

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: June 26 - July 3

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Transparency Tip

HUD released a progress report on implementation of Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force goals. The report can be found [here](#).

Also, an updated table of federal agency spending through the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act can be found [here](#).

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

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This Week's News

Disaster Relief

New York City Council members Mark Treyger (D-Brooklyn) and Eric Ulrich (R-Queens) introduced a bill that would establish a monitor at the Department of Investigations to review Hurricane Sandy spending. [New York Observer](#)

ALSO: Gov. Cuomo defends government monitoring that helps avoid misspending Sandy aid, even if it delays the process of disbursing funds. [The Real Deal](#)

The New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development applied for several waivers to reconstruct storm damaged homes with more resilient housing, which requires altering zoning permits. [Crain's New York Business](#)

Community Board 1 in Staten Island applied for Sandy aid to help build a pedestrian greenway to connect four new private developments along the North Shore. [The Real Deal](#)

An overview of a recent planning forum for citywide long-term recovery groups that was hosted by Church World Service (CWS) and New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS). [CWS Global](#)

Starlight Park in the Bronx received a \$4 million grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for park and wetland restoration to protect surrounding areas from future flooding. [Dredging Today](#)

This blog argues that by claiming it has trade secrets that provide it an economic advantage over competitors, the American Red Cross functions as a company rather than a foundation. [Fire Dog Lake](#)

ALSO: The American Red Cross [posts](#) statistics on the outcome of its Hurricane Sandy expenses and commitments.

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

Climate scientist Klaus Jacob argues that the "Big U" design plan to surround lower Manhattan with a multi-purpose levee would only be a short-term solution for moderate storms, and that New York City must consider submersible infrastructure, canals and other methods designed to work with water, as well as incorporating managed

Good Jobs New York launched a new [Eye on Hurricane Sandy Money database](#) to help boost transparency about how much and which government agencies have allocated Hurricane Sandy funds in New York City.

Check it out - and tell us what you think!

retreat from the waterfront. [Next City](#) and [Fast Co Exist](#)

Environmentalists react to New Jersey's [proposed new rules](#) for coastal development that make it easier to develop housing and commerce in coastal areas and seem to ignore rising sea level due to climate change. A public comment period on the proposed rules is open through August 1. [Associated Press](#)

ALSO: This [Star-Ledger editorial](#) admonishes the Christie Administration for ignoring the science of sea level rise and the effects of global warming in new policies adopted by the administration since Sandy.

Coney Island locals report that black sludge has been spewing out of a sewer overflow pipe and onto beaches since the Department of Environmental Protection began restoration of sewers to prevent flooding. [Inhabitat](#)

ALSO: Many beaches in the Rockaways remain closed this season as the Army Corps continues beach replenishment activities. [MyFoxNY](#)

Environmental activists are opposing a plan, which must first be approved by the Army Corps of Engineers, to allow NY Cruise Lines to develop or house operations in the Hudson River. [The New York Times](#)

The crisis of water - shortages in some areas and flooding in others - is the greatest intergovernmental challenge of our time. [Governing](#)

A new [report](#) from the New York League of Conservation Voters calls on Mayor de Blasio to outline his environmental vision, while crediting him for taking some important steps towards recovery from Sandy. [New York Observer](#)

U.S. spending on dredging waterways is going up, with post-Sandy dredging work among the largest of U.S. Army Corps of Engineer projects, though the 2015 USACE budget decreased by 5.5%. [MarineLink](#)

Joseph Esposito, retired NYPD chief, was appointed by Mayor de Blasio to head the Office of Emergency Management. Esposito says he will be reviewing the agency's coordination with other agencies and response to Sandy. [Capital New York](#)

Google is rolling out a new [suite of mapping technology](#) to help cities prepare, respond and recover from storms and other disasters.

Housing

Mayor de Blasio signed legislation waiving Department of Building fees for construction work done through the Build it Back program. [Staten Island Advance](#) and [NY1](#)

A WNYC review of properties that have been repaired at taxpayers' expense through the National Flood Insurance Program reveals 4,700 New York and New Jersey homes and businesses have experienced repetitive flooding - as much as 20 times. [WNYC](#)

Jobs

The Working World, with a network of immigrant worker-owned cooperatives in Far Rockaway, Queens doing Hurricane Sandy reconstruction, is one of five finalists in the NYCEDC's THRIVE competition, which aims to support immigrant entrepreneurs. [NYCEDC press release](#)

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

[Upcoming public hearing](#) on the proposed rules: **Wednesday, July 9, 2014, 11:00 A.M.** Jacques Cousteau Coastal Education Center 130 Great Bay Blvd, Tuckerton, NJ 08087

Upcoming Deadlines

Friday, July 11: Deadline to apply to be a project site for the RISE:NYC technology installation. Application does not guarantee selection as a project site. [Program details and application information here.](#)

Regional Events

Ongoing, citywide: [New York Free Disaster Assistance Legal Clinics.](#)

Wednesday, July 9, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. [NAIOP NYC: "Building A Stronger, More Resilient New York"](#) with Daniel Zarrilli. Gensler, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, 15th floor, btwn 48th and 49th St. New York, NY 10020 General Price: \$50, Member Price: \$25. Registration required

Friday, July 18, 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.

Friday, July 18, 9:30-11:30 am. Enterprise's Resilience Speakers Series: [How Do We Prepare our Seniors for Emergency Events?](#) Enterprise Community Partners, One Whitehall Street, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10004

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.

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.

Advocacy Reports

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

NEW: [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.

NEW: 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 has 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

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