

Keeping an eye on Hurricane Sandy recovery dollars

Weekly News Round-up

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.



GOOD
JOBS
NEW YORK

Advocacy News

Several non-profit organizations have signed on to [Post-Sandy Rebuilding Principles: Building a sustainable region and economy, creating jobs for all](#). We encourage you to sign on, too. Contact bettina@goodjobsfirst.org for more information.

Weekly news round-up: Thursday December 27, 2012

Disaster Relief

- The Senate is poised to pass the \$60.4 billion hurricane relief bill after voting to end debate. A vote is expected before the New Year. Opposition to the bill still stands in the House. [The New York Times](#) and [The Hill.com](#)

ALSO: New York City Council petition to Congress to reconvene and pass the \$60 billion relief package currently before Congress. [Sign the petition here](#)

- David Koch, billionaire chair of Americans for Prosperity is warning members of Congress to reject relief spending. [The Nation](#)
- A summary of the various government emergency aid programs available to storm victims, including programs for those who do not meet FEMA eligibility requirements, City aid, and aid from non-governmental organizations that has been made available. [City Limits](#)
- Government emergency management was not present in the first weeks after the storm and much of the response was co-ordinated by volunteer groups with community ties; yet inefficiencies persist because there is little information sharing among the groups. Some groups claim the Office of Emergency Management offered little leadership during the immediate aftermath of the storm and lacks transparency in its overall functions. [Capital New York](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure

- State officials are considering plans to dramatically overhaul or possibly privatize LIPA, the Long Island Power Authority, which has been criticized for its slow response to power outages after the storm. [WNYC](#)

Also: The Moreland Commission, the panel of state officials responsible for investigating the power companies' performance, cancelled public hearings. [WNYC](#)

- Brooklyn developer Joseph Sitt is cutting rents in four small storefronts he owns on

Surf Avenue, noting that this area might be overlooked in the recovery efforts. [Crain's New York Business](#)

- Middle-class Manhattan Beach, which also houses schools and religious institutions, senses a lack of urgency from the City to rebuilding the community. [City Limits](#)

Housing

- As some residents wait for policy recommendations on rebuilding, others rebuild anyway not wanting to wait indefinitely to return home. Businesses also depend on residential neighbors rebuilding. [The New York Times](#)

ALSO: An interactive map displaying building damage and destruction along the coast according to FEMA estimates. [The New York Times](#)

- In Brooklyn's Canarsie, though not in zone A, many residents' homes were flooded or severely damaged. Immigrants and basement dwellers were especially hard hit. FEMA has no responsibility to report those without immigration status who apply for disaster relief aid. [City Limits](#)
- Low-income housing complex in Arverne section of Rockaways is being rehabbed and will give priority to those displaced by the hurricane. [The New York Times](#)

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 Information

Good Jobs New York
11 Park Place, #701
New York, New York 10007
212-721-7996