

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: October 24 - 31

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From GJNY
Dazed and confused about the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013? We can help. Check out Good Jobs New York's tool to help New Yorker's understand the Federal Disaster Relief Act and New York City's plan for the first round of CDBG funds.

At-a-Glance:
[Federal Disaster Relief After Hurricane Sandy](#)

联邦政策一瞥：飓风桑迪救援资金分配 - (中文) ([In Chinese](#))

Action Items

New Resource from Good Jobs New York:

We are proud to announce our new Hurricane Sandy website redesign. 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 further expansion.

Friday, November 15, 10:00 am. The New York City Council Committee on Finance will [hold a public hearing](#) on a bill that would require the city to create a public database to track the expenditure of Hurricane Sandy funds.

TODAY: Application deadline for New York City's [Build it Back](#) program.

One Year Anniversary Headlines

Highlights of the media coverage of the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Sandy:

On Sunday, dozens of clergy and relief workers along with Sandy victims completed a two-day sojourn through communities hard-hit by Sandy to City Hall to raise awareness about the need for equitable rebuilding. [NY1](#)

ALSO: Hundreds gathered at the 'Turn the Tide' rally at City Hall, organized by 350.org and the Alliance for a Just Rebuilding, demanding equal access to home rebuilding funds for storm victims. [Metro](#), [WCBS/CNN](#) and [Gothamist](#)

U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer (D-NY) [estimates](#) New York will get \$6.3 billion in aid from FEMA for housing and transportation projects. He also projected that all of the first round of state CDBG funds would be distributed in 2014. [Newsday](#)

Philanthropy New York estimates that \$297 million was donated by private foundations and corporations for Sandy relief; far short of the \$1 billion raised after 9/11 and \$906 million after Katrina. [Crain's New York Business](#)

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

Transparency Tip:

See FEMA's [Hurricane Sandy: One Year Later](#) for an update on recovery efforts, a timeline of activity and status of spent relief funds.

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been allocated.

The Brooklyn Recovery Fund raised \$3.5 million for recovery efforts and will release a report on six Sandy-impacted communities to inform incoming leaders of long-term needs. [City Limits Brooklyn Bureau](#)

Red Hook, Brooklyn residents came together to commemorate Sandy at a fundraiser for the Red Hook Initiative, which provides community services to many residents in need after Sandy. City Limits [Brooklyn Bureau](#)

This [New York Times documentary](#) presents a video of four neighborhoods struggling to rebuild after Sandy.

New York City Deputy Mayor Cas Halloway lists the accomplishments of the administration in responding to Hurricane Sandy. [New York Daily News](#)

The Archbishop of New York commemorated the anniversary of Hurricane Sandy on Staten Island and praised residents for coming together to help one another during the tragedy. [New York Daily News](#)

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

The Department of Housing and Urban Development [announced](#) a second round of Community Development Block Grants, worth \$5 billion, to be allocated to five states and New York City for storm recovery and relief. [Crain's New York Business](#)

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced the first properties to receive funding through the Build it Back program will be the Lower East Side's Knickerbocker Village and two buildings in the Rockaways, Queens. [DNAinfo](#)

Frustrated by the inability to receive funding to rebuild and the anticipated rise in flood insurance costs, more families in the region are seeking a government buyout. [The Wall Street Journal Metropolis](#)

ALSO: Over 200 Long Island residents have applied to the New York State home acquisition program through NY Rising Housing Recovery Program. [Newsday](#)

ALSO: Stories of families who are participating in the state program to buy out 418 homes in Oakwood Beach, Staten Island. [The New York Times](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

Bloomberg Administration officials have pledged 'broad-based outreach' to solicit community input in climate resiliency plans.

