

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 3 - 10

In This Issue

[This week's news](#)

[Regional Events](#)

[Advocacy Reports](#)

[Federal, State & Local Resources](#)

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

You have until midnight tonight to [submit comments to New York City's proposed amendment](#) to its Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Action Plan. See a joint statement from Good Jobs New York and other organizations [here](#).

The Rockaway Waterfront Alliance [Call-to-Action Campaign](#) is asking residents of Rockaway and surrounding Jamaica Bay to [take this online survey](#) to help develop stronger, better disaster response resources.

Application deadline extended: [Build it Back](#) (for New York City residents) applications now due October 31.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation issued a [Request For Qualifications](#) to reconstruct the boardwalk in Rockaway, Queens. The deadline is October 18, 4:00 pm.

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

New York City Mayor Bloomberg warned that if the federal government shutdown continues, many Sandy victims could be forced to wait longer for federal CDBG funds. [New York Daily News](#) and [NY1](#)

Many homes that were damaged by Sandy are left in disrepair as residents wait for New York City and State to begin distributing CDBG-DR funds. The lengthy approval processes put in place to prevent fraud is cited as the primary reason for the delay. [The New York World](#)

Four months after registration began for Build it Back, the city's program for distributing housing rebuilding funds, many in Staten Island have not received a preliminary site visit. Officials blame paperwork that must be submitted to HUD. [Staten Island Advance](#)

The Christie Administration [announced](#) \$25 million from the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant program will go to energy resilience efforts throughout the New Jersey.

A New York City Council resolution calls on Congress to amend the

Transparency Tip:

The Star Ledger created an interactive tool to help track the use of Sandy funds in New Jersey municipalities. [Sandy Recovery Scorecard](#)

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Stafford Act to reclassify co-ops and condos, making them eligible for FEMA relief. [The Times-Ledger](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

A panel convened by the Urban Land Institute surveyed local and state plans for post-Sandy community rebuilding and offered 23 recommendations on land use, infrastructure, finance, and governance in this new [report](#). [Crain's New York Business](#)

Boilers at 33 Sandy-damaged schools in Brooklyn and Queens continue to use temporary boilers received immediately after the storm. [DNAinfo](#)

An investigation of NJ Transit emails revealed the lack of proper disaster preparedness that resulted in over \$120 million worth of damage to a third of NJ Transit's fleet could be traced to its executive director. [The Record](#) and [Transportation Nation](#)

ALSO: Twelve additional train lines will be added to NJ transit routes, restoring service to pre-Sandy levels. [The Star-Ledger](#)

ConEd is requesting the state Public Service Commission to allow an 8% rate increase; New York Gov. Cuomo is opposed to the increase, in part due to the utility's performance after Sandy. [The New York Times](#) and [The Wall Street Journal/Metropolis](#)

New York City Buildings Commissioner, Robert LiMandri, [announced](#) the creation of an extreme weather guide that will help contractors and construction site managers safeguard construction sites.

The state's "New York Rising" Community Reconstruction Program will hold public engagement meetings to discuss community concerns and solicit input in rebuilding. For more details, see events listings, below. [New York Rising](#)

The earth science community generally agrees that sea level rise is happening at a faster rate than over the past 50 years. [Scientific American](#)

A group of business leaders, including Michael Bloomberg, announced a "Risky Business" initiative to evaluate the potential economic impacts of climate change. The group's first risk assessment report is due next summer. [The Washington Post](#) and [The Verge](#)

Housing

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced the state will expand its home buyout program to about 600 properties in Suffolk County, Long Island. [WNYC](#)

ALSO: The first home in New York City was bought out through the "Recreate New York Smart Home Buyout" program in Staten

Island. [Staten Island Advance](#)

The Red Cross prevented the eviction of New York City Sandy victims from hotel rooms by pledging \$1 million to cover the costs. Without the money, they would have been moved into homeless shelters last Friday. [Al Jazeera America](#)

The developer Related Companies pledged to provide support and volunteers to Habitat for Humanity's rebuilding work in Queens. [Crain's New York Business](#)

An update on the redevelopment of a 1,000 + unit low-income housing complex, Ocean Village in the Rockaway Peninsula. [Curbed](#)

Jobs

A new report by Carbonite, a company that provides cloud-based file backup, finds that two-thirds of small businesses do not have a disaster plan. As many do not back up business data. [PC Magazine](#)

Events

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

Regional

Application Deadline: October 31 applications are due for [Build it Back](#), New York City's program to assist homeowners and renters.

