



2012-2016

4th Anniversary Report

**A Stronger New York.
A More Resilient Future.
A Report from the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery**

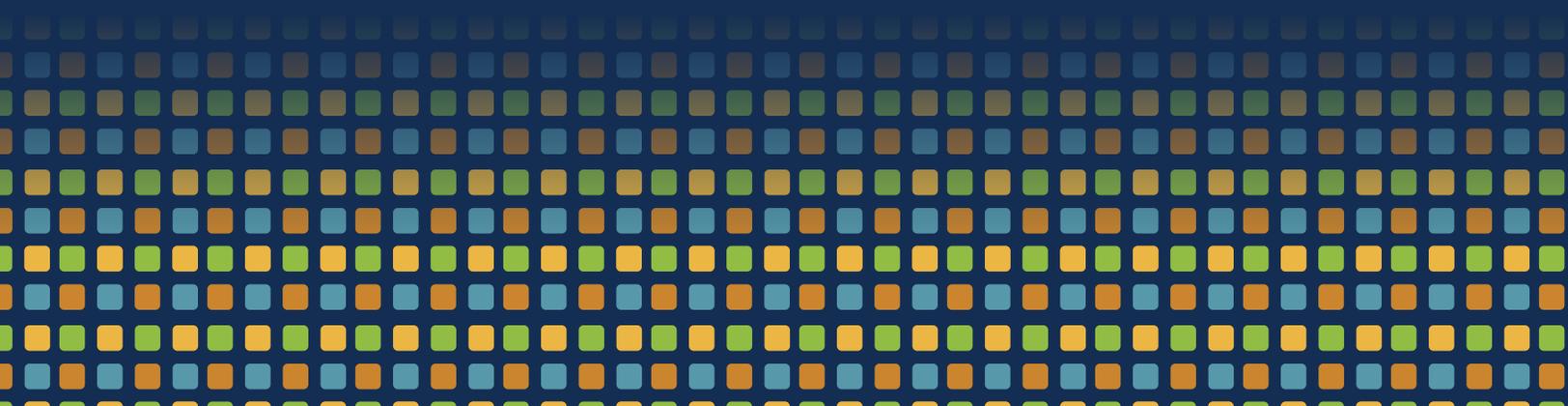




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NY RISING 2012 - 2016



“We’re not just going to build what was. We’re going to build to a level that never was before.”

– Governor Andrew M. Cuomo



About GOSR

Since it was created by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo in June 2013, the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) has spearheaded Statewide recovery efforts for Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Half of the \$4.4 billion made available through the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program has been disbursed. The remaining funds continue to be committed through a comprehensive and wide-ranging portfolio of NY Rising programs aimed at making investments in the future sustainability and resiliency of the State.

From the very beginning, GOSR proactively pursued two simultaneous tracks that were both aligned with Governor Cuomo's overarching and holistic vision. The first: to address damage, quickly dispense aid to homeowners and small businesses, and satisfy immediate rebuilding needs. The second: to build back better while instituting smart long-term resiliency measures to maximize and further fortify such precious and critical gains. This dual approach has, thus far, proven fruitful: half of NY Rising homeowners have completed construction activities through the Housing Recovery Program, and more than 70 percent of eligible small businesses have been fully-funded. While the magnitude of damage and the required recovery was unprecedented, the State is acting promptly and flexibly. This approach allows the development of a scalable and replicable model that may be effectively applied to combating future disasters.

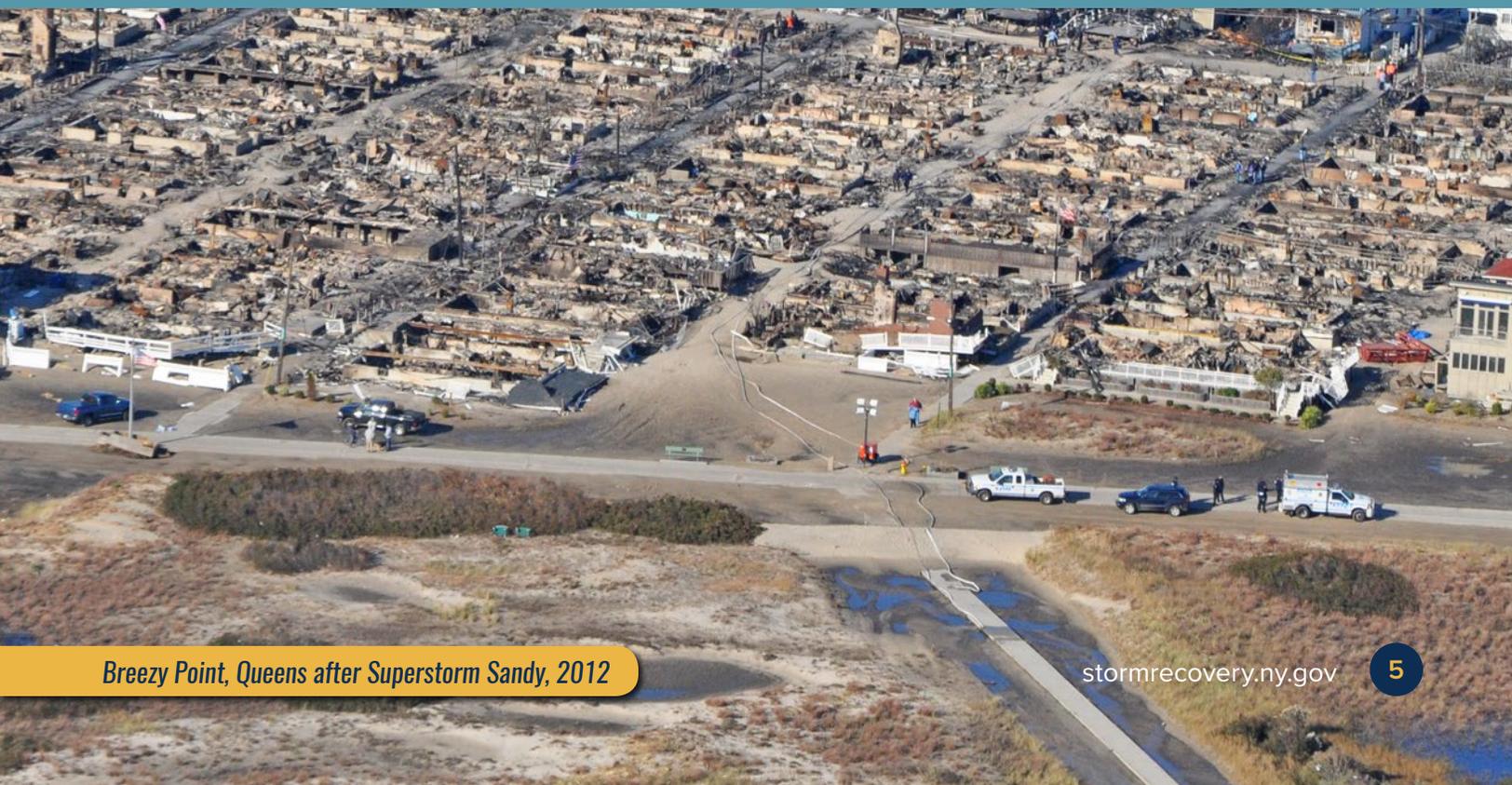
Although the initial phase of GOSR's work concentrated heavily on getting aid to both homeowners and small businesses in need, the agency has – over the last 12 months – started to shift into the second phase of its work. This evolution, which has led to the execution of more complex and enduring resiliency strategies conceived through the Community Reconstruction and Infrastructure Programs – will buttress the individual efforts of homeowners and small businesses.

2012 - 2016

Similarly, these improvements will also foster a system of safeguards that is greater than the sum of its parts. GOSR's work is centered on the idea that meaningful recovery must reflect the realities of increasingly-frequent storms, rising sea levels and climate change. Through programs such as its NY Rising Housing Recovery, Small Business, Community Reconstruction, Infrastructure and Rebuild By Design (RBD), GOSR is committed to preserving homes and businesses, making the State's infrastructure more resilient, and implementing the right mixture of mitigation measures, whenever possible.

In order to carry out these efforts, GOSR collaborates and coordinates with a strong and cohesive group of State agencies and entities – each of whom come to the table with unparalleled knowledge and expertise. These collaborations are complemented by partnerships on the local and federal levels – allowing GOSR to leverage all available resources and identify innovative solutions that will maximize benefit to storm-impacted communities and, ultimately, to the State as a whole. At the same time, GOSR understands that it is not enough to simply build back, but rather, we must build back stronger, smarter and better. The State's vision for recovery integrates five overarching themes:

- 1 Addressing immediate needs while focusing on the future;**
- 2 Expediting services and the distribution of funds;**
- 3 Coming back stronger than before;**
- 4 Taking a community-wide and regional perspective; and**
- 5 Using a ground-up approach.**





About GOSR



Illustrating the delicate balance between urgent action and long-term planning, these objectives apply lessons learned from recent storms, seek the most prudent use of federal funds, and make an unparalleled investment into the future of the State. Together, they serve to better protect New Yorkers and the communities they love.

Since the time of the last report, GOSR has made strides through each of its programs, with particular emphasis on helping individuals complete, or close out, of the Housing Recovery and Small Business programs.

To date, GOSR has:

- Disbursed **half of the \$4.4 billion** in federal CDBG-DR funding;
- Awarded **11,000** homeowners awarded grants with **more than \$1 billion** to support reconstruction and repairs;
- Provided assistance that has already enabled **50 percent** of participants in the Housing Recovery Program to complete construction on their homes;
- Fully-funded more than **70 percent** of eligible small businesses;
- Dedicated more than **\$460 million** to more than **250** active projects through the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program;
- Committed more than **\$50 million** to Roberto Clemente State Park, with repairs also launched at Jones Beach and Robert Moses State Park;
- Led construction at Bay Park Wastewater Treatment Plant, with work now **20 percent** complete;
- Engaged more than **230** MWBE firms in the recovery and resiliency process.



