



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrew J. Lanza

Senator Lanza Announces Report on State's Recovery From Superstorm Sandy

ANDREW J LANZA October 29, 2014

Released on Two-Year Anniversary of Superstorm Sandy, Report Outlines State's Progress in Building Back Better and Increasing Resiliency

Senator Andrew Lanza today released a report detailing the progress made by New York State in building back better in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy. The report highlights advancements made in the areas of housing, small businesses, and infrastructure and community reconstruction through the NY Rising program, as well as a wide variety of steps taken by numerous State agencies. The report, which can be found [here](#), was released in conjunction with the second anniversary of Superstorm Sandy.

Superstorm Sandy struck the New York metropolitan region on October 29, 2012, causing unprecedented damage to homes, infrastructure and an economy still recovering from the effects of a housing crisis and major recession, as well as Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

As many as 300,000 housing units were damaged or destroyed by Superstorm Sandy; two million utility customers were without power; 2,000 miles of roads were affected and public transportation faced long-term disruptions.

Tragically, a total of 61 people died in New York as a result of the storm.

In June 2013, Governor Cuomo established the Office of Storm Recovery to drive the State's revival, in part by managing nearly \$4.5 billion in federal Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funding, which was appropriated in part as a result of the tireless efforts of the New York State congressional delegation. Since that time, the State has supported the repair and rebuilding of nearly 10,000 households, provided \$20.8 million in grants to small businesses, and facilitated the proposal of approximately 600 projects through the grassroots NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program.

In addition to these reconstruction achievements, spending on storm recovery plays a significant role in growing the State's economy and creating jobs. Based on an analysis conducted by the SUNY Rockefeller Institute of Government, the insertion of this Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery and other federal aid into the economy is projected to spur the creation of more than 111,000 jobs over a five-year period? about 22,000 jobs per year. These jobs will be associated with an increase of \$5.15 billion in earnings and \$15.8 billion in economic output over the same period.

The report provides first-hand accounts from homeowners, small businesses and NY Rising Community Reconstruction participants who have been assisted by the array of programs under the NY Rising umbrella. It also details larger infrastructure projects, ranging from the \$270 million R-train repair, to the \$24 million stabilization and protection of Robert Moses State Park and the \$518 million bridge scour initiative, to make New York better able to withstand instances of extreme weather.

This report is not intended to be a comprehensive listing of each and every recovery effort, but instead serves to hone in on key actions and impacts that have been strategically pursued by the State.

More information can be found at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/>.

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