

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 12-19

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Transparency Tip

A map on the [New York City Sandy Tracker](#) website displaces by borough the total number of Build it Back registrations, awards pending and progress towards completing construction.

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](#)

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

Tens of thousands of people continue to be displaced or are living in damaged homes since Sandy; delays are attributed to federal guidelines to prevent fraud as well as local errors and program inefficiencies. [The Wall Street Journal](#)

President Obama [announced](#) that \$1 billion in CDBG-DR funds from the federal Sandy appropriation will be used in a national resiliency competition, modeled on Rebuild by Design. States affected by a disaster between 2011-2013 can submit projects that help prepare for the consequences of global warming. [The Star-Ledger](#)

The U.S. Department of the Interior [announced](#) \$102 million in Coastal Resiliency Grants will support 54 projects along the Atlantic coastline, including \$11 million for wetland restoration in and around Jamaica Bay at Gateway National Recreation Area. [National Parks Conservation Association](#)

ALSO: Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) [announced](#) \$620,000 in federal Sandy Coastal Resiliency Grants will be used to replace three culverts in the Ausable watershed in Clinton and Essex counties.

ALSO: The Mill River Collaborative, an organization installing flood resiliency projects in Stamford, CT, received \$3.8 million through the federal Coastal Resiliency Grant Program to continue a greenway project to reduce flooding. [CT Post](#)

The New York City Department of Health will be spraying Staten Island with larvicide to control mosquito outbreaks which have been infesting New Dorp and other neighborhoods in greater numbers since Sandy. [Staten Island Advance](#)

New York City Council Member Mark Treyger held a [public forum](#) on Sandy recovery with information on Build it Back housing applications and small businesses recovery needs.

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

Environmentalists and community groups testified at a New York City Council hearing against the 'Rahway Arch' project that uses contaminated soil to cap a toxic sludge dump at the mouth of the

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!

Rahway River, saying that increased flooding will spread the pollution to Staten Island. [Capital New York](#)

Construction of a four-mile steel wall along the coast of the Jersey Shore will begin next month. The \$23 million project will be paid for mostly by the Federal Highway Administration. [The Star-Ledger](#)

NJ Transit's recently released emergency preparedness plan provides details that were lacking in the previous plan. [NJ Spotlight](#)

At the ribbon cutting of the new roller coaster on Coney Island, NYCEDC [announced](#) the continuation of the pre-Sandy Coney Island revitalization plans.

Citing numerous infrastructure needs, Connecticut is competing with several states for a share of \$3 billion in Sandy aid appropriated to the Federal Transit Administration for transportation infrastructure projects. [The Hour](#)

Housing

A milestone is reached as the first homeowner moves back to her home, newly renovated by a network of volunteers that aims to renovate 100 Sandy-damaged homes in Sea Bright, NJ by next year. [The Star-Ledger](#)

ALSO: A bike tour from Florida to New York City will stop in New Dorp Beach, Staten Island to host a lunch for Habitat for Humanity volunteers working on rebuilding homes destroyed by Sandy. The tour is designed to highlight the effectiveness of cooperatives and service organizations in community development projects. [Staten Island Advance](#)

This Crain's New York Business [Op-Ed](#) argues that the de Blasio administration missed an opportunity to demonstrate that incorporating clean energy solutions in affordable housing is a way to address inequality, as Sandy disproportionately affected low-income residents whose buildings did not have efficient or back-up energy systems.

In Freeport, NY some residents are frustrated that new homes being built to replace the beach bungalows destroyed by Sandy are large 'McMansions' and out of context for the small, historic community. [CBS New York](#)

The first two of 15 modular homes funded through the New Jersey Hurricane Relief Fund are completed and ready for families to move in. [NJTV News](#)

At last week's hearing of the New York City Comptroller's Sandy Oversight Unit, residents at Red Hook Houses in Brooklyn complained of mold and water damage in their units and a delayed response by NYCHA. [DNAinfo](#)

The tenants association of Ravenswood Houses in Astoria, Queens

hosted an emergency preparedness event. [Queens Chronicle](#)

Jobs

Workers at a luxury residential building at 421 Hudson Street went on strike last week over wage disagreements with the building's management. The wage dispute began after staff was under-compensated for heavy overtime management required following Sandy as workers responded to flooding and power-outage problems. [New York Observer](#)

Events

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

Upcoming Deadlines

Friday, June 27: New York City Economic Development Corporation issued a [Request for Proposals](#) for a study examining flood protection and mitigation surrounding Coney Island Creek.