Housing Recovery



By the Numbers: Housing Recovery

11,000

households assisted in rebuilding and repairs

More than

\$1 Billion

awarded and \$780 million disbursed to single-family homeowners

More than

\$26 Million

provided to 1,100 households in Interim Mortgage Assistance

More than

\$380 Million

awarded to support optional elevation activities

395

properties sold at auction for \$68 million as part of the NY Rising Acquisition Program

More than

550

LMI rental units in construction in the Affordable Housing Fund to date

610

properties purchased by the State for \$240 million to be returned to nature as part of the NY Rising Buyout Program

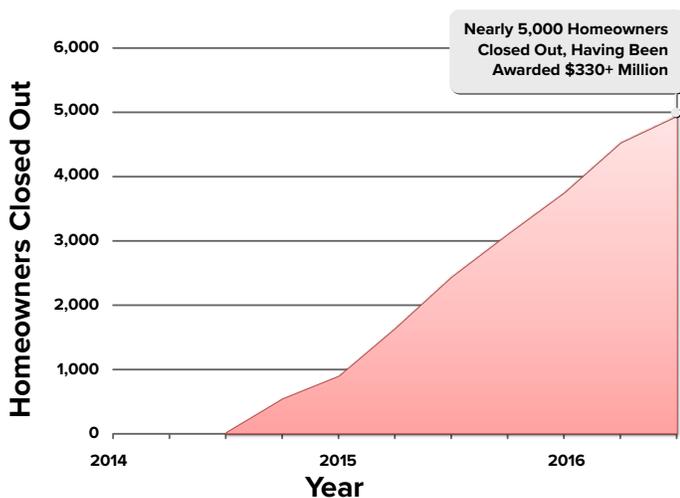
The **NY Rising Housing Recovery Program** remains a cornerstone of the State's efforts to promote recovery and resiliency. The program employs a variety of tactics to address the varied needs of the New Yorkers it serves. It has recently achieved a substantial milestone: already having assisted half of its homeowners to complete construction on their homes (thereby positioning them to finish or "close out" of the program).

With up to 300,000 units of housing damaged or destroyed as a result of Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee, the restoration and preservation of homes remains a paramount goal for NY Rising initiatives. From the earliest days of the recovery process, the State made fundamental decisions to speed up the distribution of funds, empower individuals in the rebuilding process, and provide opportunities to pursue optional resiliency measures. Above all else, through these efforts, GOSR recognized the importance of bridging several central goals: get families back in their homes as quickly as possible; rebuild in a more resilient manner to better withstand potential impacts of future storms; and ensure compliance with federal requirements while providing proper oversight of funds.

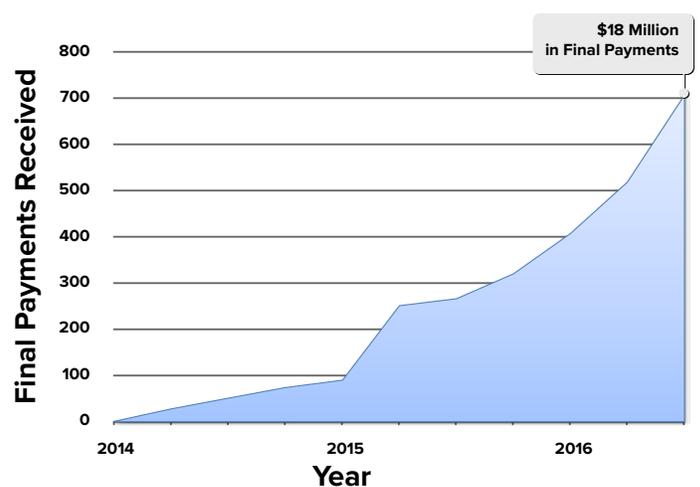
While many New Yorkers have moved through the program with great success, GOSR also recognizes that certain groups, including the elderly or other vulnerable populations, may require additional assistance to cross the finish line. This, paired with the tremendous diversity of New York's housing stock, has compelled the State to develop a variety of programmatic options to most accurately and thoroughly assist the entire universe of those in need.

To date, the Housing Recovery Program has awarded more than 11,000 households with more than a billion dollars to facilitate reconstruction and repairs of single-family homes.

Closeouts from the Single Family Homeowner Program



Final Payments Received by Homeowners in the Interim Mortgage Assistance Program





Housing Recovery

Out of this 11,000, more than three-quarters has already been disbursed – having gone directly into the hands of homeowners themselves. Since February 2014, the State has also homeowners more than \$26 million in federal funds through the **Interim Mortgage Assistance (IMA) Program**. This program covers mortgage payments while homeowners are displaced. In February 2016, HUD approved an extension to the IMA Program, thereby prolonging the cap of mortgage assistance from 20-to-36 months for eligible applicants. This extension seeks to minimize the risk of foreclosure for storm-damaged homes that are being rehabilitated through the CDBG-DR-funded process.

Adjusting the program to meet the many diverse circumstances of New York's homeowners, the Housing Recovery Program also entails the following components:

Elevation Initiative

Incorporating resiliency into every facet of the State's recovery, GOSR is realizing Governor Cuomo's goal to not only build back, but build back better and stronger before. Accordingly, the Housing Recovery Program encourages homeowners to prepare for the new realities of extreme weather through the completion of elevation and various mitigation measures.

The **NY Rising Elevation Initiative** is one of the first of its kind to support both the mandatory and optional elevation of homes in the 100-year floodplain. These efforts not only aim to protect life and property against the dangers of future storms, but also stabilize flood insurance premiums and provide homeowners with peace of mind – helping both the individual homeowners and the communities in which they live.

To date, NY Rising has begun 1,200 mandatory and optional elevations. Of these, 600 elevations have been completed and closed-out. GOSR has awarded more than \$380 million for optional elevation activities alone. Assistance through the Elevation Initiative comes on top of the other grants available to single family homeowners. This strategy serves to protect federal resources being invested into communities, while providing enduring, long-term solutions for New Yorkers residing in storm-impacted areas.

Rental Properties Program / Affordable Rental Opportunity Program

As a core component of its mission, GOSR seeks to serve storm-affected New Yorkers of all income levels, with special emphasis on Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) individuals across the State. The **NY Rising Rental Property Program (RP)** and **Affordable Rental Opportunity (ARO) Program** provide funding to restore and replace rental housing of any size placed out of service by Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, or Tropical Storm Lee. Since its inception, the RP Program has awarded \$76 million. A total of 750 applicants have elected to participate in the RP Program to the benefit of more than 800 units. Coupled with ARO, which recently began accepting applications, these efforts help to generate essential and affordable housing

resources to New Yorkers in need. Applicants in the RP and ARO programs maintain a commitment to assist LMI tenants in storm-impacted communities throughout New York State.

Affordable Housing Fund Program

Spurring the creation of multi-family rental housing projects in storm-impacted communities, the **Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) Program** provides gap financing, alongside resources from the New York State Division of Homes & Community Renewal (HCR). In order to further protect these assets, the program seeks to build units outside of the floodplain or make resiliency improvements to mitigate against the impacts of future extreme weather events.

The AHF Program supports both the preservation of governmentally-assisted affordable housing developments, as well as the creation of new affordable housing to address the rental housing shortage and help revitalize especially hard-hit communities. Upon their completion, projects will serve LMI residents, including special needs and other vulnerable populations. The AHF Program may also assist mixed-income projects, where a majority of units are reserved for occupancy by persons of LMI. To date, the program has awarded more than \$75 million dollars to 13 development teams across New York State for the establishment of more than 850 units of LMI rental housing. More than 550 of these units are currently under construction.

Public Housing Initiatives

In addition to the efforts detailed above, GOSR maintains two grants to assist public housing developments. Using disaster recovery funds, GOSR established the **Public Housing Assistance Relief Program** to address the unmet repair needs of public housing developments. Furthermore, through **HUD's National Disaster Resiliency Competition (NDRC)**, GOSR received funds to institute resiliency improvements at public housing sites. These enhancements range from the elevation of mechanical, electrical and plumbing equipment to the restoration of bulkheads at five complexes.

Condo / Co-op Program

Thousands of homes were damaged in New York, ranging from single family units, to units in multi-family buildings and also public housing authorities. Addressing the needs of multi-family buildings, GOSR launched a revamped **Condo/ Co-op Program** in January 2016. GOSR can now make payments to Condominium Associations, Cooperative Boards, and Homeowners Associations, expanding the scope of building types beyond the initial damage assessments. As a result, the Condo/ Co-Op Program has been able to issue payments totaling more than \$1 million.



Housing Recovery

Buyout and Acquisition Programs

When GOSR set out to design its **NY Rising Housing Recovery Program**, it developed several programmatic variations, allowing New Yorkers of various geographies, income levels and storm impacts to receive the best assistance suited for them. While many of the Housing Recovery programs focus on repair and rehabilitation of homes (thereby enabling families to remain safely and stably housed), two other strategies – the **NY Rising Buyout and Acquisition Programs** – pursue different approaches for the areas that repeatedly place lives and properties most at-risk.

