

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: June 13-20

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### Transparency Tip:

Check out the Hurricane Sandy website of [FederalTransparency.gov](http://FederalTransparency.gov) for maps and information about companies that been awarded contracts as part of the Disaster Relief Act.

Like our weekly round-up?  
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### Mayoral Forums on Sandy Recovery

**Thursday, June 27, 7:00 pm:** Mayoral Forum: Five Boroughs, One Recovery - City Wide Sandy Mayoral Candidate Forum, [Sandy Recovery & The Future of New York City's Flood Zone](#). 3300 Coney Island Ave. Brooklyn, New York.

### Action Item

**TODAY:** Thursday, June 20, 1:00 pm: The New York City Council Committee on Public Safety held a [public hearing](#) on a package of 10 bills proposed in response to oversight hearings on the city's Hurricane Sandy after action report and recommendations. [Contact us](#) if you would like to submit written testimony. In the coming days, we will post testimony from Good Jobs New York, the Alliance for a Just Rebuilding, the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance, among others.

### This week's news

#### Disaster Relief

The New York State Senate passed a package of more than 20 bills to provide financial relief for rebuilding and strengthening damaged communities. New York State Senate [Press Release](#)

Some federal government subsidies promote development in increasingly vulnerable coastal areas. [ProPublica](#)

The NYPD is boosting police presence in Sandy-damaged neighborhoods in Staten Island in response to reports of looting. [DNAinfo](#)

U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer [announced](#) \$6 million in FEMA funds will go to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the reimbursement of costs related to oil spill cleanup. DEC oversaw cleanup of over 500,000 gallons of oil that spilled as a result of Sandy.

FEMA will reimburse the New Jersey Department of Transportation for \$5 million for debris removal. The Department has received \$9.5 million in FEMA reimbursements so far. [The Record](#)

Governor Cuomo announced an additional \$39 million FEMA grant for Project Hope, a crisis counseling program. New York Daily News

桑迪受灾户水费帐单可申请分期付款 – The water bills for Sandy impacted homes were sent on June 17 by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection and are due mid-July. Residents with difficulties paying their bill can apply for a payment plan. The Epoch Times

The New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance has developed a mediation program to help storm victims resolve insurance claims that have been denied. Asbury Park Press

New Jersey First Lady Mary Pat Christie and leading chefs introduced National "Dine Out" Day to benefit the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund. CBS New York and NJ 101.5

助珊迪風災重建 2華警獲表彰 – Two Chinese-American auxiliary police officers received recognition for their remarkable efforts in Sandy recovery. World Journal

The Brooklyn Cyclones introduced new jerseys that feature the names of storm-damaged neighborhoods. Staten Island Advance

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### **Rebuilding Infrastructure**

New York State officials are expected to approve a proposal to restructure the Long Island Power Authority, freezing its rates for two years and largely eliminate its role in power distribution. New Jersey-based PSE&G would take over operations of the Long Island power grid on January 1. The New York Times

Governor Andrew Cuomo announced a \$700 million project to be led by the Army Corps of Engineers to enhance storm protections along the south coast of Long Island.

Mayor Bloomberg released a series of recommendations to make New York City's building codes more resilient. Revisions would require approval from the City Council. The New York Times and 彭博促大規模修改樓宇法 Sing Tao Daily

The Sustainable Communities Consortium, led by the New York City Department of City Planning, issued two reports promoting sustainable and resilient neighborhoods. New York City Department of City Planning

This episode of MetroFocus interviews Seth Pinsky,

President of the New York City Economic Development Corporation and the director of the Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency (SIRR) about the city's proposed resiliency plan released last week. [Metrofocus](#)

彭博防洪計劃面對重重困難 – Some experts and officials have offered support for the mayor's resiliency plan, but caution that certain initiatives will be difficult to implement. [Sing Tao Daily](#)

ALSO: An editorial questions if any of the mayoral candidates have the fortitude to carry out Mayor Bloomberg's plans laid out in "A Stronger, More Resilient New York." [New York Daily News](#)

Environmental advocates and planners question the "Seaport City" idea - a new development proposed to be built on landfill in Lower Manhattan. [The Wall Street Journal](#)

ALSO: The SIRR proposal for constructing "Seaport City" has been considered before. [Crain's New York Business](#)

The Army Corps of Engineers will spend \$10 million to replenish beach sand at beaches in Rockaway, Queens. [WNYC](#)

A seed bank run by the Greenbelt Native Plant Center on Staten Island is preserving native plant species that will be critical to stabilizing dunes in the post-Sandy rebuilding. [National Public Radio](#)

To provide guidance on environmental guidelines for Sandy rebuilding, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation launched a website providing information on permitting, applications, and contact information for regional administrators. [Long Island News](#)

愛迪生公司10億元更新設施限制停電範圍 – Con Edison recently installed new "smart switches" in Larchmont, NY as part of an initiative to prevent wide-spread power outages during storms. [Sing Tao Daily](#)

