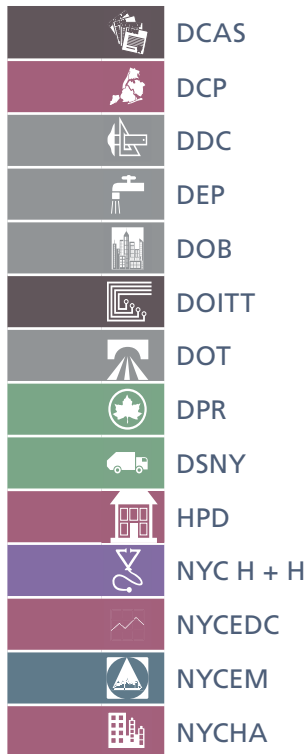


HURRICANE SANDY RECOVERY

PARTNER AGENCIES & OFFICES



Mayor's Office
of Housing
Recovery
Operations

Mayor's Office
of Resiliency

Hurricane Sandy was unlike any storm in the City's long recorded history. The worst-case scenario combination of weather patterns and underlying conditions were exacerbated by the effects of climate change and sea level rise, resulting in an unprecedented amount of damage to the City's housing stock, business sectors and critical infrastructure. Through the first four months of Fiscal 2020 the City reached significant completions in its housing recovery efforts, while executing an Infrastructure and economic recovery that makes communities stronger and more resilient.

HOUSING RECOVERY

The Build It Back program, administered by the City's Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations (HRO), has helped 12,500 families recover from Hurricane Sandy by providing resources for impacted New Yorkers to repair, rebuild, and elevate their homes, or relocate. Build It Back efforts have helped communities across Sandy-impacted areas across the five boroughs.

Funded by \$2.2 billion in federal Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) dollars and working in coordination with the City's Departments of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and Design and Construction (DDC), the program assists homeowners, renters and landlords through property rehabilitation or reconstruction, home elevation, reimbursement for permanent repairs already completed or acquisition of homes.

In the hardest hit waterfront communities, Build It Back has rebuilt and elevated nearly 1,400 homes to today's stringent regulations for flood compliance to protect against future coastal storms and highly damaging storm surge, often elevating homes 10 to 14 feet. Faced with the complex challenges of building in an urban environment, including hundreds of attached homes with an average age of over 80 years, zoning and fire code constraints, and difficult soil and wetland conditions, the City responded by innovating new contractor models, new building designs and a modular home program, and fostering community-driven solutions for replacing shared infrastructure and utilities.

When the de Blasio administration took office in 2014, zero homeowners had started construction and zero reimbursement checks had been issued. Through October 2019, The City's Hurricane Sandy single-family housing recovery effort has served over 8,300 homeowners totaling 12,500 households through either a reimbursement check, construction start or acquisition. The program has lifted nearly 1,400 homes above the floodplain through elevation or full reconstruction, protecting these homes against future disaster and increasing flood insurance affordability. For construction projects, the City has completed 99.9 percent of City-managed construction projects and has completed 99 percent of all construction projects, including homeowner-managed construction, and fewer than 100 homeowners remain to move back into their homes.

Another 6,500 homeowners with moderate Sandy damage were assisted with repair and reimbursement, helping neighborhoods that were not in FEMA's 100-year floodplain when Sandy hit and homeowners who didn't have flood insurance.

Build It Back construction partner HPD also accelerated relief to multifamily households, benefiting more than 19,800 households in 142 developments through repair, resiliency and reimbursement services, as well as 242 low-income households through rental assistance.

Performance Indicators	Actual						4-month Actual		Cumulative as of 10/31/2019	Cumulative percent complete as of 10/31/2019
	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY19	FY20		
Number of Homeowners Who Selected Benefit Options	2,237	5,236	1,029	160	20	4	3	3	8,314*	100%
Design Starts in Build it Back Households	534	2,382	2,796	134	14	8	5	1	5,319	99%
Total Construction Starts in Build it Back Households	93	1,304	1,721	1,715	169	57	38	12	5,319	99%
Construction Completions of Build it Back Households	15	757	1,303	1,948	1,067	510	184	38	5,257	99%
Reimbursement Checks Issued to Build it Back Households	316	3,611	1,966	141	56	25	9	4	6,131	100%
Homeowners Served	369	3,951	2,642	1,005	253	37	17	1	8,311	99%
*The cumulative totals do not equal the sum of reported fiscal year data due to applicant attrition or changes in applicant program selection.										

BUILD IT BACK COMMUNITY HOUSING RECOVERY PROJECTS FOR MULTIPLE FAMILIES

Build It Back continues to make progress on its most complex and challenging projects, including those with multiple families. The City has nearly completed the elevation and rebuilding of attached homes in Coney Island, with only six homes remaining pending final punch list items. In the Sheepshead Bay Courts, the City has completed rebuilding and elevating the homes and is nearing the completion of the replacement and improvement of the infrastructure, with homeowners anticipated to move in during the second quarter of Fiscal 2020.

PARTNERSHIP WITH DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ON MODULAR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

In Fiscal 2017, Build It Back began a Modular Construction Program to help expedite construction. The first homes were delivered in the first quarter of Fiscal 2018 in Staten Island. The program includes 31 homes in Staten Island and 68 in Queens. Through October 2019 all but eight homeowners have returned home.