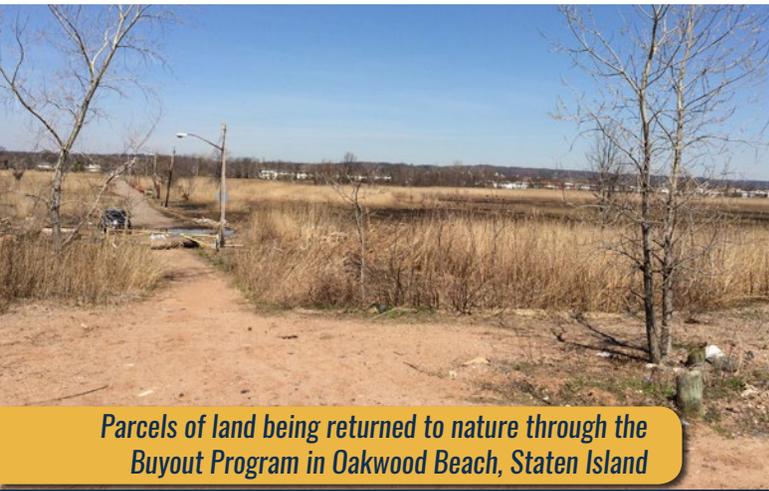
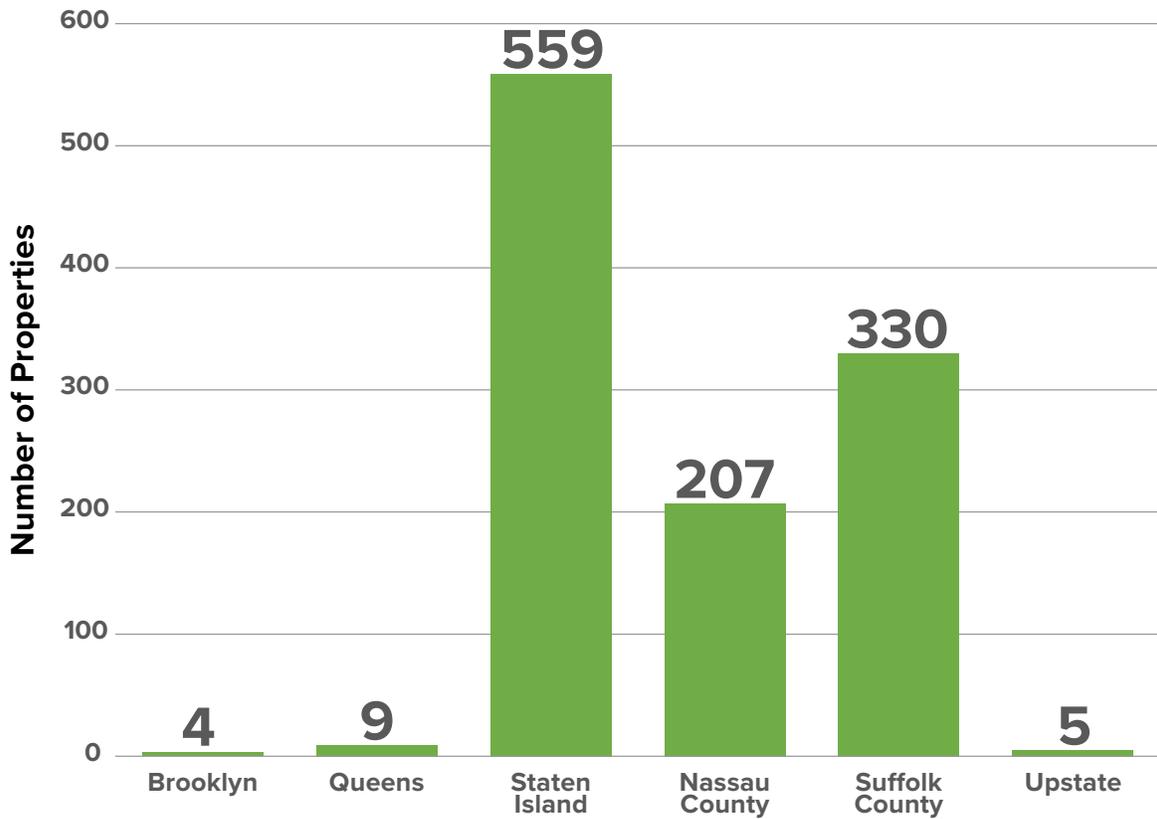
The innovative programs – which primarily operate in designated neighborhoods of Long Island and Staten Island– contribute to the long-term resiliency of communities. Together, they aim to make severely storm-impacted neighborhoods stronger and safer than ever before. To date, the programs have collectively sent almost 1,500 purchase offers totaling nearly \$490 million to eligible homeowners, and have facilitated more than 1,100 closings totaling nearly \$430 million.

The NY Rising Buyout Program purchases eligible storm-damaged properties in certain high-risk areas in the floodplain determined to be among the most susceptible to future disasters. Properties purchased are restricted in perpetuity – being returned to nature, and forever-serving as a protective natural barrier for homes in surrounding communities. To date, more than 600 properties, totaling \$240 million, have been purchased Statewide through the program.



The NY Rising Acquisition Program purchases substantially-damaged homes within the 100- and 500-year floodplains from interested homeowners. Aiming to spur new construction in a more robust and energy-efficient manner, these parcels are then auctioned for more resilient redevelopment. Through this innovative disposition measure, which requires that properties satisfy resiliency rebuild requirements within a three-year timeframe, the State reinvests in storm-damaged communities, restores housing stock, and prevents storm-damaged properties from falling into further disrepair or leading to neighborhood blight. Thus far, the State has purchased more than 500 properties for \$188 million and has auctioned nearly 400 for \$68 million.

Properties Purchased by the Buyout & Acquisition Program





Housing Recovery

61 New York City properties auctioned for \$12 million

334 Long Island properties auctioned for \$56 million

To Auction!

The State recently held its fourth auction (three on Long Island and one in New York City) to promote the disposition of storm-damaged properties, as part of the **NY Rising Acquisition Program**. Attracting hundreds of interested buyers, the auctions have collectively led to the sale of 395 properties, generating more than \$68 million to be applied to the State's continued recovery efforts. As a requirement of the program, each of the properties sold must be adequately and resiliently redeveloped within a three-year timeframe.

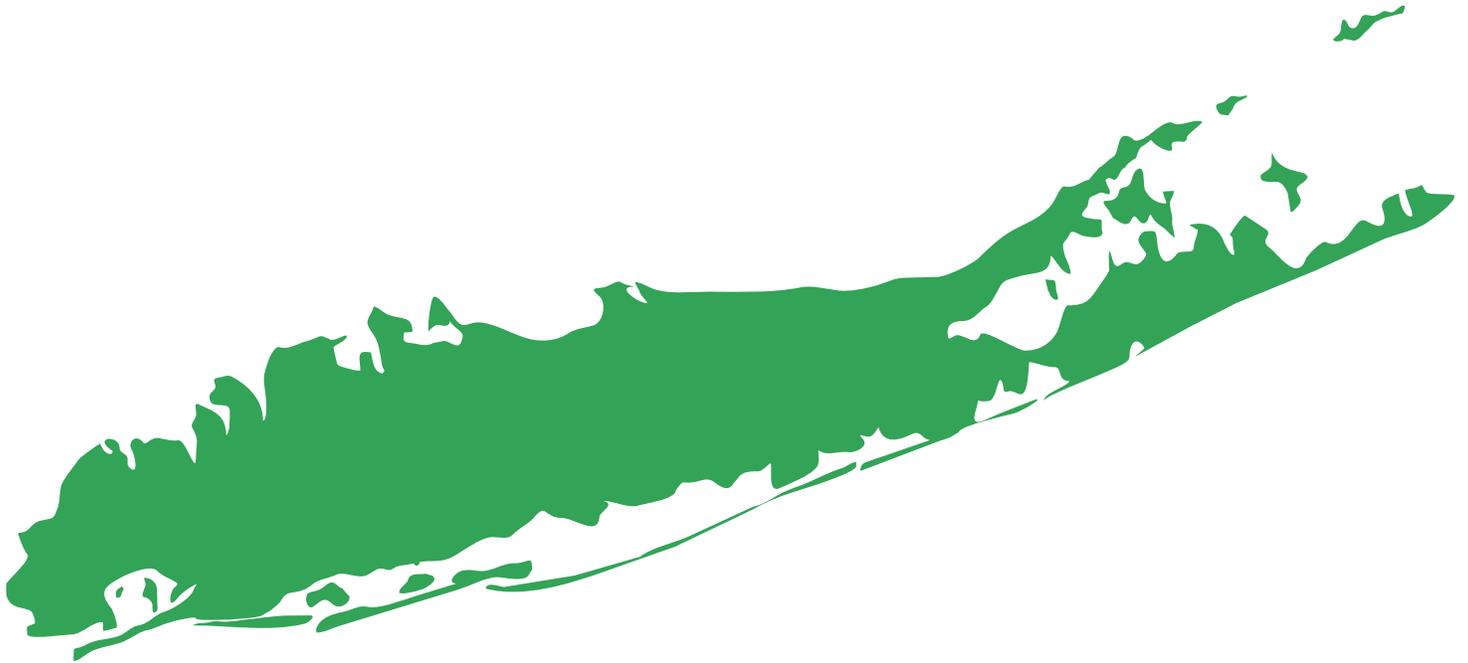
These efforts correspond with the State's broader vision for recovery and pave the way for continued

growth and economic resiliency, while maintaining the tax base, preserving housing stock and upholding property values.

Thus far, the Acquisition Program has auctioned:

- **61 New York City properties for \$12 million;**
- **334 Long Island properties for \$56 million.**

"These auctions represent another exciting milestone as we pursue every avenue possible to make our communities stronger and more resilient than before," said Executive Director of GOSR, Lisa Bova-Hiatt. "By driving recovery in a smart and targeted way, we are choosing strategies that work best for the needs of each neighborhood, and for the New Yorkers who reside there."



