

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

Keeping an eye on Hurricane Sandy recovery dollars Weekly News Round-up: March 21-28

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**

Action Items

New York City Releases Action Plans for CDBG funds

On Friday, officials released the New York City Action Plan, available on the [NYC Recovery website](#)

Comments are due **April 4, 2013** at 11:59pm (EST) and can be submitted online at <http://www.nyc.gov/cdbg>

or written comments mailed to:

Mayor's Office of Operations
253 Broadway 10th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Comments may also be made by telephone by contacting 311 or (212) NEW-YORK (212-639-9675) from outside New York City.

New York State and New Jersey also released action plans, though the seven-day comment period has closed. Learn more on GJNY's [Partial Action Plan webpage](#)

FEMA Extends Application Deadline for New York to April 13

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

- New York City's Rapid Repair program concluded with officials reporting to have fixed over 20,000 homes after the storm. Officials and residents reflect on the program. [Insurance Journal](#)
- Under the backdrop of Coney Island amusements grand opening for the summer season, residents and some business owners complain that the Brooklyn neighborhood is still without basic services. [NY1](#)
- \$250 million in federal resources arrived in Connecticut to help the state rebuild. [The Hartford Business Journal](#)
- Federal funds are expected pay for all of New York City's clean-up costs. Normally, the federal government covers 90% of these disaster related costs but city officials plan to use Community Development Block Grants to fill the 10% gap. [Crain's New York Business](#)

ALSO [The New York City Independent Budget Office](#) review of the Mayor's proposed budget and financial plan includes fiscal impacts of Sandy.

ALSO Rep. Gregory Meeks fears sequestration could impact federal funding promised for Sandy rebuilding in his Queens district. [NY1](#)

- The New York City Department of Sanitation and the Army Corps of Engineers have diverted tons of scrap metal found in Sandy debris to recycling facilities. [The New York Times](#)
- Members of the National Guard should be trained to have a stronger role in accelerating the repairs of utilities after disasters like Hurricane Sandy. [Homeland Security Today](#)
- The WWE began an online auction for "Superstars for Sandy" to benefit the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City and the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund. [The Wall Street Journal](#)

ALSO The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City [announced grant programs for non-profit organizations](#)

- [The Robin Hood Foundation](#) continues its Hurricane Sandy giving with grants to several New Jersey towns. [Ocean City News](#)

ALSO Neighborhood Housing Services of East Flatbush is providing \$10,000 grants to help 20 homeowners in Canarsie to help them rebuild. [NY1](#)

- The New York State legislature voted to provide school districts flexibility how to make up days lost to the storm without fear of losing aid. [New York Daily News](#)
- The New Jersey Assembly passed a bill that would allow pets on public transportation during evacuations. New York City has [similar regulations](#). [NJ Today](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure

- New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection adopted FEMA's revised flood level standards, though they are expected to be updated again. [The Star Ledger](#)

ALSO N.J. Gov. Christie said he has no sympathy for residents who are complaining that protective dunes would ruin beach views. [The Huffington Post](#)

- Rockaway, Queens residents protested that the city hasn't addressed their need for rebuilding beaches in the area. [WCBS 880](#)

ALSO San Diego based firm T.B. Penick & Sons Inc and its New York affiliate Triton Structural announced it won contracts worth over \$120 million to help refurbish New York City beaches. [San Diego Business Journal](#)

- Queens Congress Members Gregory Meeks and Hakim Jeffries want Sandy disaster funds to restore a rail line defunct since 1962 to improve service the areas service to Manhattan's Penn Station instead of using the space for a park. [DNA Info](#)

ALSO Hundreds of residents the Rockaways still have no phone service. [WNYC](#)

- Jersey Shore summer rental housing further south is reportedly doing well while towns further north continue to rebuild. [The New York Times](#)

ALSO Amusement parks, anchors of the Jersey Shore economy, are starting to open. [New Jersey Newsroom](#) and [The Star Ledger](#)

- New York State might be the first to consider climate change risks - much like it already does for risks associated with federal budget cuts and labor negotiations - for its

bondholders. [Bloomberg News](#)

- Mom and Pop businesses in Brooklyn worry about having enough resources to rebuild and if customers will return. [New York Daily News](#)
- Coney Island's New York Aquarium, despite significant damage, is on course to open by the summer and is continuing with an expansion planned before the storm. [New York Daily News](#)
- New York City officials want to use federal Community Development Block Grants to buyout home owners in flood prone areas. [WNYC](#)

Housing

- Residents in two Staten Island neighborhoods are concerned that vacant homes are being occupied by squatters. [DNA Info](#)
- 1,900 New Yorkers left homeless after the storm will be moved out of hotels by the end of April. [New York Daily News](#)

Jobs

- Long Island residents claim a subcontractor is not paying its workers the promised hourly wage for clean-up on Fire Island. [Newsday](#)
- A \$15.6 million National Emergency Grant from the US Department of Labor has helped New Jersey hire unemployed residents to clean up parks including Liberty State Park, which is expected to reopen soon. [Jersey City Independent](#)

Advocacy News

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

[Democracy, Equity and the Public Realm](#), Pratt Manhattan, Friday, March 29 (new date) 6:00-8:00 with Economic Development President, Seth Pinsky.

The American Planning Association is holding workshops on "[Planning in a Post-Sandy World: Protecting people, strengthening communities](#)" on April 1. Registration is free, but reservations are required and seating is limited.

Thursday, April 4: [Crain's Rebuilding NY Conference](#) Sheraton New York Times Square, 811 Seventh Avenue, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Registration required.

New York Governor Cuomo [announced](#) an extension of the Temporary Sheltering Assistance program. The new check-out date for program participants is April 14.

Regional Plan Association's Annual Assembly "A Resilient Region" is April 19th. There is a fee to [register](#).

FEMA is [accepting applications](#) for its Youth Preparedness Council until April 19th.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is conducting a [Small Business Credit Survey](#).

Food Bank For New York City details its disaster relief efforts in [Hurricane Sandy Response: 100 Days of Meeting the Needs](#)

Nicole Gelinas in the [City Journal](#) reflects on the storm and how the city's can prepare for future ones.

National Grid customers can visit www.nationalgridus.com to get information about the National Grid Emergency Economic and Community Development program for business customers impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is posting upcoming application deadlines, recovery resources, events, and key agency contacts on their [Sandy Information Center](#) page.

New York State health and safety inspectors from the Department of Labor will provide inspections and assessments to businesses effected by Sandy to help firms reopen as soon as possible. Call 1-888-4-NYS-DOL (1-888-469-7365) or visit their [website](#) for more information.

Several non-profit organizations have endorsed [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.

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
www.goodjobsny.org

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to elizabeth@goodjobsfirst.org by bettina@goodjobsfirst.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).
Good Jobs New York | 11 Park Place, #701 | New York | NY | 10007