

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: March 13 - 20

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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!

Transparency Tip from the Electronic Frontier Foundation

[How to Track Government Projects Like a](#)

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

The New York Times editorial board [criticizes](#) the Christie Administration for mismanaging New Jersey's recovery efforts and suggests that HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan should be more proactive in addressing the inequities and shortcomings of the process.

ALSO: Gov. Christie is under increasing pressure from storm-affected residents who continue to wait for rebuilding funds. [Salon](#)

ALSO: Protesters at a recent town hall meeting with Gov. Christie say their motivation to protest came from concern over the Governor's handling of Sandy recovery. [Philly.com](#)

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio criticized the Bloomberg Administration's handling of Hurricane Sandy rebuilding plans but has yet to announce major changes to the City's rebuilding effort. [The Wall Street Journal](#)

A new study analyzes the factors that contributed to Occupy Sandy's success in disaster relief and emergency response. [Homeland Securities Studies and Analysis](#)

The Staten Island Hunger Task Force held a legislative breakfast last week to call attention to the need to increase services for the Borough's hungry. [Staten Island Advance](#)

A letter to the editor cites Hurricane Sandy as an example of why FEMA provides inadequate disaster relief in a new era of extreme weather. [Asbury Park Press](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

Gov. Cuomo's budget withholds \$40 million from a fund dedicated to MTA operations expenses at a time when the subway system is dirty and expensive, and overcrowding is exacerbated by long-term repair work from Sandy damage. [The New York Times](#) (editorial), [Capital New York](#) and [Mobilizing the Region](#) blog

A [report](#) by the Center for an Urban Future surveys the extent of decaying infrastructure the City must address. A [report](#) by SUNY-

Defense Contractor

Also, in the spirit of Sunshine Week...

Learn more about how the New York City Industrial Development Agency plans to implement new transparency mechanisms. The IDA was responsible for allocating benefits through the Hurricane Emergency Sales Tax Exemption Program. A list of those companies is available in our database.

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

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Albany's Rockefeller Institute warns that Mayor de Blasio has not defined climate change adaptation or infrastructure as key priorities and may reverse many of the previous administration's climate resiliency plans. [Crain's New York Business](#)

This week the White House launched [climate.data.gov](#) which provides data on the potential effects of climate change on sea level rise, draughts or wildfires presented as maps of neighborhoods. [The New York Times](#) and [The Washington Post](#)

ALSO: Researchers from Google and Microsoft are collecting data for the new climate change portal. [TheStreet.com](#)

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection announced it is launching a \$25 million stormwater management initiative in three flood-prone Queens neighborhoods.

The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, responsible for repairs and rebuilding of many of the city's beaches and boardwalks, remains without a commissioner. [The New York Times](#)

Amtrak cites aging and dangerous Sandy-impacted infrastructure along the Northeast Corridor as reason for major service disruptions in the near future. [The Roanoke Times](#)

Rumors are circulating that Walmart is considering opening a store on property it purchased on the border of Queens and Long Island, an area that was heavily damaged by Sandy. [Crain's Insider](#) and [Gothamist](#)

A slideshow of some of the photographs from the exhibit "Rising Waters: Photographs of Sandy" at the Museum of the City of New York reveal the violence and magnitude of the storm. [The New York Times](#)

Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer is gaining support from residents and energy industry leaders to implement a microgrid in Hoboken to provide back-up electricity. [NJ Spotlight](#)

ALSO: Increasingly, energy experts consider microgrids a best practice in helping prevent service disruptions during emergency events while promoting local green energy. [Medill Reports Chicago](#)

Housing

Representatives from New York City's Department of Housing Preservation and Development and Build it Back said November 2014 is earliest possible date damaged homes will be ready to be reoccupied; many homes in Queens and Staten Island will require special permits and even longer wait times for construction. [DNAinfo](#)

For New Jersey residents, FEMA has extended the deadline to apply for temporary housing aid through July. [The Star-Ledger](#)

New Jersey Sandy victims languish in trailers as they await repairs to their homes. [The Star-Ledger](#)

A review of property value assessments from the New York City Department of Finance reveals that recent New York State home buyouts in Staten Island were more than twice the estimated pre-Sandy market value. The buyout program is run by a contractor, ProSource Technologies, which was the subject of federal audits in Iowa. [DNAinfo](#)

Jobs

Former New York City Council Member Dominic Recchia launched his campaign for Congress and outlined plans to leverage more funds for rebuilding projects that would translate into jobs for Sandy victims. [Staten Island Advance](#)

Events

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

Upcoming deadlines

March 31: Final community plans are due for the State's New York Rising community Reconstruction Program. [Online interactive maps for six New York City communities](#) are available for public feedback.

