

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 dollars Weekly News Round-up: August 1-August 8

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### New from GJNY

Dazed and confused about the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013? We can help. Check out Good Jobs New York's new tool to help New Yorker's understand the Federal Disaster Relief Act and New York City's plan for the first round of CDBG funds.

[At-a-Glance: Federal Disaster Relief After Hurricane Sandy](#)

联邦政策一瞥：飓风桑迪救援资金分配 - (中文) ([In Chinese](#))

### This Week's News

#### Disaster Relief

At Wednesday's Hurricane Sandy Small Business Summit in New Jersey, HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan said the Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force recommendations will address small business needs by promoting access to government contracts for recovery work. [The Record](#) and [The Star-Ledger](#)

Gov. Christie awarded a \$5 million contract to a politically connected public relations firm to produce a series of television commercials intended to promote tourism in New Jersey. The commercials, funded by the state's CDBG disaster relief aid, are stirring controversy because they prominently feature the governor during the gubernatorial election season. [Asbury Park Press](#)

The New York State Department of Financial Services is providing incentives to banks to offer loans for Sandy rebuilding projects in 102 neighborhoods. Incentives include priority when applying for new branches or mergers. [Crain's New York Business](#)

The U.S. Small Business Services [announced](#) it has expanded grants available to collaborative teams for local small business recovery. SBA has approved \$2.4 billion in loans to over 36,000 small businesses affected by Sandy.

The American Red Cross announced that it has spent \$260 million of over \$300 million it received for Sandy relief. Also, FEMA is approving extensions to its Transitional Sheltering Assistance program on a case-by-case basis. [NY1](#)

Economists analyze the potential stimulus of federal Sandy relief to New York City's economy; the clearest benefits will be upgrading critical infrastructure. [Federal Reserve Bank](#)

Manhattan Borough President and candidate for New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer announced his plan to create an audit bureau in the Comptroller's office to oversee the city's spending on Sandy relief funds. [Queens Courier](#)

Fifty food truck owners were honored with an award for their service distributing over 350,000 meals in areas hardest hit by Hurricane Sandy. [New York Daily News](#)

## NEW Transparency Tip:

Reports and public notices available at [NYC Recovery](#)

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### Rebuilding Infrastructure

Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer [announced](#) a \$7 million allocation to construct the [East River Blueway](#) (pdf), a sand beach and kayak/canoe launch along Manhattan's waterfront from the Brooklyn Bridge to East 38th Street. [WNYC](#)

A blog post from [The Atlantic Cities](#) compares the brewing controversy surrounding the proposed "Seaport City" with the controversy that surrounded Battery Park City from its beginning until it was completed.

Mayoral Candidate and former Congressman Anthony Weiner criticized the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation's immediate repair of concession stands in Rockaway Beach, Queens. He suggested the department should have first gathered input from the community on how to rebuild. [DNAinfo](#)

### Housing

Build it Back, the city's program to pay for housing repairs, has allocated \$519 million so far to about 14,000 applicants for repairs to single and multi-family homes. Repairs have not yet begun, due to lengthy federal approval processes. [WNYC](#)

Neighborhoods in the Rockaways, Queens are changing quickly as older homeowners decide to sell their homes rather than rebuild. [Los Angeles Times](#)

New Jersey officials launched a \$25 million Sandy Homebuyer Assistance program, providing qualified applicants with \$50,000 interest-free, forgivable loans to purchase homes in areas impacted by the storm. [The Star-Ledger](#) and [CBS New York](#)

Developers of two new luxury rental buildings in Manhattan broke ground in July along the East River flood plain. The developer is raising mechanicals to the second flood and may install 8-foot flood gates. [The New York Times](#)

## Advocacy News

List your upcoming event here! Email [elizabeth@goodjobsfirst.org](mailto:elizabeth@goodjobsfirst.org)

### Regional

Hurricane Sandy relief volunteer opportunities in New York City are listed at [New York Cares](#)

### Manhattan

Wednesday, August 14, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Enterprise Community Partners presents "[House New York](#)" Happy Hour; Peter Madden of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development will discuss post-Sandy recovery support for the affordable multifamily sector. 3 Bleecker Street at Bowery, New York, NY 10012.