Regional Events

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

Thursday, June 19, 9:30-11:30 am: Will You Help Your Multifamily Property Weather the Next Super Storm? Enterprise Community Partners, One Whitehall Street, 11 Floor, New York, NY 10004. [Registration is required](#).

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

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.

New York City Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters: The [2014 Rebuild Environment: NYC Voluntary Rebuild Capacity Assessment report](#); a comprehensive assessment of the NYC voluntary sector's rebuild capacity in response to Superstorm Sandy.

Center for an Urban Future: [Caution Ahead: Overdue Investments for New York's Aging Infrastructure](#)

Alliance for a Just Rebuilding: [Weathering the Storm: Rebuilding a More Resilient New York City Housing Authority Post-Sandy](#).

[Future-Proofing Cities](#): A report from the U.K. Department for International Development and

University College London looking at the risks and opportunities for inclusive urban growth in developing countries. 129 cities, 5 urban types and over 100 practical solutions, statistics and analysis.

[Field Guide Set & Trainings For Engaging Faith Communities](#) from the National Disaster Interfaith Network

The International Economic Development Council released [Case Studies in Small Business Finance Following a Disaster](#), a report of six case studies of effective long-term economic recovery efforts of disaster-affected communities.

Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development, Inc.: [Real Affordability: An Evaluation of the Bloomberg Housing Program and Recommendations to Strengthen Affordable Housing Policy](#)

Alliance for a Just Rebuilding: [How Sandy Rebuilding Can Reduce Inequality in New York City](#)

Rutgers University: [Overlooking Oversight: A Lack of Oversight in the Garden State is Placing New Jersey Residents and Assets at Risk](#).

Ceres report: [Cool Response: The SEC & Corporate Climate Change Reporting](#): SEC Climate Guidance & S&P 500 Reporting - 2010 to 2013.

[Brooklyn Communities Speak: An Action Guide for Local Decision-Makers Post Sandy](#). This report from the Brooklyn Community Fund and coalition partners analyzes conditions in six coastal Brooklyn neighborhoods post-Sandy, with recommendations for government agencies on how to address persistent recovery challenges while building resiliency in partnership with local communities.

White Paper prepared by Queens Legal Services: [Homes Underwater: Forebearance Alternatives for Sandy-Affected Homeowners](#)

[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, offers recommendations on how to address the inequalities entwined with Sandy's aftermath.

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

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.

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

The Government Accountability Office report, [Emergency Transportation Relief: Agencies Could Improve Collaboration Begun during Hurricane Sandy Response](#).

The Government Accountability Office report, [Disaster Resilience: Actions Are Underway, but Federal Fiscal Exposure Highlights the Need for Continued Attention to Longstanding Challenges](#), examines the challenges to resilience building.

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

The New York Times provides a [video archive](#) of Hurricane Sandy survivors' stories and rebuilding progress.

[The National Climate Assessment Report](#)

[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 [report](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides an assessment of state and local health emergency preparedness, including an evaluation of the response to Hurricane Sandy.

Online briefings from [World Care Centers](#) on disaster volunteer training for communities.

Information on [New York City's Community Emergency Response Teams \[pdf\]](#), along with an application for their 10-week training program.

The Brooklyn Recovery Fund has compiled [this guide](#) to navigating the public comment process for city and state CDBG action plans.

[Crowdsourcing ideas for FEMA](#) - Help FEMA plan for disasters. Join and submit your ideas to their crowd-sourced feedback community and vote on others' ideas.

[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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.