April 11: Final deadline for applicants to the NY Rising program. Online Applications can be found at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov>

Notice of Upcoming Request for Proposals for the [Enterprise Community Partners Capacity Building Grants Program](#). The RFP is expected to be released the week of March 24 and all application materials will be [posted online](#). Responses are due by Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at 5 p.m. Organizations may apply for up to \$150,000 across a maximum of three grant program areas. Awards will be announced beginning July 7, 2014.

Regional Events

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

Wednesday March 26, 9:30 am - 11:30 am: Enterprise's Resilience Speakers Series | Operations and Maintenance for Disaster Preparedness. Enterprise Community Partners. One Whitehall Street 11 Floor New York, NY 10004 [Info and webex access](#).

Friday March 28, 7:30 am - 11:00 am: [Fix & Fortify Sandy Recovery Work Contract Opportunities at the MTA](#). Club 101, 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178.

Monday March 31, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm: [Regional Recovery Working Group Workshop for Coastal Communities](#). New York Institute of Technology Old Westbury Campus, Northern Boulevard & Valentines Lane, Glen Head, NY 11545

Thursday, April 3, 5:00 - 8:00 pm: [Rebuild by Design Public Presentations \(New York\)](#) - the Unveiling of the Final Work. 250 Vesey St, 29th Floor, New York, NY 10281

Thursday, April 3, 8:30 - 11:00 am: [Rebuild by Design Public Presentations \(New Jersey\)](#) - the Unveiling of the Final Work. Liberty Science Center, 222 Jersey City Blvd, Jersey City, NJ 07305.

Through **Sunday, April 6**: [Rising Waters: Photographs of Sandy](#) at the Museum of the City of New York. 1220 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10029.

Thursday, April 10 and **Thursday, May 15**, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm: Superstorm Sandy Free Legal Clinic from the Volunteer Lawyers for Justice. Recovery Information Center, Moonachie Presbyterian Church, 221 Moonachie road, Moonachie, NJ 07074

Friday, April 25, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm: [The Regional Plan Association's 24th Annual Assembly](#), discussing "A Vision for 2040" and showcasing winners of HUD's Rebuild by Design competition. Waldorf-Astoria, 301 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

Tuesday, April 29, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - [Multifamily Resiliency Measures](#). Part of the Enterprise Community Partners 2014 Resiliency Speakers Series of panel presentations exploring long-term recovery challenges and opportunities for the multifamily affordable housing infrastructure in New York City and the surrounding region in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

Friday, May 23, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - [Flood Resilient Code](#). Part of the Enterprise Community Partners 2014 Resiliency Speakers Series of panel presentations exploring long-term recovery challenges and opportunities for the multifamily affordable housing infrastructure in New York City and the surrounding region in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

Brooklyn

Saturday, March 22, 1:00 pm: UPROSE & New York City Environmental Justice Alliance in a conversation with the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance. 166A 22nd Street between 3rd and 4th Ave in Brooklyn. RSVP: info@uprose.org

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.

Queens

Wednesday, March 26, 7:00-9:00: [Rockaway Boardwalk Project Informational Session #3](#). Learn about the boardwalk's development and associated job opportunities. PS 43 160 Beach 29th Street

Staten Island

Saturday, March 22, 8:00 pm: [Superstorm Sandy Benefit Concert, IMPACT](#). Proceeds benefit the Stephen Siller T2T Hurricane Sandy Relief efforts and their partner rebuild groups. 25 Hyatt Street Staten Island, NY 10301

Advocacy Reports

NEW: 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 Interfaiths 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, sheds light on the inequalities entwined with Sandy's aftermath and recommendations for addressing inequality.

[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

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.

Contact us

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