Rebuild Long Island

This past year, GOSR — in collaboration with the Long Island Housing Partnership (LIHP) — launched **Rebuild Long Island**: a pilot program that will acquire properties to generate more resilient affordable housing units. Aimed at purchasing 30 homes throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties, the endeavor will ensure that properties are elevated and made flood zone-resilient before being resold as affordable units. Applicants must qualify for a mortgage and have incomes which are 80 percent Area Median Income (AMI). As of Fiscal Year 2015, 80 percent AMI in Nassau and Suffolk Counties equates to \$71,700 for a household of three.

“The resiliency of a community is largely shaped by the resiliency of its housing stock,” said Executive Director of GOSR, Lisa Bova-Hiatt. “As we continue to repair and rebuild storm-damaged housing, we remain committed to making housing of all types and income-levels better and stronger than ever before. The Rebuild Long Island pilot will promote this goal, and serves as a tremendous example of government and non-profit partnership.”



Small Business



By the Numbers: Small Business

More than

**\$49
Million**

in grants provided to 1,043
small businesses

More than

**70
percent**

of small businesses
fully-funded

3,450

Registered small businesses
in Business Mentor NY

More than

1,700

mentoring engagements
held to date

Comprising 98 percent of all businesses in New York, small businesses employ more than half of the State's private sector workforce. Yet, they are also at the heart of New York's communities.

Following Superstorm Sandy, many impacted small businesses lacked the necessary capital to recover – triggering a ripple effect on employees, their families, and the residents who depended upon them. Setting out to get these businesses up and running as quickly as possible, the **NY Rising Small Business Program** renders grants of \$50,000 or more to help replace essential equipment/inventory, repair facilities, or provide working capital. Recognizing the great variety of these businesses, GOSR works to provide meaningful and tailored assistance that will help them rebuild and thrive.

Over the last three years, GOSR's Small Business Program has awarded more than 49 million to more than 1,000 small businesses across the State. To date, GOSR has deemed more than 70 percent of its entire applicant pool eligible to receive funds, with over 750 small businesses fully-funded for every activity covered by the program.

These figures demonstrate great progress and speak to the success of the flexible, yet action-oriented, approach that GOSR pursued. Illustrating a commitment to the ongoing monitoring and assessment of its Small Business operations, GOSR has made targeted programmatic adjustments (based on everyday needs and on the feedback of applicants themselves) that have yielded victories for the State and small businesses alike.

This aid is bolstered by additional offerings through the State's **Business Mentor NY Program** – an effort that matches small business owners with mentors from a cross-section of sectors and industries. To date, more than 3,450 small business and 1,300 mentors are participating in the innovative program, having held over 1,700 engagements and provided one-on-one counsel and guidance for establishments in need.

Business Mentoring Fuels Success



SURVIVE

Compared to national 69 percent survival rate for businesses after 2 years



THRIVE

Mentored businesses increased revenues by 86 percent



GROW

Entrepreneurs created three jobs each, on average



Community Reconstruction



By the Numbers: Community Reconstruction

More than

**\$460
Million**

Funds dedicated
to active projects

More than

250

Active projects

250

Public engagement
meetings held

83

Municipal and non-profit
partners

650

Planning Meetings held

66

Completed Community
Reconstruction Plans

166

Projects expected to commence
before October 2017

Recognizing the need to balance top-down recovery efforts with bottom-up strategies, Governor Cuomo – in April 2013 – announced the creation of the **NY Rising Community Reconstruction (NYRCR) Program**. Since then, the program has grown to assist 124 storm-damaged communities with more than \$625 million in capital commitments. This first-of-its-kind program empowers communities to identify local needs and assets. The ultimate goal is to make communities physically, economically and socially more resilient. The participatory program matches community stakeholders, local governments and non-profits with dedicated State experts and planners who lend support and guidance to see infrastructure and public service projects through. Each community proposes tailored recovery and resiliency projects developed through an intensive planning and implementation process.

Since the conclusion of the Round II planning process in March 2015, the NYRCR Program has shifted its attention to the implementation phase of its work – aiming to bring the creative, community-driven projects to fruition. In less than a year, the program identified local partners – including 58 municipal partners, 24 non-profit partners, and the Dormitory Authority of New York (DASNY), to implement more than 250 recovery and resiliency projects proposed in community plans.

Of these projects currently being undertaken, more than 160 projects are currently in the design phase, with executed Architectural and Engineering (A/E) contracts. An additional six projects are in construction with executed construction contracts, and 19 public services have started their programs. These public services fall into four categories: 1) Response and recovery workshops to address gaps in services; 2) Case management services; 3) Housing counseling services; and 4) Educational and counseling services. In total, NYRCR has dedicated more than \$460 million in actively-planned projects, representing three quarters of the total program funds.

With more than 650 New Yorkers having served on local Planning Committees, the NYRCR Program emphasizes community participation and works to cultivate regional knowledge and support. This approach has also prioritized outreach to communities that are traditionally underrepresented, including immigrant populations and students. Supporting these efforts, the program held more than 650 planning meetings and 250 large-scale public engagement events during the planning stages. As the program moves into implementation, the opportunities for participation will also evolve. Members of the community will now have the opportunity to attend groundbreakings or other engagement events that will help to further shape project designs.

For example, the NYRCR Program is currently implementing a large coastal resiliency study for Lower Manhattan. This project will include numerous opportunities for nearby residents to share ideas and preferences as the project progresses. In July 2016, GOSR held two community engagement events, with more than 100 community members in attendance. These events presented critical opportunities for attendees to learn about coastal resiliency infrastructure and voice their own ideas about the plans.

The NYRCR Program has projects happening across the State. An example from each region follows.



Community Reconstruction

Upstate

Replace Culvert at Wilhelm Road

In partnership with the Town of Saugerties, the NYRCR Program has successfully completed the design and construction of a new culvert – an underground drainage system for storm water – under Wilhelm Road in August 2016. This project was identified as part of the Ulster County NYRCR Plan.

The new pre-cast concrete culvert is 34 feet long, 9.5 feet high and 16 feet wide. It replaces a re-purposed oil tank railroad car, which was severely damaged by storm water flooding that exceeded its capacity during Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. The flooding stranded residents and compromised their access to vital commercial areas where disaster relief and recovery supplies were located. When the flood waters receded, the surrounding road infrastructure deteriorated, increasing their vulnerability to future storms.

The new culvert significantly reduces the risk of flooding, erosion, and damage in the surrounding neighborhood, and ensures the use of Wilhelm Road in an emergency to connect residents to critical commercial centers, emergency responders, and evacuation routes during future storm events.

Recently, during a heavy rain event in the Town of Saugerties, the new Wilhelm Road culvert fully functioned, and was able to transmit stormwater without causing flooding, foreshadowing the impact the program will have on communities across the State.



The culvert at Wilhelm Road in Ulster County, before and after replacement.

Town of Saugerties NY Rising Community Reconstruction Projects

1 Town of Saugerties Storm Sewer Replacements

- Cottontail Road

2 Village of Saugerties Parks Restorations

- a. Village Beach
- b. Tina Chorvas Park
- c. Saugerties Lighthouse

3 Town of Saugerties Water Treatment Plant Improvements

4 Malden Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvements

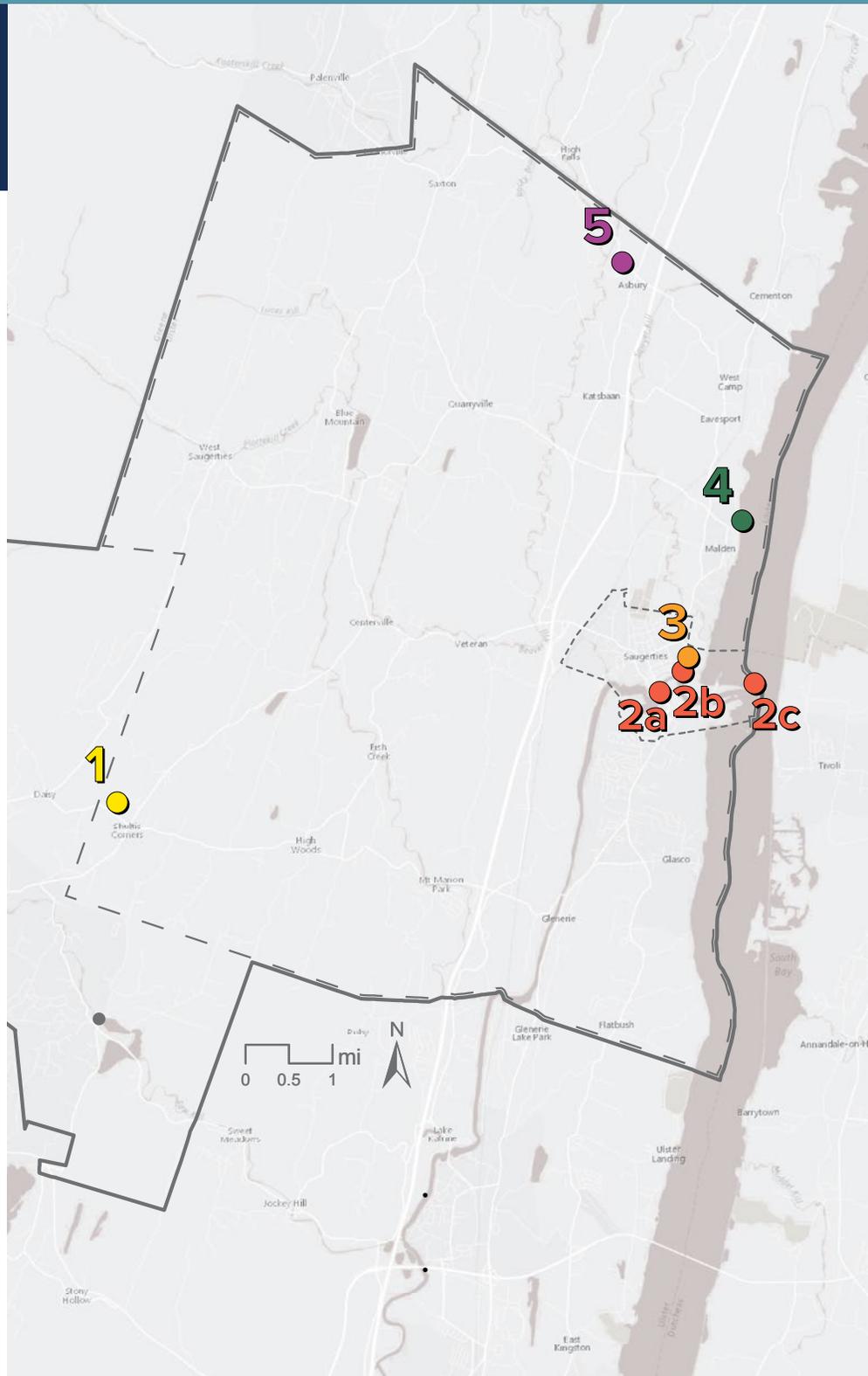
5 Town of Saugerties Culvert Replacement