Many community leaders want more involvement in shaping plans to protect storm-vulnerable communities. [Gotham Gazette](#)

Twenty of the 257 projects named in the [SIRR report](#) issued by the Bloomberg Administration in June have been completed. The report projected that 59 projects would be complete by the end of the year. [Next City](#)

New York Gov. Cuomo announced the state is creating a gasoline reserve of three million gallons of fuel in preparation for future disasters. [The New York Times](#)

Environmental groups gave New Jersey Gov. Christie and officials of the state's rebuilding agency low grades for the lack of public outreach in developing a recovery plan, and the state DEP also scored poorly for lax regulations. [The Star-Ledger](#)

Students of the Pratt Institute's interdisciplinary program Recovery, Adaptation, Mitigation and Planning (RAMP) are working with youth from the Red Hook Initiative in developing ideas for Red Hook's recovery and disaster preparedness. [NYU News & Documentary](#)

Many New Yorkers, put off by the high cost of raising their homes and difficulty accessing federal funds, are choosing not to elevate homes when rebuilding. [WNYC](#)

Many Staten Islanders criticize the city's Build it Back program for bureaucratic red tape, slow response, and lack of transparency. [Gotham Gazette](#)

Microgrids are being considered in the Rockaways, Queens. [Climate Central](#)

Sandy was one of the largest hurricanes on record in the Atlantic Ocean, causing damage across the Caribbean and the Eastern Seaboard. Disaster risk reduction efforts in countries like Haiti and Cuba may have helped lessen Sandy's destruction there. [Al Jazeera](#)

While weather forecasting has become more precise, how public officials communicate risk and possible impacts of a storm remains limited. [Climate Central](#)

The MTA revealed some new defenses against flooding, including an inflatable tunnel plug. [The New York Post](#)

Advocates concerned about Verizon's plans to expand its "Voice Link" network received 300 pages of redacted information in response to their Freedom of Information Law request. [Forbes](#)

Housing

An Enterprise Community Partners survey shows that households with an average annual income of less than \$57,000 are much less likely to have made full repairs to their homes post-Sandy than

households with higher incomes. [Crain's New York Business](#)

Over 200 storm victims in New York City remain without permanent housing and are waiting for the Bloomberg Administration to approve housing vouchers. [New York Daily News](#)

A poll of New Jersey residents displaced due to Sandy found that nearly 40% are still not home. A majority of responders are dissatisfied with recovery efforts. [The Wall Street Journal Metropolis blog](#)

In addition to problems post-Sandy, New York City public housing residents, especially seniors and the disabled, had many unmet needs that existed before Sandy that continue to be unaddressed by the New York City Housing Authority. [The New York Times](#)

ALSO: The New York City Housing Authority claims it completed all the repairs on Sandy-damaged buildings and will now begin using a \$120 million federal grant to install emergency generators in storm-vulnerable properties. [WNYC](#)

While many of the businesses in Coney Island, Brooklyn's commercial strip have reopened, many low-income residents fail to have basic services including reliable hot water and electricity in their homes. [City Limits Brooklyn Bureau](#)

The Bloomberg Administration [announced](#) results from a recent independent study commissioned by the city, which found that new FEMA flood maps to be adopted will double the number of households required to have flood insurance.

ALSO: FEMA expects flood insurance rates will rise for many homeowners. Officials face push back from communities concerned that their neighborhoods will become less affordable. [National Public Radio](#)

Jobs

The Workers Justice Project is concerned that many immigrant construction workers and day laborers are working in unsafe conditions and calls for greater transparency about the firms receiving rebuilding funds. [Al Jazeera America](#)

For many small businesses, having a disaster preparedness plan is crucial to surviving the next Sandy. [Entrepreneur](#)

Madelaine Cholocates in the Rockaway's, Queens, was flooded during Sandy but re-opened last week. It is the neighborhood's largest employer. [New York Daily News](#)

The Street followed up with businesses one year after being devastated by Sandy. [The Street](#)

Events

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

Upcoming application deadlines

October 31: applications are due for Build it Back, New York City's program to assist homeowners and renters.

November 1: The New York City Department of Small Business Services Small Business Storefront Improvement Program provides funding for facade improvements to eligible small businesses and property owners impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Selected participants will be awarded up to \$20,000.

November 7 by 4:00 pm is the new deadline to submit a funding application through The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) Small Grants Program.

