crisis: A Toolkit for Economic Recovery and Resiliency](#)

New York Communities for Change: [Thousands of Homeowners Still Drowning in Underwater Mortgages: How Toxic Loans Keep Fueling Foreclosures and the Need for Eminent Domain](#)

Risky Business Project: [American Climate Prospectus: Economic Risks in the United States](#)

Report from the ClimateWorks Foundation and the World Bank - [Climate-Smart Development: Adding up the benefits of actions that help build prosperity, end poverty and combat climate change](#)

Fifth Avenue Committee, [Guidelines to Building Resiliency](#)

North Star Fund, [From The Edge Of Disaster: How Activists and Insiders Can Use the Lessons of Hurricane Sandy to Make the City Safer](#)

New York League of Conservation Voters [Three Point Action Plan](#) to address New York City's most pressing environmental and resiliency challenges

Natural Resources Defense Council: [Preparing for Climate Change: Lessons Learned for Coastal Cities from Hurricane Sandy](#). This report analyzes FEMA flood maps to reveal that the maps did not account for 65% of the area that was actually inundated by Sandy.

For more advocacy resources, visit Good Jobs New York's [Keeping an Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Money](#)

Federal, State & Local Resources

New York City Comptroller's Office released the annual [ClaimStat report](#) along with interactive maps which reveal claims against the city as reported to five city agencies, including sewer overflow claims from 2012-13 reported to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

New York City Comptroller's Office: [Audit Report](#) on the Department of Homeless Services' Oversight of Contractors Hired to Assist Individuals and Families Displaced by Hurricane Sandy

RISE:NYC, a competition to innovate technologies that will help prepare small businesses for climate change, announced 37 finalists. To read more about the finalists and links to competition updates see the [NYCEDC blog](#)

The Canarsie Coalition prepared a [resource guide](#) including contact information for organizations and individuals involved in addressing unmet needs in Canarsie, Brooklyn.

[LawHelpNY.org](#) launched a mobile site to provide mobile access to information and referrals for low-income New Yorkers seeking help with problems in areas such as housing, family law, consumer debt and immigration.

The Center for NYC Neighborhoods in partnership with the New York State Attorney General, hosts a [Homeowner Hotline](#), a confidential service available to answer housing counseling or legal questions. 311 in New York City, or 855-HOME-456.

New York City Office of Emergency Management [Know Your Zone Hurricane Preparedness website](#).

New York Rising Community Reconstruction Final Plans are now available: <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/nyrcr/final-plans>

[One City, Rebuilding Together](#): A Report on the City of New York's Response to Hurricane Sandy and the Path Forward.

The [Program Management Office](#) of the Hurricane Sandy Task Force released its [monthly report](#) [pdf] on how 19 federal agencies have so far spent funding from the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013.

A helpful [visual guide](#) to the agencies and key decision-makers distributing federal disaster relief funds.

The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City (a private 501-c3) released [an update](#) of how the funds it raised for Sandy aid have been allocated.

Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force report, [Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Strategy: Stronger Communities, A Resilient Region](#)

ALSO: Good Jobs New York provides a critique of the federal Task Force recommendations in a [three-part blog series](#).

For more resources, visit Good Jobs New York's [Keeping an Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Money](#)

We'd love to hear from you!

Check out our resources on Hurricane Sandy money at our website. Or follow us on Twitter: @GoodJobsNewYork #EyeOnSandyMoney. Please forward your suggestions on how we can make this round-up more useful to you in your work.

Contact us

Good Jobs New York
11 Park Place, #701
New York, New York 10007
212-721-7996
www.goodjobsny.org