

BUILDING BACK BETTER:
NY RISING COMMUNITIES
FALL CONFERENCE



October 23, 2013

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo



Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/nystormrecovery



Follow us on Twitter: [@NYStormRecovery](https://twitter.com/NYStormRecovery)

www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/community-reconstruction-program



October 23, 2013



Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the **“Building Back Better: New York Rising Communities Fall Conference.”** Thank you for being here to share your ideas and progress with one another. I thank you, and more importantly, your neighbors thank you, for your thoughtful and hard work.

Three months ago, we gathered here in Albany to launch the New York Rising Community Reconstruction program—an ambitious, grassroots program that has already empowered local communities to build back better and stronger.

Today, we will see examples of some of the many promising community plans being developed in cities, towns, and villages across this great state. Over 102 communities are working hand-in-hand with dedicated state planners and world-class firms to develop both conceptual visions and concrete plans to ensure that the places we call home will remain safe and prosperous for future generations. I hope that in your conversations today you will exchange ideas, strategies, and solutions that you can bring home and build upon.

Too often solutions are dictated by Albany—but it is the people that live and work in a community that can best understand its needs and character. This program—your program—takes a bottom-up approach that allows each community to develop a plan not only to survive, but also to thrive in an era where natural risks will become increasingly common.

I am proud that since the program launched in July, there have been countless examples of communities working together on innovative ideas. We have also witnessed heartening examples of generosity, as planning committees in Broome, Schoharie, Suffolk, and Tioga Counties have voluntarily decided to expand the scope of their planning boundaries to include and protect neighboring communities. Beyond mere generosity, these decisions signal a collective recognition of the imperative to look beyond political boundaries and cultural divides to plan both collaboratively and regionally. It shows that communities recognize the importance of working together—because when we do, the whole can be stronger than the strength of its parts.

The resilience of New York truly is its people and its communities. When Sandy, Irene, and Lee hit, we saw the best of New Yorkers. Both friends and strangers came together to help one another. Now, one year after Superstorm Sandy, we continue to work together to build a stronger New York.

Henry Ford once said, “Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.”

We have come together. We have kept together. And we will continue to work together.

I am proud of your accomplishments, and I look forward to seeing more great community plans in the near future.

