

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: September 19 - 26

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### New from GJNY

Dazed and confused about the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013? We can help. Check out Good Jobs New York's new 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

Application Deadline: [Build it Back](#) applications due September 30.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation issued a Request For Qualifications for reconstruction of the boardwalk along the beach in Rockaway, Queens. The deadline for submissions is October 18, 4:00 pm.

### This Week's News

#### Disaster Relief

In last week's Senate hearing reviewing the recovery effort, Senators Schumer (D-NY) and Mendendez (D-NJ) supported HUD Sec. Shaun Donovan's work overseeing the Sandy Rebuilding Task Force but questioned why money for rebuilding has been so slow to reach residents. [USA Today](#)

The Hoboken City Council in New Jersey passed an amendment requiring new construction and major renovations to follow the state Department of Environmental Protection flood resiliency standards. The amendment could help lower citywide National Flood Insurance Program rates, paid by residents. [The Hudson Reporter](#)

The MTA issued catastrophe bonds in July, to raise money to repair the subways if they flood in the next three years. Catastrophe bonds are among the top five best performing assets according to research by Deutsche Bank. [Quartz](#)

\$53 million in FEMA funding will go to repay Nassau County for storm debris removal work. [Newsday](#)

Officials in some New Jersey townships are opposed to Gov. Christie's decision to allocate \$15 million to victims of the Seaside Heights fire, if it is redirected from rebuilding the southern counties that are still awaiting rebuilding funds. [Press of Atlantic City](#)

In response to a lawsuit brought against National Grid in July, the utility is claiming homeowners' negligence caused the fire that burned through Breezy Point and Rockaway Beach, Queens. [New York Daily News](#)

## Transparency Tip:

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

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

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## Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

The New York City Council passed a package of new legislation aimed at improving the city's physical infrastructure. [Staten Island Advance](#)

Doctors of the World, an international aid organization, is opening a medical clinic in Rockaway Beach, Queens, a neighborhood with extremely limited health care options and high levels of healthcare needs post-Sandy. [WNYC](#)

The process of obtaining necessary permits for rebuilding work has created a backlog in zoning and building departments in New Jersey townships, slowing rebuilding in many areas. [Newsworks](#)

In an effort to protect the shoreline in Staten Island that eroded after the storm, FEMA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are funding the installation of a temporary berm constructed out of geotextile bags filled with sand that will run along Sprague Ave. to Swinerton Street. [Staten Island Advance](#)

ALSO: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has begun restoring two marsh islands in Jamaica Bay, Queens which has suffered from rapid erosion over the last century. [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers blog](#)

\$185 million of Sandy funds are financing new flood-proof tunnels for the Hudson Yards rail expansion project. [Mass Transit](#)

A report by the American Meteorological Society states that sea level rise has doubled the probability of Sandy-level flooding in and around New York City since 1950. The study also predicts Sandy-like floods could occur as often as once a year along the coasts of New Jersey and Connecticut. [Kitsap Sun](#)

When Sandy was technically downgraded from a hurricane to a tropical cyclone hours before impact in the New York City area, the National Hurricane Center stopped issuing warnings and directing local governments to issue evacuation orders. [National Journal](#)

This review of the federal Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding task force's recent report and notes the report's lack of wildlife restoration initiatives. [Sustainable Cities Collective](#)

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## Housing

The City plans to evict nearly 350 storm evacuees from the temporary hotel program this Monday and direct them to the city's homeless shelters. Many evacuees are still applying for rental vouchers. [The New York Times](#) and [Huffington Post](#)

September 30 is the deadline to apply for Build it Back, NYC's program to help rebuild homes destroyed by Sandy; 18,000 have applied so far. [NY1](#)

ALSO: Fifth Ave Committee canvassed the Gowanus, Brooklyn

neighborhood to encourage qualified people to apply for the Build it Back program before the deadline. [DNAinfo.com](http://DNAinfo.com)

Nationwide, flood insurance rates are set to go up October 1. Properties in flood zones will no longer benefit from federal subsidies that kept the price of insurance relatively low. [CBS New York](http://CBSNewYork.com)

A small home in the Hamptons, Long Island was donated to Habitat for Humanity and recently sold for \$1.45 million. Proceeds from the sale will assist Habitat's efforts in rebuilding and repairing Sandy-damaged homes for 10 families on Long Island. [New York Daily News](http://NewYorkDailyNews.com)

ALSO: Former President Jimmy Carter will be on Staten Island on October 11th to mark the end of a week-long push by Habitat for Humanity to rebuild homes. [Staten Island Advance](http://StatenIslandAdvance.com)

In response to buyer demand, flood management plans and waterproof walls are being added to luxury buildings under construction in Manhattan. [The Wall Street Journal](http://TheWallStreetJournal.com)

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## Jobs

Labor advocates and others were supportive of the New York State Attorney General's decision to order a contractor to make back-payments to subcontractors who were underpaid for their work to repair three hospitals damaged by Sandy. [Crain's New York Business](http://Crain'sNewYorkBusiness.com)

An Army Reservist is suing the city after being fired from her teaching assistant job in a Bronx public school after being called to duty by the Army in the aftermath of Sandy. [New York Daily News](http://NewYorkDailyNews.com)

## Advocacy News

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

## Regional

**Application Deadline: September 30** applications are due for [Build it Back](#), New York City's program to assist homeowners and renters.

**Grant Deadline: September 30.** Grants are available from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. [The Coastal Resilience Networks \(Crest\) grant program](#) for communities impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Grants range from \$200,000 to \$500,000.

**Grant Deadline: November 1.** The New York City 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.

**TONIGHT:** Thursday, September 26, 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm. HUD's [Rebuild by Design Public Conversation](#), Staten Island, NY. Charles School Auditorium 200 Penn Ave, Oak Wood, Staten

Island, NY. For a schedule of other meeting times and locations, visit <http://rebuildbydesign.org/>

**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.

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 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

Friday, September 27, 2013 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce presents: Government Procurement and Business Resource Roundtable Increase awareness of current and Post-Sandy resources and procurement opportunities available to local businesses

## Governor's Island

Sunday, September 29, 3:30 to 4:15 pm. Superstorm Sandy Success Stories: Designing a Resilient Park; take a tour of the new park construction site and learn more about how the Governors Island Park was designed with climate change in mind. No pre-registration required. Meet at the Arch at Liggett Hall.

The International Center of Photography exhibition of photographs about Hurricane Sandy and the storm's devastation and the region's recovery over the past ten months. "Rising Waters: Photographs of Hurricane Sandy," on view at Building 19, Nolan Park, Governor's Island through September 29.

## Manhattan

Friday, September 27, 9:00 am - 11:00 am. All Together Now: Strategies for Effective Resident Engagement for Emergency/Disaster Preparation. Enterprise Community Partners, One Whitehall Street, 11 Floor; Registration is required.

Thursday, October 10, 9:00 am - 7:00 pm: TEDx NYIT on META Resiliency. New York Institute of Technology Auditorium on Broadway, 1871 Broadway, New York, NY 10023. Tickets are required.

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## 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

A Disaster in the Making: Addressing the Vulnerability of Low-Income Communities to Extreme Weather. This report from 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](#)

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.

### **Contact us**

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