

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 5 - 12

### In This Issue

[This week's news](#)  
[Advocacy News](#)  
[Advocacy Reports](#)  
[Federal, State & Local Resources](#)

### 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 Item

NYC Build it Back: Tier 1 Environmental Reviews for the proposed CDBG-DR funded action have been [posted](#) for Single Family Houses, Multi-Family Buildings, and NYCHA Rehabilitation and Resilience. NOTE: There is no public comment period associated with these notices.

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

### This Week's News

#### Disaster Relief

New York City will receive \$5 million in FEMA reimbursements to repair three Sandy-flooded Queens schools. [New York Daily News](#)

Residents of Mid-Island, Staten Island are disappointed that City Council candidates are not prominently discussing Sandy recovery. [Gotham Gazette](#)

The New Jersey State Comptroller discovered overcharges of more than \$300,000 by Florida-based AshBritt, that won a no-bid contract to lead debris removal in New Jersey after Sandy. [The Star-Ledger](#)

#### Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will present its plan to elevate 4,500 Long Island homes and build dunes and salt marshes with the potential of some Fire Island homes being demolished. [WNYC](#)

Sea Bright and Highlands, NJ townships are partnering to develop a regional approach to their Sandy recovery. NJ Future and Sustainable Jersey are working with the communities to focus on long-term rebuilding efforts. [NJ Spotlight](#)

ALSO: New Jersey Future received a \$75,000 grant from the Center for Disaster Philanthropy to assist Sandy-affected towns incorporate resiliency measures in their recovery. [Foundation Center](#)

The ten finalists selected in HUD's Rebuild By Design competition will begin assessing regional needs through community engagement. [The Atlantic Cities](#)

## 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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ALSO: For a full listing of the Rebuild By Design community workshop locations and schedule, including tonight's meeting in Lower Manhattan at 6:00 pm visit <http://rebuildbydesign.org/>.

ALSO: New York Sen. Charles E. Schumer is calling for HUD to use the Rebuild by Design program to develop a comprehensive storm protection system for Nassau County. [Newsday](#)

New York State Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-Westchester) raised concerns about Verizon's plans to switch Lewisboro and North Salem customers in Westchester from copper land lines to a cellular "Voice Link" system, and applauded the reliability of land lines during Hurricane Sandy. [Hudson Valley Reporter](#) and [Lewisboro Ledger](#)

ALSO: After receiving many consumer complaints about a similar plan, Verizon announced it will use fiber optic cables on Fire Island. [Bloomberg](#)

Connecticut is the first state to introduce a microgrid, linking critical public services and private businesses to a backup power grid, powered by renewable energy sources. [Climate Central](#)

New York City's Department of City Planning must re-zone flood prone areas around the city to allow for buildings with enhanced resiliency. [Crain's New York Business](#)

Meteorological experts evaluated the communications response to Hurricane Sandy from the National Hurricane Center and NOAA. [Earth Magazine](#)

Officials from Jersey Central Power & Light presented the utility's improvements to its infrastructure since Sandy. [NJ Herald](#)

Hurricane Sandy caused sediment to shift in the Great Lakes, resulting in obstruction in shipping channels. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will dredge several harbors in Lake Michigan with funding from the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act. [NWI Times](#)

Pratt Institute professor Ron Shiffman discusses a new interdisciplinary program RAMP - Recovery, Adaptation, Mitigation and Planning - which he has developed in response to the need for community engagement in planning for future storms. [Gateway Newsletter](#)

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## Housing

The Fair Share Housing Center filed a lawsuit in New Jersey Superior Court seeking immediate disclosure of documents revealing the State's selection process for distributing grants. The suit was filed after agencies did not reply to an Open Public Records Act request. [The Patch](#) and [WNYC](#)

The Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development will

host trainings to increase applications to the "Build it Back" housing program which is accepting applications through September 2013. [DNAinfo](#)

A report by the Asbury Park Press estimates that 20 percent of Sandy-damaged properties are suffering from recurring mold. A bill introduced in the New Jersey State Legislature would require standards for mold cleanup and state registration for mold clean-up specialists. [The Star-Ledger](#)

New Jersey Gov. Christie has extended the state's home buyout program to 67 homes in Sayreville, NJ. [New Jersey Public Radio](#)

This article provides an explanation of the National Flood Insurance Program and details the upcoming changes to the program's flood premiums. [Newsworks](#)

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### Jobs

TWU Local 100 President John Samuelsen discusses former MTA chairman Joe Lhota's performance during Hurricane Sandy, questioning Lhota's decision to dock transit employees pay when they could not get to work due to the transit shutdown. [New York Daily News](#)

## Advocacy News

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

### Regional

**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.

**Application Deadline: September 30.** [Build it Back](#) applications must be submitted.

Hurricane Sandy relief volunteer opportunities in New York City are listed at [New York Cares](#)

### 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

Saturday, September 14, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. [Homeowner Resource Forum](#) sponsored by Neighborhood Housing Services of East Flatbush. Capital One Bank, 1425 Rockaway Pkwy (on the corner of Glenwood Rd) Brooklyn, NY 11236. For more information contact Tyrone McDonald at

718-469-4679 or email [infoef\\_01@nhsnyc.org](mailto:infoef_01@nhsnyc.org). Free.

### **Governor's Island**

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.

### **Long Island**

Thursday, September 12, 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm. American Planning Association New York Metro Chapter presents Long Island Reconstruction and Resilience: Learning From Other States and Europe. Allegria Hotel on the Boardwalk, City of Long Beach.

### **Manhattan**

**TONIGHT:** Thursday, September 12, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm. The first of four regional public workshops hosted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development as part of the Rebuild by Design program. 74 Trinity Place, 2nd Floor, Manhattan. Other workshop locations and dates can be found at <http://rebuildbydesign.org/>.

Wednesday, September 18: Rebuilding NYC After Hurricane Sandy. Dan Zarrilli, NYCEDC Senior Policy Advisor for the Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency will describe the SIRR at the Women's City Club of New York.

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.

### **Queens**

Tuesday, September 24, 2013 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Beyond Engagement Forum: Building and Sustaining Community Networks. 42-09 28th St, Room 3-32, Queens, NY 11101

### **New Jersey**

Tuesday, October 29. Superstorm Sandy: One Year Later conference. Monmouth University, West Long Branch, N.J. Presented by Monmouth University, New Jersey Future, New Jersey Recovery Fund.

## **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 [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.

### **Contact us**

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