- Wilhelm Road

— Ulster County Communities
NY Rising Community
Reconstruction Area

- - - Town of Saugerties

- - - Village of Saugerties





Community Reconstruction

1. Town of Saugerties Storm Sewer Replacements

Estimated Cost: \$165,000

Subrecipient: Town of Saugerties

Project Description: During Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, storm water overwhelmed the culvert infrastructure protecting properties along Cottontail Lane and Glasco Turnpike. Emergency operations were impeded as a result of lack of access to the area, and residents were forced to detour up to 25 miles to reach emergency supplies and shelter. The NYRCR program is funding the design and construction of improvements to protect these homes and ensure the road (which is a major east-west transportation route linking the Town of Saugerties with the Town of Woodstock) remains open in the event of future storms.

2. Village of Saugerties Parks Restoration

Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee severely damaged areas of Village Beach, Tina Chorvas Park, and the Saugerties Lighthouse. The NYRCR program is funding the design, engineering, and construction of repairs. The Village procured engineering services and will begin construction on these three sites in the coming year.

3. Village of Saugerties Water Treatment Plant Improvements

The Village's potable water treatment plant is not protected from the inflow of turbid water during storms. During Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, excessively high turbidity forced the treatment plant to shut down. The NYRCR program is funding the design and construction of a pre-filtration system that will permanently increase the resiliency of the village's drinking water supply in the event of a future storm. Design work is underway and the Village expects to break ground in early 2017.

4. Malden Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvements

During Sandy, Irene and Lee, torrential rainfall, excessive wind, and storm surges threatened the ability of the Village of Saugerties' Malden Waste Water Treatment Plant to function. The NYRCR program is funding the improvements needed to protect this critical facility in the event of a future storm. The Village procured the engineering services and design work is underway. The Village will be installing the new generator and berms in 2017.

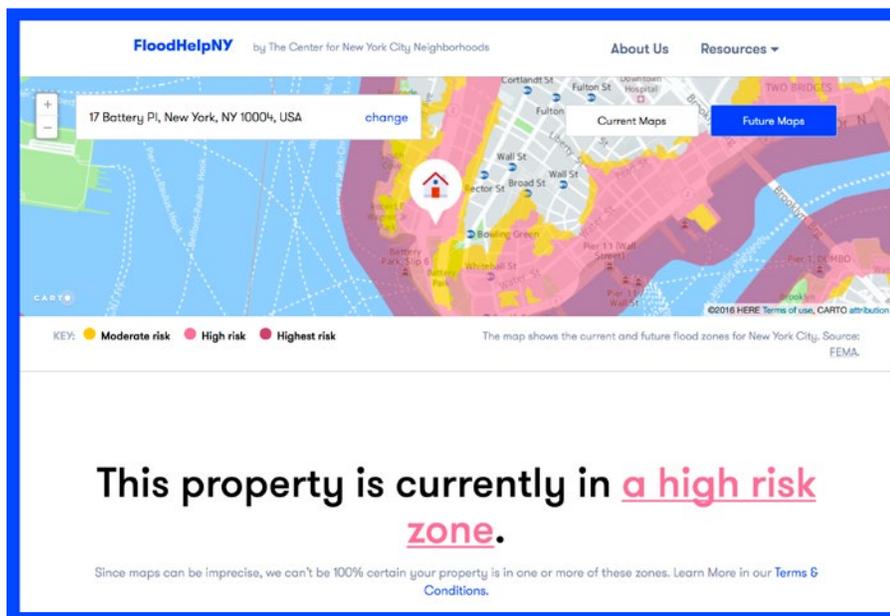
5. Town of Saugerties Culvert Replacement

(See description on page 20).

New York City Metropolitan Area

Residential Technical Assistance Pilot Program

The NYRCR Program is partnering with a local non-profit, the Center for New York City Neighborhoods (CNYCN), to implement a two-year Residential Technical Assistance Pilot Program (RTAPP) throughout New York City. This program will provide direct assistance to LMI homeowners. Assistance will include on-site resiliency audits and one-on-one counseling on residential resiliency retrofitting techniques, flood insurance, and financial counseling.



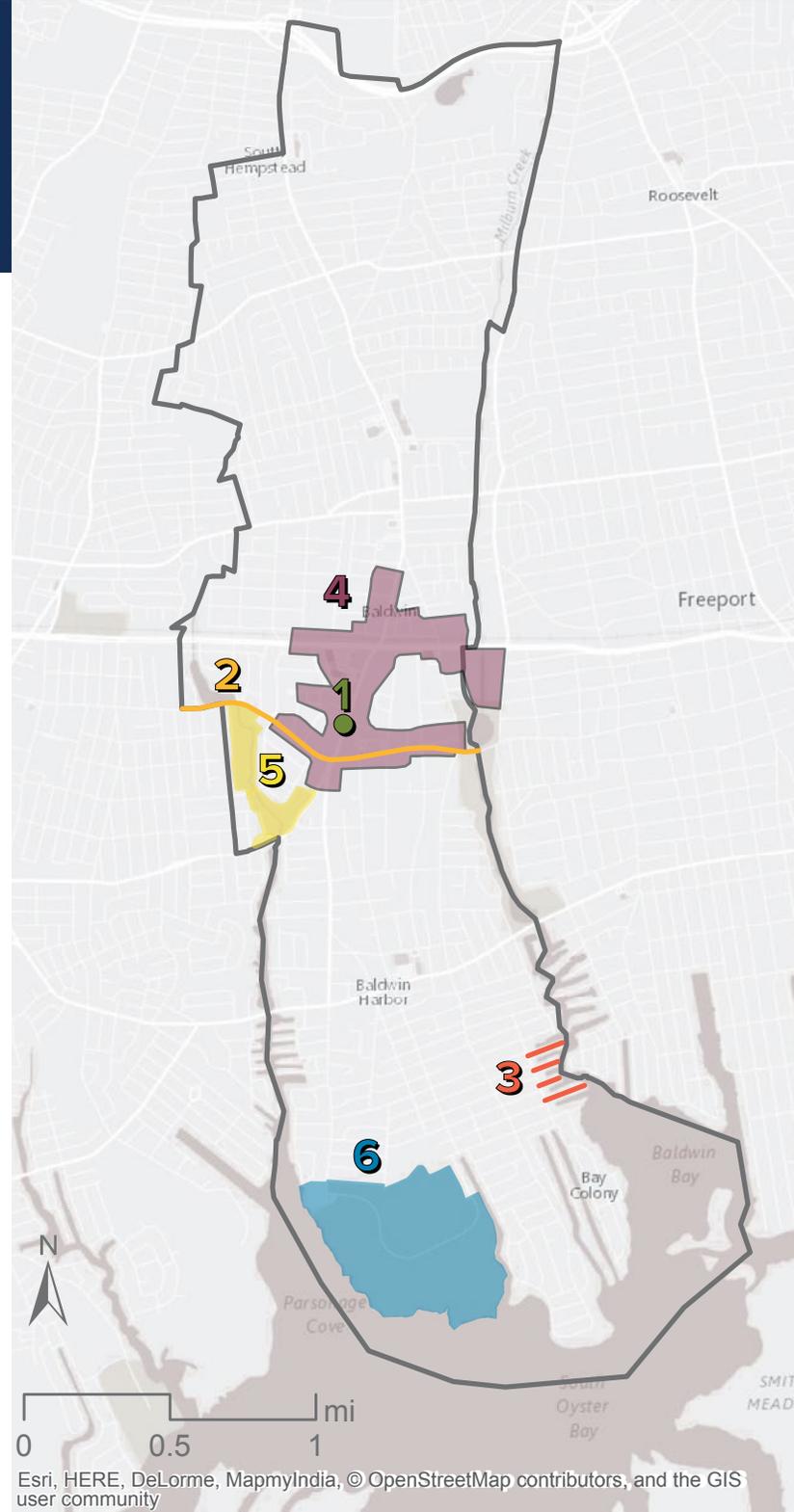
<http://floodhelpny.org>

Along with direct assistance to property owners, an online tool for all New York City residents was developed. This online tool provides information on a property's flood risk, possible changes to flood zones, flood insurance rates, and future premium increases. Homeowners also have the opportunity to take a self-resiliency test, which measures how well a property owner is currently mitigating risk and provides resiliency retrofit best practices that can be implemented to increase the resiliency of a property.

The services provided through RTAPP will directly help property owners whose homes were damaged by Superstorm Sandy to increase the resiliency of their properties. Property owners are being targeted for on-site audits in some of the communities most impacted from Superstorm Sandy, including Canarsie, Gravesend, Bensonhurst, Red Hook, and Southeast Brooklyn Waterfront in Brooklyn, Howard Beach and Rockaway East in Queens, and Lower Manhattan. Property owners in these communities experienced flooding and damage to their residential structures and ultimately, the financial burden of recovery. In September 2016, RTAPP began accepting applications through the online tool. It is anticipated that the program will conduct more than 1,500 resiliency audits to one-to-four unit residential property owners and multi-family buildings.