Grant Deadline: 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.

Call for volunteers: Week of Oct 7 - Oct 12: [The Sandy Design Help Desk](#) is seeking volunteers with a range of experience, from students to established professionals, to provide technical design assistance to residents and business owners in neighborhoods impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

Tuesday, October 15: Executives from the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board will discuss the technology behind Recovery.gov and how they built the architecture for tracking emergency spending. Register for the free conference [here](#).

Wednesday, October 16: [National Stormwater Calculator webcast](#). This webcast will introduce the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's new calculator designed to help property owners, developers, landscapers and urban planners decide which stormwater management practices to install.

Monday, October 28: [Rebuild by Design](#) public event. Design teams will share Stage 2 research and outline design opportunities across the region.

New York State

\$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>

Brooklyn

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 pm: NY Rising [Public Outreach Meeting for Red Hook](#). See link for location details.

Wednesday, October 16, 7:00 pm: NY Rising [Public Outreach Meeting for Gerritsen Beach and Sheepshead Bay](#). See link for location details.

Thursday, October 17 and Friday, October 18. The Science and Resilience Institute's first symposium, "[Urban Resilience in an Era of Climate Change: Global Input for Local Solutions](#)," will be held at Kingsborough Community College.

Tuesday, October 22, 7:00 pm: NY Rising [Public Outreach Meeting](#) for Brighton Beach, Coney Island, Manhattan Beach, and Sea Gate. See link for location details.

Manhattan

Friday, October 11, 9:00 am - 11:00 am: [Ensuring You're Insured: Insurance 101 for Affordable Multifamily Owners and Operators in the Wake of Superstorm Sandy](#). Enterprise Community Partners, One Whitehall Street, 11th Floor. Please register in advance. The session will also be available via WebEx. For additional information, [contact Laurie Schoeman](#) or by phone 212.284.7156

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 pm: NY Rising [Public Outreach Meeting for Lower Manhattan](#). See link for location details.

Monday, October 28, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. [Crain's Rebuilding NY: One Year Later](#). Sheraton New York Times Square. Join Crain's in a discussion with the region's key political and business leaders about the progress that's been made-and the daunting challenges that lay ahead.

Tuesday, October 29: "Marfa Dialogues/NY: Center for Social Inclusion & The Pratt Institute Programs for Sustainable Planning & Development Community [Conversations on Environmental Justice & Rebuilding](#), University Settlement, 184 Eldridge St. [Additional dates/locations: November 6: Brooklyn, Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont St., November 20: Rockaways, Queen Museum]

Queens

TONIGHT: Thursday, October 10, 7:00 pm: NY Rising [Public Outreach Meeting for Rockaway East](#). See link for location details.

October 7 - October 12. [Sandy Design Help Desk: Free Consultations on Building Code, Zoning, and Design for Building Owners in Sandy-Impacted Neighborhoods](#). Margert Community Corporation, 323 Beach 37th Street, Far Rockaway, NY 11691. See the [event website](#) for registration and details.

Monday, October 21, 7:30 pm: NY Rising [Public Outreach Meeting for New Howard Beach and Old Howard Beach](#). See link for location details.

Thursday, October 24, 7:00 pm: NY Rising [Public Outreach Meeting for Broad Channel](#). See link for location details.

Staten Island

TONIGHT: Thursday, October 10, 7:00 pm: NY Rising [Public Outreach Meeting for: Staten Island](#). See link for location details.

A schedule for events along the Staten Island waterfront commemorating the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Sandy includes a candlelight vigil along the shoreline. [Staten Island Advance](#)

New Jersey

Tuesday, October 29. [Superstorm Sandy: One Year Later, Looking to the Future](#). Monmouth University, West Long Branch, N.J. Presented by Monmouth University, New Jersey Future, New Jersey Recovery Fund. Free, registration is required.

Advocacy Reports

NEW: 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.

NEW: 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

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](#).

[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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