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## Housing

After objections from elected officials and homeowners, FEMA revised its advisory flood risk maps for coastal counties in New Jersey, drastically scaling back the area considered at the highest risk of flooding. Interactive map featured. [WNYC](#) and [Asbury Park Press](#)

ALSO: The new FEMA flood maps, which have significantly reduced areas previously considered the highest danger zone, are a relief for many homeowners in New Jersey. [Insurance Journal](#)

New evacuation zone maps for New York City based on storm surge data from the National Weather Service were released this week. The maps were expanded to include 600,000 more residents, and the number of zones expanded, allowing officials more flexibility when issuing evacuation orders. [AP via Wall Street Journal](#) and [最新淹水撤離區 300萬受影響 World Journal](#)

ALSO: The new evacuation zone map now includes 26 NYCHA developments, four hospitals, and nine nursing homes and encompass nearly 3 million New Yorkers [The New York Times](#), [WNYC](#) and [市政府發表新地圖列6疏散區 - Sing Tao Daily](#)

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### Jobs

One of the bills approved by the New York State Senate this week would allow state IDAs to provide aid to retailers after large scale disasters such as Sandy. [Newsday](#)

## Advocacy News

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

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

### Brooklyn

The Brooklyn Public Library is compiling oral histories of Brooklyn individuals, organizations, and workers who were impacted by the storm. Interviews will be scheduled by appointment. See [website](#) for details.

### Queens

[Asian Americans for Equality](#) offers several programs to help small businesses and emergency home repairs. Deadline for home repairs application is June 30, 2013.

### New Jersey

Volunteers are needed for rebuilding construction teams. Details and sign-up information [here](#).

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 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 identifying priority projects for the Sandy recovery process, the Recovery Agenda includes priorities of 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 the storm'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](#)

Several non-profit organizations have endorsed [Post-Sandy Rebuilding Principles: Building a sustainable region and economy, creating jobs for all](#). We encourage you to sign on, too. Contact [bettina@goodjobsfirst.org](mailto:bettina@goodjobsfirst.org) for more information.

## Federal, State & Local Resources

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

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

**NEW:** Newly updated [Hurricane Evacuation Maps](#) for New York City

**NEW:** FEMA's [revised preliminary flood maps](#) for counties in New Jersey and New York City

New York City Panel on Climate Change: [Climate Risk Information 2013](#)

New York City Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency: [A Stronger More Resilient New York Build It Back](#) - New York City's Housing recovery program.

[Repair the Rockaways](#) is a crowd-source funding site for Respond and Rebuild.

[Community Resource Exchange](#) lists many nonprofit disaster relief resources for individuals, communities and small businesses.

The [NYC Home Repair Consortium](#) seeks to repair 600 homes that have non-structural damage with unmet needs.

The (华埠服务社) [Greater Chinatown Community Association](#) provides translation assistance in Mandarin and Cantonese for business owners wanting to apply for FEMA and SBA funding. Phone: 212-374-0032.

A report from the Democrats of the House Committee on Small Business Committee, [Despite Reforms, SBA's Sandy Response Lags](#), finds that SBA has approved fewer than 25 percent of applications and that New York's businesses are facing significant challenges obtaining disaster relief through the SBA.

The [NYC Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations](#) is managing the disaster relief funds.

The [New York Recovery Resource Center](#) provides links for applying for Housing and Business Recovery Assistance through New York State.

The Recovery Accountability & Transparency Board has created [FederalTransparency.gov](#) which will post spending data for Sandy recovery. All [contracts](#) awarded since Sandy are currently posted.

New York City's [Hurricane Sandy After Action Report and Recommendations](#) to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg details the city's evaluation of its response during and immediately after Sandy, and includes 59 recommendations for strengthening performance in future storms.

New York City's [response to Public Comments](#) on the Partial Action Plan A. See also Good Jobs New York's information page on [Action Plans for Hurricane Sandy Recovery Funds](#)

Updated statistics from FEMA on ongoing recovery efforts and costs for New York State: [Disaster assistance to New York survivors of Hurricane Sandy](#).

[Smart Response](#) collects and shares data on relief organizations coordinating donations and volunteer support for Sandy victims.

New York State health and safety inspectors from the Department of Labor will provide inspections and assessments to businesses effected by Sandy to help firms reopen as soon as possible. Call 1-888-4-NYSDOL (1-888-469-7365) or visit their [website](#) for more information.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is conducting a [Small Business Credit Survey](#)

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is posting upcoming application deadlines, recovery resources, events, and key agency contacts on their [Sandy Information Center](#) page.

FEGS Project Hope Crisis Counseling Program offers free crisis outreach services to residents of New York City and Long Island affected by Hurricane Sandy. [Project Hope](#)

National Grid customers can visit [www.nationalgridus.com](#) to get information about the National Grid Emergency Economic and Community Development program for business customers impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

### **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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