NY Rising Baldwin / Baldwin Harbor Community Reconstruction Projects

- 1** Southeast Nassau
Community Assistance Centers
• Baldwin Public Library
- 2** Southern Nassau
Lifeline Corridor
• Merrick Road
- 3** East Baldwin
Road Raising
- 4** Downtown Baldwin
Corridor Resiliency Improvements
- 5** Silver Lake Park
Drainage Improvements
- 6** Baldwin Park
Water Esplanade





Community Reconstruction

1. Southeast Nassau Community Assistance Centers – Baldwin Public Library

Estimated Cost: \$4.4 million for five locations

Subrecipient: DASNY

Project Description: This project will establish Community Assistance Centers (CACs) at public libraries in key locations in the Town of Hempstead, including the Baldwin Public Library. The project will include an assessment of the current infrastructure at each proposed location and installation of improvements that may include: an emergency backup natural gas generator, additional electricity outlets, and upgraded wireless internet access. The project also aims to develop Disaster Recovery Plans to help each location prepare for a variety of emergency situations. Once outfitted as CACs, these facilities will be able to distribute critical information to residents following a storm and provide a location for the charging of electronic devices.

Status: GOSR is working with the Libraries and DASNY to finalize the project scope and then will begin site assessments.

2. Southern Nassau Lifeline Corridor: Nassau County Traffic Signals

Estimated Cost: \$300,000

Subrecipient: Nassau County

Project Description: This project will install transfer switches on Nassau County owned traffic signal poles located in priority locations. These transfer switches would allow traffic signals to work in conjunction with the County's power sources to remain operational during power outages in the event of a storm.

Status: GOSR and Nassau County are working to finalize the RFP.

3. East Baldwin Road Raising

Estimated Cost: \$2 million

Subrecipient: Town of Hempstead

Project Description: This project will raise road and construct associated drainage improvements to mitigate flooding.

Status: Final design due December 2016.

4. Downtown Baldwin Corridor Resiliency Improvements

Estimated Cost: \$800,000

Subrecipient: Nassau County

Project Description: This project will prepare a resiliency study to plan for the long-term future of the commercial corridors in Baldwin with a focus on Baldwin's downtown area.

Status: Study is being completed by a team with the final study expected Spring 2017.

5. Silver Lake Park Drainage Improvements

Estimated Cost: \$2.5 million

Subrecipient: Nassau County

Project Description: The proposed project will be carried out in two phases. Phase I consists of a comprehensive drainage study which will identify potential improvements. Phase II will include the implementation of prioritized interventions identified in Phase I.

Status: Nassau County has published a request for proposals for engineering services to complete the study and preliminary design.

6. Baldwin Park Water Esplanade

Estimated Cost: \$ 4.15 million

Subrecipient: DASNY

Project Description: This project will introduce potential improvements include bulkhead replacement, natural shoreline stabilization, a well-defined pedestrian pathway, and an informal kayak launch site consistent with the South Shore Blueway.

Status: The selected design firm has submitted preliminary design drawings and cost estimates of various alternatives. Design work is underway.

Infrastructure

Although the milestones achieved through the NY Rising Housing Recovery, Small Business and Community Reconstruction programs are impressive and important in their own right, they are made even more profound when reinforced by the large-scale infrastructure projects that surround them. New York’s transportation, water, and energy networks directly impact the quality-of-life and economic vitality of the State. Understanding this, the **NY Rising Infrastructure Program** leverages local and federal resources to address key vulnerabilities and transform the most critical systems in a more resilient manner. Specifically, the State allocates funds to address both short-term and long-term needs, with an ultimate goal of making key networks stronger and better able to withstand the impacts of extreme weather events.

Because infrastructure projects often involve enormous scale and complex or overlapping jurisdictional relationships, they require partnerships and the establishment of clear and compelling objectives to bring them to fruition. To do this, GOSR partners with other agencies, such as the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ), Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) among others, in addition to local governments across the State. Each of these partners brings unique perspectives, expertise and resources to the table— making these collaborations essential to project success.

For the last several years, even as GOSR has employed a primary focus on emergency response, the agency has integrated long-term resiliency strategies into nearly every facet of its work. As GOSR’s operations focus more on infrastructure projects in the months and years ahead, the agency will continue to roll-out both green and gray measures to safeguard critical utilities and cultivate resiliency in a dynamic and multi-functional way. Through close coordination with other agencies, ground-up input from impacted communities and consistency in its vision and planning, the Infrastructure Program will play a central role in fostering a more resilient State.

The NY Rising Infrastructure Program encompasses the following:

FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Non-Federal Share “Match” Program

As a condition of receiving federal disaster recovery funds, impacted states and localities are required to pay for a portion of the repair costs associated with their grant awards. This is known as the “Local Match” portion of the **FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Program**.

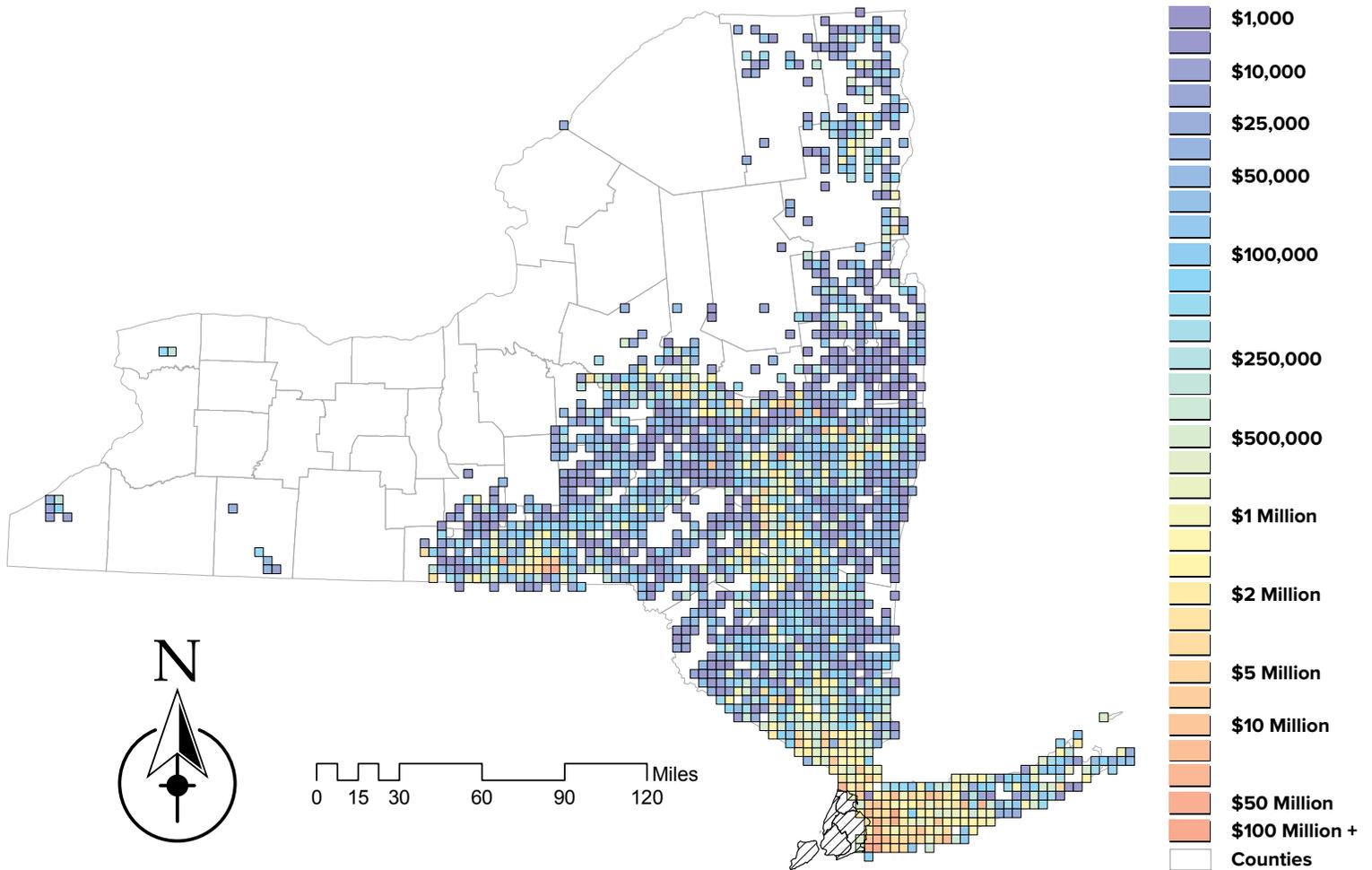
The **NY Rising Match Program** assists local governments by providing the required non-federal share. As a result, the program enables public entities to speed up the pace of recovery, maximize their use of federal resources and minimize their own financial burden associated with the recovery process.

To date, GOSR has reimbursed local governments with almost \$100 million through the program, including over \$46 million in the last State Fiscal Year alone.

