

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 26 - October 3

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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

NEW: Application deadline extended: [Build it Back](#) applications now due October 31.

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

New York City Democratic Mayoral nominee Bill de Blasio pledged to use federal rebuilding funds to address inequality in communities impacted by Sandy during his visit to Far Rockaway, Queens. [The New York Times](#) and [National Review](#)

ALSO: An editorial objects to Bill de Blasio's suggestion that relief funds should help create living wage jobs or build low-income housing while many Staten Island homeowners are still rebuilding. [Staten Island Advance](#)

Officials [announced](#) the registration deadline for Build it Back, New York City's program to help rebuild homes that were damaged by Sandy, has been extended to October 31st. Over 21,000 applications have been submitted. [NY1](#), [DNAinfo](#) and [Staten Island Advance](#)

During a hearing at the Queens County Supreme Court, legal advocates testified on the need for increasing legal services for low-income New Yorkers, particularly in the aftermath of a disaster. [New York Law Journal](#)

New Jersey legislators are calling for an investigation into the practices of a Louisiana-based firm, Hammerman & Gainer Inc., which is administering the state's home rebuilding grant program. Many residents report having difficulties applying. [Metropolis](#)

The New Jersey Department of Human Services has launched an advertising campaign addressing mental health needs of individuals coping with loss after Sandy. [CBS New York](#)

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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New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo [announced](#) that if storm victims' FEMA applications were denied because the agency does not cover damage due to shifting earth caused by flooding, they will be reimbursed through state recovery funds. [New York Daily News](#)

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo [announced](#) \$12 million from the National Park Service for repairing historic properties that were damaged during Sandy. Applications are due November 25, 2013.

U.S. Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) announced \$68 million in federal Department of Transportation Highway Emergency Relief funding to repair damaged highways and bridges. [Seabright Resource Center](#)

The Legal Services Corporation [announced](#) nearly \$1 million in grants for four legal aid organizations in New York and New Jersey.

ALSO: Legal Services NYC received a \$526,000 grant to continue its Sandy-related pro bono work, as well as other legal services. [New York Law Journal](#)

The non-profit Race 2 Rebuild will raise funds for Hurricane Sandy victims during the Staten Island half-marathon on October 13. [NY1](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

Bloomberg Administration officials selected Amsterdam-based engineering firm Arcadis to provide feasibility consulting for the proposed "Seaport City" development project which would expand Lower Manhattan with landfill and rely on luxury residential units to help pay for the development. [New York Daily News](#)

Obtaining construction permits from New Jersey townships is slowing many rebuilding projects. [WNYC](#)

ALSO: The Christie Administration announced it will make \$3 million in CDBG funds available to help New Jersey townships hire staff to better respond to the increased volume of applications for zoning and construction permits. [Associated Press via Asbury Park Press](#)

During a public hearing before a joint legislative committee in New Jersey, residents and lawmakers raised concerns about the pace of the recovery, as well frustration that two prominent Christie Administration officials leading rebuilding efforts did not attend the hearing. [NJ Spotlight](#)

Northern New Jersey industrial property sales are especially strong, even in flood-prone areas. [The Wall Street Journal](#)

Economic vulnerability after disasters like Sandy must be addressed by a diverse group of stakeholders to ensure the rebuilding will help everyone prepare for future disasters. [The Atlantic Cities](#)

New York State Senators Diane J. Savino and Andrew J. Lanza call for sustainable building and long-term job opportunities for residents in the Staten Island St. George Waterfront Redevelopment project. [Staten Island Advance](#)

Brooklyn College is [launching](#) the Science and Resilience Institute, a research center focused on restoration of Jamaica Bay, Queens ecosystems.

The Brooklyn Public Library re-opened its branch in Gerritsen Beach. The library received assistance from the AIG Disaster Relief Fund and Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City. [Brooklyn Daily Eagle](#)

Housing

New York City will require 300 storm evacuees to move into homeless shelters by October 4. According to the city, the program costs \$2 million a month, and FEMA has discontinued reimbursements. [The New York Times](#) and [Salon](#)

ALSO: At a rally on Wednesday, Queens Councilmember Donovan Richards, Jr. joined advocates in calling for the Bloomberg Administration to extend the temporary housing program for a few more weeks. [Coalition for the Homeless blog](#), [The Village Voice](#)

ALSO: Forty-eight Staten Island residents left homeless after Sandy are expected to be moved from hotels to the city's homeless shelter program on Friday. [Staten Island Advance](#)

An in-depth portrait of Long Beach, NY one year since Sandy, where many homeowners continue to struggle with flood insurance and are wary about rebuilding so close to the rising sea. [The New York Times](#)

Hundreds rallied in Broad Channel, Queens to protest changes to the National Flood Insurance Program that would raise premiums significantly for Sandy-damaged neighborhoods. [NY1](#)

FEMA guidelines for some resiliency measures, such as elevating properties, do not apply to large multifamily dwellings, yet opportunities for retrofitting these buildings should be considered. [The Atlantic Cities](#)

Jobs

National Grid agreed to pay \$6 million to workers in New York, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island for their overtime work after Sandy, for which they have not been paid. [Associated Press via Crain's New York Business](#)

ALSO: New York Attorney General Schneiderman [announced](#) the \$5 million settlement with National Grid, as part of a larger investigation into the utility's failure to pay its workers in three states for

emergency repair work. [Capitol Confidential](#)

Advocacy News

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 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.

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

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.

Manhattan

Thursday, October 10, 9:00 am - 7:00 pm: TEDx NYIT on META Resilience: "[The Resiliency of Resiliency](#)." New York Institute of Technology Auditorium on Broadway, 1871 Broadway, New York, NY 10023. Tickets are required.

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

Queens

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.

Staten Island

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

[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.

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