

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: May 8-15

In This Issue

[Regional Events](#)
[Advocacy Reports](#)
[Federal, State & Local Resources](#)

Transparency Tip

The NYC Recovery website now includes information on [CDBG-DR funded contracts](#), including solicitation documents and sample contracts, and maximum contract CDBG. At NYC Recovery go to the Procurement, Contracts and Jobs tab.

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

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Good Jobs New York launched a

Action Item

In response to recommendations from the Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force, the Small Business Administration is proposing an amendment to its disaster loan program regulations **for disasters declared on or after April 25, 2014**. Comments must be received by **June 23, 2014**. [Find more information to submit comments](#),

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

U.S. Senators from New York and New Jersey expressed concern and outrage over a proposed plan by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to divert some CDBG-DR funds from Sandy recovery. [Roll Call](#)

ALSO: In a meeting with the Congressional delegation from New York and New Jersey, HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan promised 'critical' recovery needs will be made in Sandy-affected areas, but rejected requests from the delegation that none of the CDBG-DR funds be diverted to other disaster-stricken states. [New York Daily News](#)

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority has begun approving more grants and loans programs its federally-supported Sandy business relief programs. [Asbury Park Press](#)

When ConEd preemptively turned off power during Sandy to protect the utility, courts ruled that insurers were within rights to deny business interruption claims based on loss of electricity for several days after Sandy. [The Insurance & Reinsurance Report](#)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [announced](#) it will use Disaster Relief Act funds to develop models to better understand the safest way to restore fish travel patterns, after fish passages were impeded by sediment during Sandy.

AT&T Digital contributed \$10,000 to Habitat for Humanity to rebuild a home in Staten Island's Midland Beach. [Staten Island Advance](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

A [new study](#) released this week shows how oyster reefs, which are

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!

dynamic in nature and can adapt to rising sea levels, offer a cost-effective alternative to sea walls while providing many of the same benefits of storm surge protection. [The Atlantic](#)

Communities face an urgency to incorporate resiliency initiatives into their emerging long-term sustainability plans, which in some cases has been challenging. [Planetizen](#)

The National Hurricane Center will release new storm surge maps to help emergency management officials predict risk based on water depth and extent of inundation during a hurricane. [Accu-weather](#)

Changing weather patterns due to global climate change are expected to reduce fresh-water supplies and arable land and potentially ignite conflict in unstable countries prone to terrorism. [Quartz](#)

Henk Ovink, the Dutch storm resiliency expert currently serving as senior adviser to HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan and leading the Rebuild by Design competition, discusses his desire to involve community experts in devising regional disaster preparedness plans. [Harvard Gazette](#)

Parsons Brinckerhoff anticipates many contracting opportunities with numerous transit and infrastructure projects underway in the tri-state area, and was involved in several contracts in the immediate aftermath of Sandy, including shore restoration and assessments of tunnel damage in New York City. [ENR New York](#)

Three experts from diverse backgrounds but sharing a common focus on climate change, discuss views on possibilities for urban centers to adapt to rising sea levels. The New York Times, [dot Earth blog](#)

Mayor de Blasio's executive budget includes funding to operate the Rockaway Ferry, which connects the Rockaways in Queens with lower Manhattan, through the summer. [am New York](#)

Social media was a vital aspect of disseminating emergency information and assistance, via local residents and community organizations posting real-time information, pointing to a new future for emergency journalism. [NJ Business](#)

Housing

A supportive housing complex serving adults with mental illness reopened in the Rockaways, Queens and features submarine-inspired resiliency innovations, including flood gates, water-tight doors, and roof top flood pumps. [New York Daily News](#)

Events

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

Deadline extended

A six month extension has been approved to file a Standard Flood Insurance Policy Proof of Loss claim for the National Flood Insurance Program due to Sandy. With the extension, claims may now be filed up to 24 months after the date of loss. See the [memo from FEMA](#).

Upcoming Deadlines

New York small businesses affected by recent excessive rain and related flooding have until Monday, June 2 to apply for Economic Injury Disaster Loans up to \$2 million. [See Small Business Administration press release](#)

Tuesday, June 3: [CDBG-DR Affordability Study on Multifamily Flood Insurance Request for Proposals](#) is due to NYCEDC.

Mondy, June 9: The New York City Mayor's Office of Recovery and Resiliency issued an RFP seeking a team to study the vulnerabilities of the New York City food supply and distribution network. See the [Press Release](#) and [Request for Proposals](#)

Regional Events

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

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, 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

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.

Saturday June 14: Canarsie Day. Community leaders, community organizations, and neighbors can come for Sandy resources, and info. 8802 Seaview Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11236

Queens

Tuesday, May 20, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm: New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer holds a [Sandy Oversight Hearing](#), Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 348 Beach 71st Street, Avene, NY 11692

Staten Island

Wednesday, May 28, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm: New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer holds a [Sandy Oversight Hearing](#), Saint Margaret Mary Olympia Activity Center, 1126 Olympia Blvd., Staten Island, 10306 United States

Advocacy Reports

NEW: 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 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

NEW: 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: 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.

Contact us

Good Jobs New York
11 Park Place, #701
New York, New York 10007
212-721-7996
www.goodjobsny.org
