

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 Special Alert

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New York City Council Passes Intro. 1102a-Amendment of Community Right-to-Know Law

The amendment expands the Right-to-Know law to include coastal storm surge and hurricane evacuation zones as part of the geography and requires that facilities report the presence of hazardous substances and develop a "risk management plan" to prevent the release of hazardous substances during potential flooding and extreme weather events.

More information from the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance year-end [newsletter](#)

Update - Public Hearings Cancelled

Last week, we announced that three public hearings would be held on the [proposed amendment 5](#) for the New York City CDBG-DR Action Plan. **These hearings have been cancelled.**

It is expected that the hearings will be rescheduled. Written comments on the proposed amendment can be made through the [NYC Recovery website](#). The deadline to submit comments is **January 25th**.

Staten Island:

CANCELLED Tuesday, January 14, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
CYO Building at Mount Loretto
6581 Hylan Boulevard

Queens:

CANCELLED Wednesday, January 15, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Knights of Columbus (Rockaway Park)
333 Beach 90th Street

Brooklyn:

CANCELLED Thursday January 16, 2014 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Sheepshead Bay High School
3000 Avenue X

Additional information will be posted on the [NYC Recovery webpage](#). Background information the city's action plan is available on [our website](#).

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

New Jersey officials announced that the state has distributed half of the initial \$1.8 billion in federal relief aid. [Associated Press via NorthJersey.com](#)

In his State of the State address, Gov. Cuomo outlined a plan to use \$100 million in Sandy relief funds to build 3,000 new units of affordable housing. [HousingFinance.com](#) and [New York Daily News](#)

ALSO: See a [transcript](#) of the speech.

Have you checked out our updated website [Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Money?](#) Now it's easier than ever to find news, resources, upcoming events and other helpful materials. Check it out, tell us what you think, and keep an eye out for more expansions.

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Senators Charles E. Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand (NY) [announced](#) a \$141.6 million FEMA grant will go to the Long Island Power Authority for Hurricane Sandy clean-up cost reimbursements.

ALSO: The New York Senators and Assemblymember Phil Goldfeder [announced](#) \$4.9 million will be used to repair a high school in Queens and to clean up an oil spill in Jamaica Bay.

The Federal Transit Administration [will award](#) \$3 billion through a competitive process to selected projects that demonstrate strengthened resiliency in public transit systems and protect critical transit infrastructure.

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

Gov. Cuomo [outlined](#) plans to spend \$16 billion in federal disaster aid, and highlighted the importance of rebuilding infrastructure for economic recovery as well as for future storm-protection. [The New York Times](#) and [The Wall Street Journal](#)

ALSO: During a visit to New York, Vice President Joe Biden praised Gov. Cuomo for his rebuilding plans. [Politicker](#)

ALSO: Staten Island lawmakers responded positively to Vice President Biden's support for rebuilding. [Staten Island Advance](#)

An op-ed by The Rockefeller Foundation's Judith Rodin stresses that appointing a Chief Resiliency Officer should be a top priority for Mayor de Blasio; public investment in resiliency and the creation of a resilient infrastructure bank are other top priorities. [Crain's New York Business](#)

A model program in Red Hook, Brooklyn reveals the importance of expanding community broadband access for emergency communications during and after a disaster, especially in low-income neighborhoods. [The Nation](#)

Gov. Cuomo appointed former New York City Police Commissioner Ray Kelley to be a special advisor to establish the nation's first college of emergency preparedness. [Politicker](#)

According to updated safety plans presented at a briefing to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Salem/Hope Creek nuclear facility in New Jersey will temporarily close if a hurricane is expected to pass within 50 miles of it. [The News Journal](#)

An abandoned and deteriorating public school in the Bronx was further damaged during Sandy, and may need emergency demolition due to its dangerous condition. [The New York Times](#)

A review of recovery efforts in 2013 in South Queens. [Queens](#)

Chronicle

Gov. Christie abruptly cancelled a Wednesday press event at which he was expected to announce a milestone in the Sandy rebuilding effort. [Press of Atlantic City](#)

Housing

Residents from Staten Island's South Shore communities are petitioning Governor Cuomo to expand the home buyout program to include parts of Great Kills and Eltingville. [Staten Island Advance](#)

In New Jersey where some towns require that homes be elevated, a nonprofit organization is helping 130 residents with disabilities that were displaced by Sandy to move into homes that are more resilient and accessible. [The Star-Ledger](#)

Many older New Jersey residents whose waterfront homes were damaged or destroyed by Sandy are choosing to move to senior citizen communities away from the shore. [MyCentralJersey.com](#)

Senator Robert Menendez (NJ) is calling for a freeze on federal flood insurance premium increases. [Patch.com](#)

Events

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

Upcoming application deadlines

January 16 Public comments are due for the draft 2014 New York City Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) from New York City Office of Emergency (OEM), in partnership with the Department of City Planning (DCP). [Comment form available online only](#)

[ALSO: Brooklyn Recovery Fund has prepared [a guide](#) to navigating the public comment process for the NYC Hazard Mitigation Plan.

January 21 Responses due for New York City Economic Development Corporation's [RFEI](#) for economic recovery of eight State Island locations.

January 31 [Request for Proposal](#) deadline for National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program. The program will provide \$100 million in funding through the U.S. Department of Interior for projects to restore, enhance or create ecological systems that benefit fish and wildlife species and protect them against threats from flooding and severe weather.

February 13 Applications due for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants](#)

February 15 Applications due for grants for civil infrastructure resilience research through The National Science Foundation [Hazard Mitigation and Structural Engineering program](#).