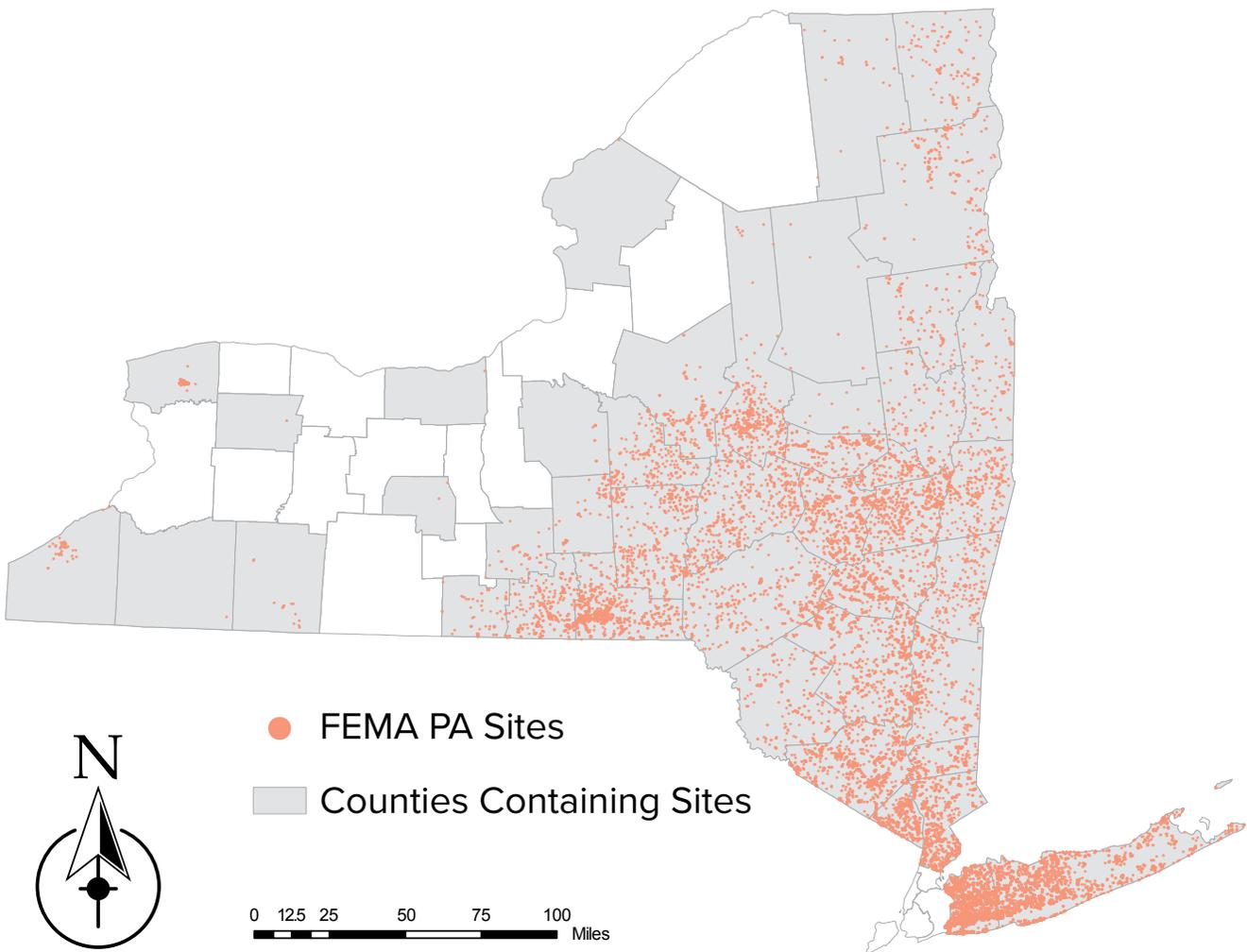


Infrastructure

FEMA PA 100% Cost per 10 sq. miles



Counties Containing FEMA PA Sites





Infrastructure

Critical Infrastructure Program

GOSR's **Critical Infrastructure Program** focuses on a range of projects to repair, rebuild and mitigate key infrastructure assets in New York. These include coastal protection, transportation, water and wastewater treatment, natural and open space resources and energy systems.

The projects and programs funded by the Critical Infrastructure Program embody all of the overarching themes of NY Rising – balancing short-term and long-term needs, while providing tangible benefits to residents, businesses and communities. These projects, combined with federal and State programs, build the social and institutional storm-preparedness capacity of communities. Many projects are regional in nature, as large infrastructure assets often cross municipal boundaries and serve entire communities or areas. The projects selected also are community-driven, resulting from direct coordination with local stakeholders through the NYRCR Program or through outreach and dialogue with federal, State, and local partners.

GOSR-funded infrastructure projects also incorporate the findings and recommendations of Governor Cuomo's NYS 2100 Commission, which was convened in the weeks after Superstorm Sandy to address long-term climate change. Among the recommendations being implemented are those surrounding the strengthening of existing transportation networks against future hazards, the reinforcement of critical energy and wastewater infrastructure, and the protection of critical coastal assets that act as first lines of defense through the utilization of dunes, marsh grass/ barrier island restoration and bulkhead repairs.

To complement these efforts, GOSR partners with State and federal agencies to facilitate recovery and resiliency programs, including FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Sandy Mitigation Loan Program.

Local Government Program

Although most of the large-scale costs of rebuilding are covered by FEMA-PA and other federal programs, local governments in the most impacted counties continue to face unmet recovery needs. Through the **Local Government Program**, GOSR provides a total of \$40 million to county governments to address unmet recovery needs and/or to make essential services more resilient. Consequently, GOSR's Local Government Program aims to ensure that the most critically storm-impacted counties have the support needed to fully recover from recent storm events.

As of 2016, GOSR has reimbursed \$1.2 million through the program, with work on two police precinct houses in Nassau County – the Fourth and the Eighth Precincts in Hewlett and Bethpage, respectively – now underway and due for completion toward the end of 2017. The County Route 12 Project – a road construction and drainage project that will increase resiliency along a 1.8 mile stretch of an important evacuation route – was also identified for Suffolk County, with construction set to begin this year.



Roberto Clemente State Park

Positioned along the Harlem River in the Bronx, the 25-acre Roberto Clemente State Park attracts some 1.3 million visitors a year, offering facilities including a multi-purpose recreation building, pool complex, ball fields, basketball courts, picnic areas and playgrounds. Its 2,200-foot steel bulkhead also provides coastal protection for the adjacent River Park Towers residential complex which houses 5,000 people; two public school buildings serving 650 students; a Metro-North Railroad line and a major power transmission line.

During Superstorm Sandy, Roberto Clemente experienced three feet of flooding, causing severe corrosion of the 40-year-old steel seawall and loss of backfill beneath the park esplanade. The resulting storm surge made the park unsafe — and left the area susceptible to future storms.

Over the last several years, the State has embarked on major resiliency improvements to the park, which serves a predominantly LMI

population, pledging up to \$46.5 million in CDBG-DR funds to rebuild the bulkhead to provide better flood protection and institute green infrastructure techniques.

This past August, the State also announced a partnership with Major League Baseball (MLB), the Major League Baseball Association (MLBA) and Harlem RBI to create a youth baseball and softball academy at the park. Expected to immediately serve more than 1,500 local youngsters, the MLB Youth Academy will promote outdoor activities and help children develop essential skills that they can carry with them for the rest of their lives. The undertaking goes hand-in-hand with renovations to the fields — including \$5 million from GOSR to make them flood-resistant and multi-purpose. In total, GOSR has committed \$51.5 million to improving the park. The bulkhead replacement is currently 50 percent complete, with lower plaza redevelopment to begin in 2017.



Infrastructure



Bay Park Wastewater Treatment Plant

During Superstorm Sandy, the Bay Park Wastewater Treatment Plant located on the south shore of Nassau County was flooded by nine-feet of water causing sewage to back-up and overflow into low-lying homes. As a result of the storm, the plant shut down for more than 50 hours resulting in approximately 200 million gallons of raw sewage flowing into channels and waterways. The event seriously compromised the plant's electrical and other critical systems, disrupting services and causing public health and safety concerns.

As one of the largest infrastructure projects being implemented by the State, the repair and mitigation of Bay Park aims to introduce state-of-the-art protection measures against future extreme weather events.

The Phase E3 project is just one component of this much larger plan. Enhancements will consist of multiple separate projects, including the construction of a combination earthen berm and concrete floodwall around the entire perimeter, mitigation of the effluent pumping facility, mitigation of the electrical distribution and emergency power generation systems, renovation and mitigation of the dewatering facility, and many other projects.

To date, construction work is 20 percent complete, with GOSR expected to pay more than \$18 million for these efforts by November 2016. Furthermore, this is being done with a Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) participation rate of nearly 20.5 percent.



Fishery Program

In September 2015, Governor Cuomo announced the launch of the State's **Fishery Disaster Relief Program** — a \$3.6 million undertaking funded through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The program, which is active in nine counties throughout the State, aims to assist sectors of New York's fishing industry that incurred losses as a result of Superstorm Sandy.

"New York's fishing industry was one of many sectors to be severely-impacted by recent storms," said Executive Director of GOSR, Lisa Bova-Hiatt. "Through these grants, we are building stronger infrastructure, while expanding the State's commitment to its multitude of small businesses."

Since the program's launch, GOSR has deemed 183 applicants in the commercial and recreational sectors to be eligible, and began distributing award letters in September 2016. GOSR and DEC are now making payments to program participants, with an expected closeout date of December 2016.



Rebuild By Design

Rebuild By Design

In June 2014, Governor Cuomo joined then-HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, Senator Charles Schumer and Mayor Bill deBlasio to celebrate New York's project proposals generated through the federal **RBD Competition**.

Initiated by the Presidential Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force in the summer of 2013, the program encouraged interdisciplinary firms (representing the best in planning, design and engineering) to create blueprints for recovery and resiliency. HUD awarded \$930 million to support six winning proposals across the metropolitan region, with four of these projects in New York and two in New Jersey. GOSR has been spearheading the implementation of two of these undertakings — one on Staten Island and one on Long Island.