BUILD IT BACK - ACQUISITION AND BUYOUT

In communities with the highest level of damage and risk, Build It Back's Acquisition and Buyout Pathway offers homeowners the option to sell their properties for housing redevelopment or for permanent open space use as mitigation from future flooding. Approximately 800 homes have been purchased through a combination of City and state administered buy-out and acquisition programs funded through federal disaster recovery funds. For homeowners facing the most difficult and time-intensive construction projects, starting in September 2016, the Pathway offered up to \$150,000 in financial resettlement incentives to better enable applicants who were selling their primary residence to the Program to purchase a replacement primary residence. Through October 2019, 117 properties have been purchased through this Pathway and 23 applicants received resettlement incentives payment toward the purchase of a replacement property.

BUILD IT BACK – PROGRAM CLOSEOUT

With the Program nearing the completion of the construction phase, the Office of Housing Recovery Operations has begun the process of closing out the CDBG-DR grant, as required by HUD. Each unique application will be closed out individually. Through October 2019, 86 percent of applications are in the process of being closed out, and nearly 8 percent have completed the close out process and have been archived.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND CRITICAL SERVICES RECOVERY

Through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance program and other federal recovery grant sources, the City is coordinating approximately \$10 billion in recovery work on infrastructure and critical services across the City, while investing in these assets to make them more resilient. Notable milestones completed on recovery projects during Fiscal 2019 from the City's comprehensive citywide resiliency program include the following:

- The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) continued to advance design work at the Bowery Bay, Hunts Point, Newtown Creek, Port Richmond, Red Hook, Tallman Island, Owls Head and Wards Island Wastewater Resource Recovery Facilities and initiated design at 13 pumping stations as part of DEP's \$408 million NYC Wastewater Resiliency Program. In order to advance these projects, DEP has engaged design firms and is actively coordinating with operating bureau representatives to ensure that impacts to facility operations are minimized during extreme weather events. Additionally, DEP successfully advertised and received bids on 17 Job Order Contracts in order to prepare for and initiate the construction work.
- The Department of Transportation (DOT) reached 96 percent completion of the Sandy damaged rehabilitation to the Battery Park/West Street underpasses in Lower Manhattan. Sandy-related rehabilitation work on 12 movable bridges is nearing completion. DOT is continuing its effort to implement preventive measures to the FDR Drive from the 18th to 25th Street raised-structure-span that will minimize the potential for damage from future coastal events. Final design is complete and the project will be advertised for construction bid shortly. The City also continues construction on six street reconstruction projects in Staten Island and Queens at a combined cost of \$72.44 million.
- The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) completed design on approximately \$23.1 million of resiliency-related projects and completed construction on another \$11 million of resiliency-related projects across the City.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Small Business Services (SBS) disburses loans and grants to businesses through the Hurricane Sandy Business Loan and Grant Program, which has awarded over \$55 million to over 350 businesses since the start of the program.

In addition to assisting recovery, the City has made efforts to ensure businesses are better prepared for future storms and the impact of climate change. Between July and October 2018, the SBS Business PREP program provided risk assessments to over 80 Sandy-impacted businesses in all five boroughs and over \$100,000 in grants.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) RISE : NYC program continued its deployment of 11 innovative technology systems at small businesses affected by Hurricane Sandy. The resiliency solutions include energy technologies, building systems and resilient telecommunication networks. The New America Foundation began installation at one of their community mesh networks in Far Rockaway, and Bright Power began installing the first RISE microgrid in Coney Island.

In all of its work, Build It Back is committed to providing high-quality employment for New Yorkers impacted by Hurricane Sandy. The City's Sandy Recovery Hiring Plan advances the hiring of Sandy-impacted residents, women, minorities and Section 3 residents through Build It Back contracts. The City's Sandy Recovery Workforce1 system, spearheaded by SBS, offers job placement services—including employment with Build It Back and other local employers—and vouchers for employment skills training for residents of Sandy-impacted neighborhoods. Through this initiative, SBS launched the Sandy Recovery Workforce1 Center in Coney Island and funded dedicated staff at existing Workforce1 Centers in Rockaway and Staten Island. In partnership with community and faith-based organizations, as well as participating trade unions and contractors, the Workforce1 Program links local workers to employment, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs.

The Sandy Recovery Hiring Plan encourages Build It Back contractors and subcontractors to hire 20 percent local residents on recovery projects. 23 percent of all trades workers employed on Build It Back are from Sandy-impacted neighborhoods. Build It Back and Sandy Recovery Workforce1 have provided jobs for over 1,600 Sandy-impacted New Yorkers including over 1,100 working on Build It Back. Approximately 150 Sandy-impacted residents are working as apprentices after pre-apprenticeship training provided through Sandy Recovery Workforce1, preparing them for union construction careers as roofers, metal lathers, painters, laborers, plumbers, electricians and carpenters.

NOTEWORTHY CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

None.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For additional information on items referenced in the narrative, go to:

- OneNYC 2050: Building a Strong and Fair City
<http://onenyc.cityofnewyork.us/>
- One City, Rebuilding Together
http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/home/downloads/pdf/reports/2014/sandy_041714.pdf
- Hurricane Sandy Houses of Worship & Charitable Organizations Recovery Task Force
<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/orr/pdf/Hurricane%20Sandy%20Recovery%20House%20of%20Worship%20Task%20Force%20Report.pdf>
- Cool Neighborhoods NYC: Helping to identify NYC's most heat vulnerable neighborhoods to build resilience against heat risks
https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/orr/pdf/Cool_Neighborhoods_NYC_Report.pdf
- Climate Resiliency Design Guidelines
https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/orr/pdf/NYC_Climate_Resiliency_Design_Guidelines_v3-0.pdf