### Queens

Saturday, August 24th, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Rockaway Peninsula [Lose, Loss, Lost Walking Tour](#); Participants will explore the peninsula in the aftermath of the storm through experiencing, sharing and invoking personal loss.

## New Jersey

Tuesday, October 29. [Superstorm Sandy: One Year Later conference](#). Monmouth University, West Long Branch, N.J. Presented by Monmouth University, New Jersey Future, New Jersey Recovery Fund.

The Christie Administration [released](#) best practices for treating mold in flooded homes. Additionally, the New Jersey Department of Health will offer training sessions in mold removal and assessment.

## Advocacy Reports

The Sandy Regional Assembly released its community-based [analysis](#) of the Bloomberg Administration's Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency (SIRR) report.

New York City Public Advocate Bill de Blasio documents the efforts of community-based organizations providing disaster relief services for low-income families after Sandy: [Supporting Community-Based Disaster Response: Lessons Learned from Hurricane Sandy](#)

The Center for Urban Real Estate: [NYC 2040: Housing the Next One Million New Yorkers](#)

American Planning Association-New York Metro Chapter for the Rockaway Development & Revitalization Corporation: [Getting Back to Business; Addressing the Needs of Rockaway Businesses Impacted by Superstorm Sandy](#)

The Sandy Regional Assembly, made up of environmental justice organizations, community-based groups, labor unions, and advocates have released [Recovery from the Ground Up: Strategies for community-based resiliency in New York and New Jersey](#). Based on input from grassroots groups, the Recovery Agenda includes priorities relating to low-income people, communities of color, immigrants, and workers.

The [2013 CoreLogic Storm Surge Report](#) ranks storm surge risk for U.S. metropolitan areas; New York metro region is ranked number 1. New Orleans is number 5.

Climate Central, [Hurricane Sandy's Untold Filthy Legacy: Sewage](#)

The Pratt Center for Community Development has [published](#) a series of maps documenting Sandy's impacts on low-income residential communities and Industrial Business Zones.

Enterprise Community Partners, ['Measuring the Response to Hurricane Sandy'](#)

Food Bank For New York City, [Hurricane Sandy Response: 100 Days of Meeting the Needs](#)

Furman Center for Real Estate & Urban Policy, [Sandy's Effects on Housing in New York City](#).

The Alliance for a Just Rebuilding released [Sandy's Mold Legacy: The Unmet Need Six Months After the Storm](#); Other reports include: [After Sandy, Prioritizing the Vulnerable and Displaced: Fixing Major Flaws in City Hall's Disaster Recovery Planning](#)

## Federal, State & Local Resources

顯利街社服中心「希望之星」撫慰珊迪災民受創心靈 - Henry Street Settlement in Lower Manhattan

provides free mental health counseling to people and families affected by Sandy. Hot line: (800) 543-3638; In Chinese: (877) 990-8585.

The New York [Community Reconstruction Program](#), formerly known as Community Reconstruction Zones; the program's website includes an interactive map of the "NY Rising Communities" and a prominent link for making public comment.

[The New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Sandy Recovery Resource Guide](#), updated July 9, 2013.

Report by the U.S. Department of Energy: [U.S. Energy Sector Vulnerabilities to Climate Change and Extreme Weather](#). Part of the Obama Administration's national climate change adaptation planning, this report examines current and potential impacts of climate trends on the nation's energy sector. It includes an interactive map showing the location of current climate vulnerabilities in the energy sector.

[Hurricane Sandy: An Assessment of Impacted Commercial Corridors and Recommendations for Revitalization](#) [pdf]. This report by the New York City Department of Small Business Services and the New York City Economic Development Corporation provides an assessment of commercial corridors in Brooklyn, Staten Island, Manhattan, and Queens.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation released its RFP for the "Neighborhood Game Changer" competition. Winning proposals will receive up to \$18 million in CDBG funds to support the proposed project. Deadline for submission is Monday, September 9, 2013. [NYCEDC Press Release](#)

Institute for Public Knowledge on the immediate aftermath of Sandy and the rebuilding process. [Superstorm Sandy Research Initiative](#)

Report by the New York City Department of City Planning Sustainable Communities Consortium, [Designing for Flood Risk](#) and [Urban Waterfront Adaptive Strategies](#)

Updated [Hurricane Evacuation Maps](#) for New York City

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.

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