Totaling \$185 million, these two projects are:

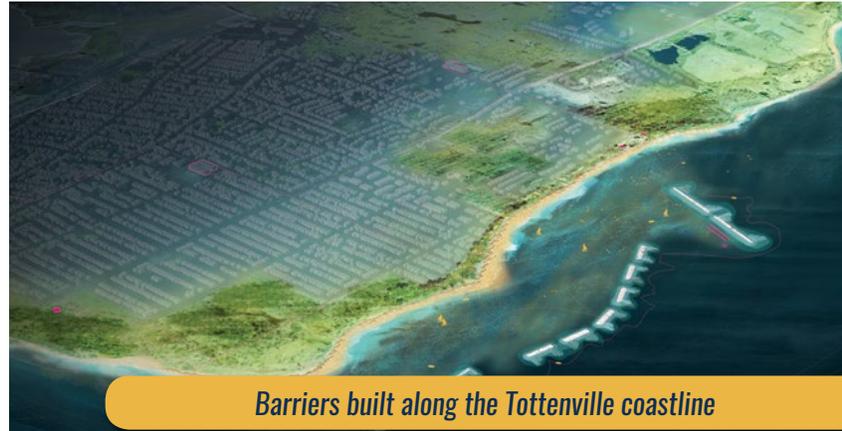
Living with the Bay: The \$125 million Living with the Bay Project includes a range of integrated solutions to better address storm water management and improve the safety/ quality of life for residents who live around the Mill River. Aiming to address the threats of surge water flooding and stormwater inundation, solutions will target the areas around Nassau County's north-south tributaries (including Hempstead Lake State Park to Hewlett Bay just south Bay Park).



Through a set of interconnected interventions, the project will transform the Mill River into a green-blue corridor that stores and filters water, provides public space, and improves riverine habitats. At the same time, the project will repair and restore marsh and barrier islands that will use natural means to slow wave action and storm surge. These river corridor improvements have co-benefits that address other challenges, such as water quality and aquifer recharge.

To date, the project is in its planning phases with New York State Parks. The project has also formed its Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) — a body of local residents who will participate in the project’s development and execution.

Living Breakwaters: Utilizing innovative design techniques and oyster reef restoration, the \$60 million Living Breakwaters Project will construct a barrier to provide critical defenses against coastal erosion and grow the natural habitat for finfish, shellfish, and crustaceans on the South Shore of Staten Island. Located near the Tottenville coastline within the Raritan Bay, the breakwaters — rocky sloped walls placed within the water column — are expected to drastically dissipate destructive wave energy and protect waterfront communities.



Barriers built along the Tottenville coastline

The project works collaboratively with the Billion Oyster Project (BOP) — a partner that is developing a restoration strategy for the program while also expanding related social and educational programming.



Members of BOP preparing shells for restoration



Rebuild By Design

Complementing the off-shore breakwaters project, the Staten Island NYRCR Committee has developed a proposal to further reduce risk in the Tottenville beach community. Called the Tottenville Shoreline Protection Project, the effort is being designed in coordination with the Living Breakwaters team and includes a system of shoreline treatments such as an earthen berm, a stone core sand cap dune, a revetment, and a raised pathway.

Working with experts in the field of engineering and architecture, New York State has recently completed its 30 percent schematic design — an important milestone in establishing a general project framework, as well as the project's feasibility and scale — and has finalized the scope of work for the draft environmental impact statement. It continues to prepare the joint application for permitting with USACE and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

Like Living with the Bay, the Living Breakwaters Project also has engaged the surrounding community by way of a CAC. Led by 20 Staten Island residents, community leaders, educators and environmental experts, the body has hosted five public meetings and advised the State on design.



Hard Substrate Living Breakwater Habitat

The Journey of an Oyster

Working with the Billion Oyster Project (BOP), NRG Energy and more than 50 New York City restaurants, GOSR aims to restore the Raritan Bay through the reclaiming, reusing, and reintroduction of oyster shells. The endeavor, which recycles oyster shells that would typically be discarded, will provide critical defenses against coastal erosion and grow the natural habitat for finfish, shellfish and crustaceans on the South Shore of Staten Island.

Approximately 35 tons of shells are produced each week in New York City from restaurants alone, otherwise being shipped to City landfills. Shells are collected from participating restaurants by BOP and shuttled to the Arthur Kill Generating Station of green energy company, NRG, to be cured for one year. The shells will then be reintroduced to the bay as cultch and reef substrate, with BOP using the cured shells to grow new oysters, build habitat and improve the quality of the City and its waters.

Each reused shell may provide a habitat for up to 20 new oysters that will eventually form the reefs associated with the Living Breakwaters Project. To date, 200,000 pounds of shells have been removed from the waste stream.

The partnership underscores the oyster's role in the history, economy, and culture of New York, while offering diners a chance to savor the delicacy and contribute to the single largest shell recovery effort the State has ever seen.

“With a rich maritime history, Tottenville really is a town that was built on the oyster industry,” said GOSR’s Living Breakwaters Project Manager, Alex Zablocki. “The fact that Living Breakwaters emphasizes the reintroduction of oysters into Staten Island’s waters serves as a nod to this legacy, while reconnecting the community to its roots in a more resilient manner.”



The Living Breakwaters Project has an unlikely, but well-deserved, star: *the oyster!*





M/WBE

A Commitment to M/WBEs

In 2014, Governor Cuomo established a goal of 30 percent for New York’s Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) State contract utilization — the highest goal of any state in the nation. This past year, the Governor advanced legislation to apply this benchmark to funding provided at the local level, equating to \$65 billion annually. In doing so, he set out to leverage the most substantial pool of State funding in history to combat systemic inequity and create new opportunities for M/WBE participation.

Although 100 percent federally funded, GOSR takes the Governor’s commitment to MWBE firms seriously. This past Fiscal Year, the agency achieved a State-certified MWBE utilization rate of 28.3 percent — a rate that increased to nearly 47.2 percent when combined with federal utilization. Recognizing the enormous opportunities for growth and investment that now exist, GOSR continues to enthusiastically engage M/WBE vendors in New York’s recovery and resiliency process. In fact, throughout its work, GOSR has engaged more than 230 M/WBE firms in prime and subcontracting opportunities and continues to seek out flexible and innovative procurement solutions to increase utilization.

Supporting this goal, GOSR has recently redesigned its Opportunities Portal — an online tool designed to match Section 3 individuals and vendors with recovery/ resiliency-based initiatives throughout the State. As a recipient of HUD funding, GOSR is required to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities are, to the greatest extent possible, directed to public housing residents, recipients of other forms of government assistance, and other low-income persons. To promote compliance with this important objective, GOSR conducts aggressive outreach to recruit and train Section 3 individuals and businesses for potential hiring and contracting opportunities. To date, GOSR has recruited more than 1,100 Section 3 individuals and trained more than 350 Section 3 individuals in OSHA curriculum. Joining together with other State agencies including the Empire State

Development (ESD), GOSR has participated in more than 70 diversity-themed events targeting M/WBE and Section 3 businesses this year alone.

“With \$4.4 billion in CDBG-DR funding, GOSR has an enormous opportunity to invest in New York’s future, while supporting many talented M/WBEs in the process,” said Chief Diversity Officer, Jahmeliah Nathan. “By bringing these individuals and firms to the table, we all win. Together, we will build a stronger tomorrow.”



Closing Message from Lisa Bova-Hiatt, Executive Director of GOSR

On October 29, 2012 — Superstorm Sandy changed all of our lives and reshaped the manner in which we thought about, planned for, and responded to extreme weather events.

In the four years since, GOSR has made enormous strides as we, in conjunction with our partners, have forged a new path forward — a path that has balanced the many competing priorities we've faced and one that will assist with future recoveries nationwide.

While no effort this large comes without its challenges, we stand proudly behind what we have achieved. Most notably, we continue to drive our comprehensive portfolio of pioneering programs designed to improve the lives of storm-impacted New Yorkers and lay the foundation for a better, stronger State.

To date, more than half of the homeowners in our Housing Recovery Program have completed construction on their homes, and we have fully-funded 70 percent of eligible small businesses. We have turned a new page in the State's recovery, beginning to transition away from emergency response toward a chapter that is focused on long-term planning and resiliency.

As we celebrate recent developments, we also acknowledge and dedicate ourselves to the work still ahead. This means using every tool in our toolbox to help remaining Housing Recovery and Small Business applicants complete and move on from our programs, ensuring that they are properly equipped with the resources they need to succeed. It means taking action on critical infrastructure projects, whether it be hardening networks to protect essential utilities or instituting green resiliency measures, to naturally shield New York's exquisite shorelines. It means making the most out of all available funding streams, including those offered through the federal government's HMGP, to leverage CDBG-DR dollars, reduce risk, and yield more sustainable communities. It also means continued implementation of the hundreds of outstanding proposals generated through the grassroots Community Reconstruction Program, thereby bringing community-driven proposals to fruition.

As a hallmark of our programs, GOSR has remained committed to balancing top-down directives with bottom-up strategies — seeking to satisfy programmatic goals while empowering New Yorkers to actively participate in the recovery process. Out of the enormous tragedies of recent storms, we have found the hope and opportunity to reengineer, reinvent, and rethink our communities in extraordinary ways, making unparalleled investments that will make us more



Closing

robust and more prepared than ever before. Each home that we elevate, mitigation measure we implement, small business we rehabilitate, and infrastructure project we devise comes with distinct and tremendous resiliency benefits. When cooperatively assessed, these seemingly-isolated efforts interlock like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, fitting firmly together to support, and formulate the bigger picture of a beautifully-reimagined State.

Recovery, as we know, cannot be achieved overnight. But under the continued leadership of Governor Cuomo, New York is transforming. Every day, our operations yield another integral piece of the puzzle, which one-by-one are creating a holistic and strategic recovery for New York.



– Lisa Bova-Hiatt
Executive Director

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stormrecovery.ny.gov