Funding opportunity: The NOAA Marine Debris Program Grants. Projects awarded through this grant competition have strong on-the-ground habitat restoration components involving the removal of marine debris, including derelict fishing gear. Projects also provide benefits to coastal communities, and create long-term ecological habitat improvements for NOAA trust resources. Read the summary for details.

\$27 million in federal National Emergency Grant (NEG) funds are available from the New York State Department of Labor via the Jobs for Cleanup Work program. For an application, information, and a list of jobs visit <http://www.labor.ny.gov/ui/neg.shtm>

New York City

Friday, November 15, 2013 10:00 am: The New York City Council Committee on Finance will hold a public hearing on Intro 1040, a bill that would create a public database to track the expenditure of Hurricane Sandy recovery funds.

Brooklyn

Wednesday, November 6: "Marfa Dialogues/NY: Center for Social Inclusion & The Pratt Institute Programs for Sustainable Planning & Development Community Conversations on Environmental Justice & Rebuilding. Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont St.

Manhattan

Sunday, November 3, 8:30 am-4:00 pm: Building Power After Sandy: A day of training and action for day laborers, BMCC (Borough of Manhattan Community College), 199 Chambers Street.

Sunday, November 3, 4:30 pm: Rally with Sandy Reconstruction Workers for Labor Rights & Against Deportation. Foley Square, Worth Street and Federal Plaza.

Friday, November 8, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm: A conversation with Daniel Zarrilli, Director of Resiliency at the Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability. AIA Center for Architecture, 536 LaGuardia Place.

Queens

Wednesday, November 20: "Marfa Dialogues/NY: Center for Social Inclusion & The Pratt Institute Programs for Sustainable Planning & Development Community Conversations on Environmental Justice & Rebuilding, Queens Museum, Rockaways.

Advocacy Reports

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.

The Urban Green Council maintains a [proposal tracker](#) to follow the status of the Building Resiliency Task Force report proposals geared at making New York buildings safer and more resilient to extreme weather.

[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.

New York City Public Advocate Bill de Blasio documents the efforts of community-based organizations providing disaster relief services for low-income families after Sandy: [Supporting Community-Based Disaster Response: Lessons Learned from Hurricane Sandy](#)

The Center for Urban Real Estate: [NYC 2040: Housing the Next One Million New Yorkers](#)
urban green council maintains a [proposal tracker](#) to follow the status of the Building Resiliency Task Force report proposals geared at making New York buildings safer and more resilient to extreme weather.

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.

The Alliance for a Just Rebuilding released [Sandy's Mold Legacy: The Unmet Need Six Months 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 Manhattan Chamber of Commerce released a [Disaster Preparedness Checklist](#) for small businesses.

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

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

NEW: 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.

New York City's Action Plan A for use of \$1.7 billion in Community Development Block Grants, including four amendments to the plan can be found at the [NYC Recovery: Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery](#) website. Also, read Good Jobs New York's comments on the recent amendment to the action plan and more on our page for [Action Plans for Hurricane Sandy Recovery Funds](#)

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 [athree-part blog series](#).

[Disaster Recovery Bulletin](#), August 2013. A weekly electronic newsletter from the Hurricane Sandy federal disaster recovery coordination team.

ProPublica's [list](#) of the best journalism on the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy.

[Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grant Program](#). This program, through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Department of the Interior, aims to fund ways to rebuild wetlands, beaches and other ecosystems.

顯利街社服中心「希望之星」撫慰珊迪災民受創心靈 - Henry Street Settlement in Lower Manhattan provides free mental health counseling to people and families affected by Sandy. Hot line: (800) 543-3638; In Chinese: (877) 990-8585.

The New York [Community Reconstruction Program](#), formerly known as Community Reconstruction Zones; the program's website includes an interactive map of the "NY Rising Communities" and a prominent link for making public comment.

[The New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Sandy Recovery Resource Guide](#), updated July 9, 2013.

Report by the U.S. Department of Energy: [U.S. Energy Sector Vulnerabilities to Climate Change and Extreme Weather](#). Part of the Obama Administration's national climate change adaptation planning, this report examines current and potential impacts of climate trends on the nation's energy sector. It includes an interactive map showing the location of current climate vulnerabilities in the energy sector.

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.

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