Grants for FY2014 Economic Development Assistance Programs through the Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce [were announced](#). [Deadlines are posted for each program.]

Regional Events

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

January 9 and 10, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm: Hurriplan: Resilient Building Design for Coastal Communities. A two-day performance-level course which provides planning and design professionals with the knowledge and training necessary to design hurricane resilient commercial and institutional buildings. Enterprise Community Partners 1 Whitehall St, 11th floor New York, NY 10004. [Register](#)

Tuesday, January 28, 2:30 - 4:00 pm: [Webinar: Disaster Preparedness and Economic Recovery](#) series from Restore Your Economy

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.

New Jersey

January 11, 10:00 am-noon: [Sandy Stories Project](#) a collection of video interviews with residents at the Brigantine Beach Community Center, 265 42nd Street

Advocacy Reports

NEW: [Superstorm Research Lab: A Tale of Two Sandys](#). This whitepaper, based on interviews with a broad range of Sandy-impacted individuals and aid organizations in New York City, sheds light on the inequalities entwined with Sandy's aftermath and recommendations for addressing inequality.

NEW: [New York City VOAD Volunteer and Construction Committee Resource Guide](#): This list includes voluntary organizations providing rebuild services in New York City.

NEW: New report from the Municipal Art Society: [All hands on deck: Mobilizing New Yorkers for a Livable and Resilient New York](#)

New Jersey's Fair Share Housing Center documents its concerns that African Americans and Latinos are being rejected from Sandy relief at higher rates than Caucasians. [Fair Share Housing Center Blog](#)

Parsons Brinckerhoff produces [The Sandy Disaster Awareness Report](#), a summary of key developments and funding priorities in the region affected by Hurricane Sandy.

[Day Labor, Worker Centers & Disaster Relief Work in the Aftermath of Hurricane Sandy](#). This report discusses the challenges that workers faced during the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy and the role that worker centers played to protect the health and safety of workers in New York and New Jersey.

[Hurricane Sandy Fall 2013 Update: FEMA Assistance Analysis](#). Enterprise Community Partners examines the level of need and the response efforts in New York and New Jersey following Hurricane Sandy. This brief includes data related to FEMA inspections of those who registered for assistance and the amount that had been awarded to those with assessed damage.

[Hurricane Sandy: Housing Needs One Year Later](#). Enterprise Community Partners provides a summary of early findings from a survey of storm victims to measure the ongoing impact of Hurricane Sandy, one year after the storm.

The New York Building Congress released its [annual forecast](#) and anticipates an increase in construction spending for 2013-2015, in part due to post-Sandy infrastructure projects.

After Sandy: [Advancing Strategies for Long-Term Resilience and Adaptability](#). A report from the Urban Land Institute offers 23 recommendations on land use, infrastructure, finance, and governance for local and federal post-Sandy community rebuilding plans.

[A Disaster in the Making: Addressing the Vulnerability of Low-Income Communities to Extreme Weather](#). A report by the Center for American Progress examines current disaster recovery policies and offers recommendations for how government can increase communities' resiliency after storms.

[2013 New Jersey Hurricane Sandy Long-Term Relief and Recovery Assistance Guide](#) from the United Way.

[The Superstorm Research Lab](#), a mutual aid research collective, is working to understand the changes in how New York City policy actors, NGO leaders, activists, volunteers, and residents are thinking about social, economic and environmental issues following Hurricane Sandy.

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

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.

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

Federal, State & Local Resources

NEW: [New York Rising Year End Report](#). Includes accounting of mass transit investment, reform of Long Island Power Authority, and projected storm recovery and rebuilding costs.

NEW: This podcast informs disaster behavioral health professionals about the concepts and signs of retraumatization and associated risk and protective factors and to highlight promising treatment strategies and tips for avoiding retraumatization. Visit [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) to learn more about resources dedicated to disaster behavioral health.

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection released its 2013 progress report in [Strategy 2011-2014](#)

The US Army Corps of Engineers released its [Hurricane Sandy Coastal Projects Evaluation Study](#)

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

[Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc.](#) - Brooklyn Sandy Relief Legal Clinic.

New York Rising Community Reconstruction Program Community Mapping project has posted interactive online maps for six New York Rising communities in New York City. The public is encouraged to provide feedback on their community's plan. Final Community Reconstruction Plans

are due by March 31, 2014.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has released its [Hurricane Sandy Coastal Projects Performance Evaluation Study](#), as required by the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013.

FEMA has released its preliminary [Flood Insurance Rate Maps \(FIRMs\)](#); see also FEMA's guide of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the new maps.

The New York City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs [Hurricane Sandy Immigrant Outreach Initiative Report](#) on efforts to address the needs of immigrant New Yorkers impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

[NYC Service Initiatives Hurricane Sandy Recovery](#); links to ongoing volunteer opportunities for Sandy relief and recovery work.

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.

The Manhattan Chamber of Commerce released a [Disaster Preparedness Checklist](#) for small businesses.

Next City, a weekly urban affairs publication, is launching a new the [Resilient Cities](#) series, which will focus on preparation and resiliency planning for disasters in urban areas around the world.

Rand Corporation report, [Flood Insurance in New York City Following Hurricane Sandy](#)

FEMA's [Hurricane Sandy: One Year Later](#) provides updates on recovery efforts, a timeline and other resources.

[National Emergency Grant Awards](#) categorized by year.

[NYC Service](#), a citywide service opportunity portal, with links to various ongoing recovery and response projects.

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](#).

[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.

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