Sincerely,
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo



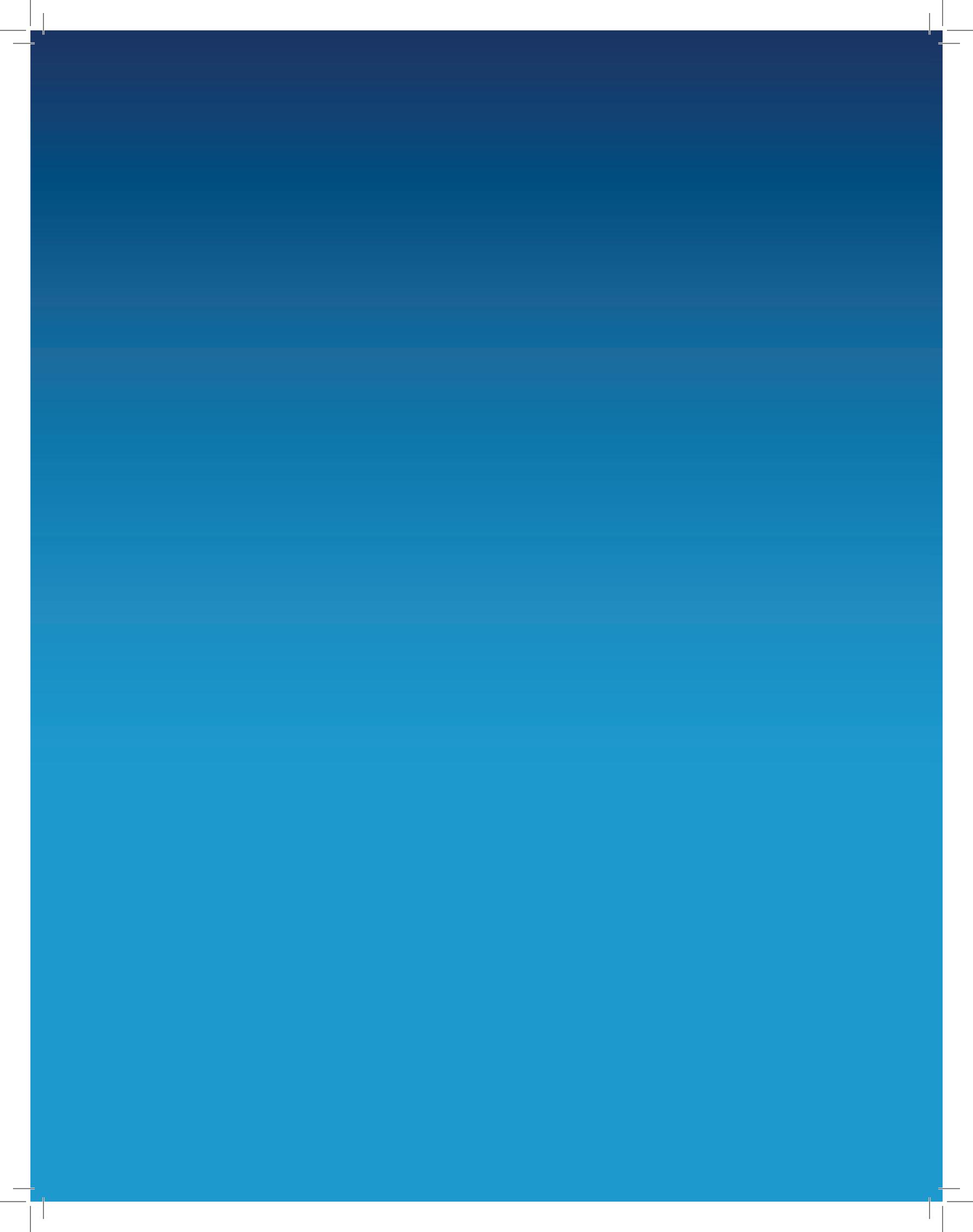
Agenda



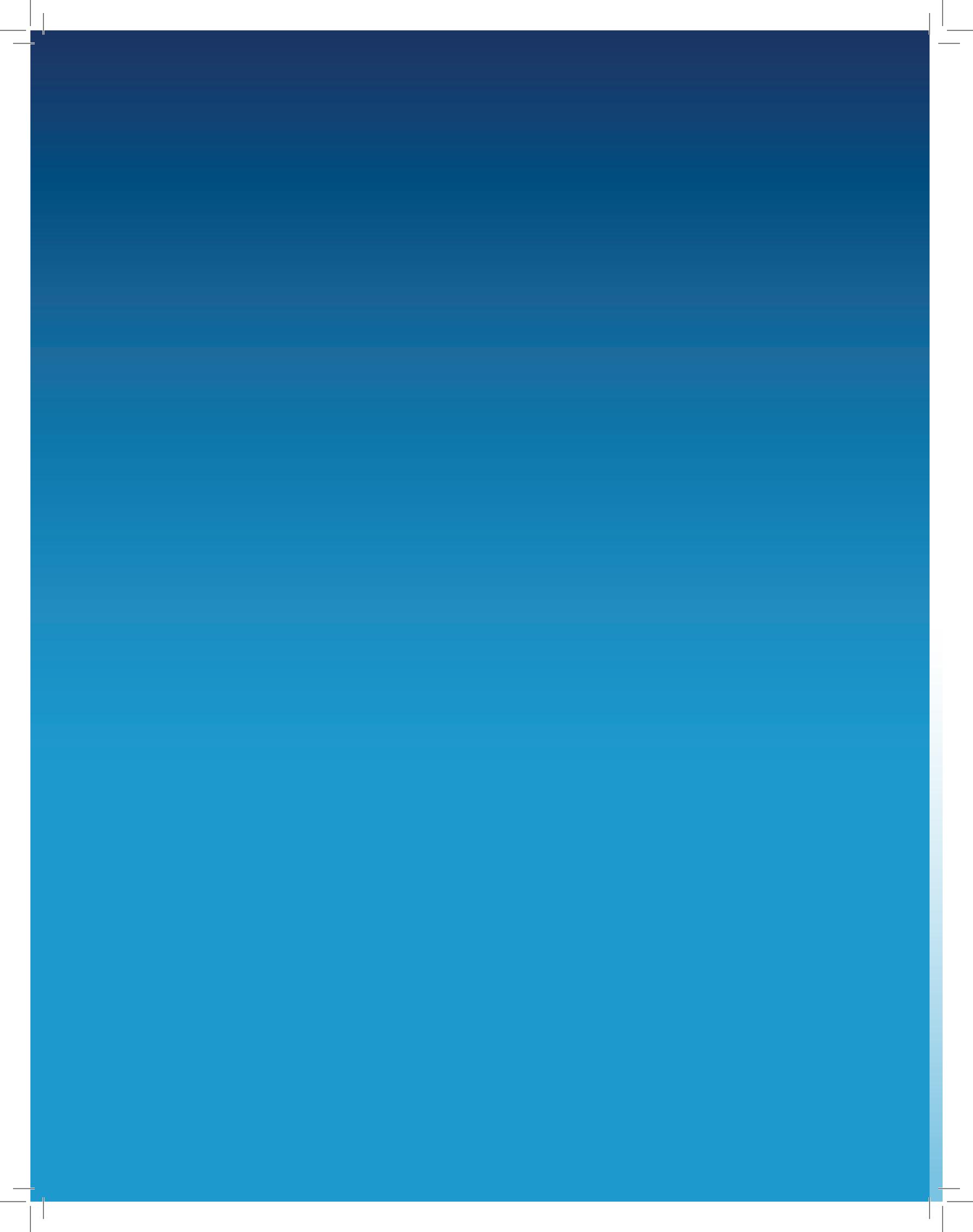


Building Back Better: NY Rising Communities Fall Conference

- 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Registration
(Meeting Room 1)
- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Morning Session
(Convention Center)
Governor Andrew Cuomo and other senior officials will welcome conference participants. A selection of downstate NY Rising Communities will present status updates on their recovery planning process and proposals.
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch with Keynote Speaker Jamie Rubin, Director of NY Rising Storm Recovery
- 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Afternoon Session
(Convention Center)
A selection of upstate NY Rising Communities will present status updates on their recovery planning process and proposals. Governor Cuomo and senior officials will wrap up the day's activities and outline the next steps for the program.



NY Rising
Community Reconstruction Program





Program Overview

The NY Rising Community Reconstruction program was established by the State of New York to provide additional rebuilding and revitalization assistance to communities severely impacted by Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee. This program enables communities to identify resilient and innovative reconstruction projects and other needed actions by developing community-driven recovery plans that consider current damage, future threats, and economic opportunities. Communities successfully completing a recovery plan will be eligible to receive funds to support the implementation of projects and activities identified in the plans.

Each NY Rising Community has a Planning Committee composed of local residents and business leaders, as well as municipal representatives and elected officials with non-voting status. The Planning Committee will take the lead in developing the content of the plan.

The State has provided each NY Rising Community with a planning team to help prepare the plan. Consultants have been hired through a State process administered by New York State Homes and Community Renewal's Office of Community Renewal and the Housing Trust Fund Corporation.

Planning experts from the Department of State and Department of Transportation have been assigned to each community to provide technical assistance and help oversee the planning consultants.



Planning Steps

The planning process includes:

- **Public Engagement:** Offering opportunities for public input and involvement at key milestones in the planning process.
- **Asset Inventory:** Completing an inventory of the community’s social, economic, and natural resource assets that have been, or will be, affected by coastal or riverine hazards.
- **Risk Assessment:** Assessing risk to key community assets based on the three factors contributing to risk:
 - o Hazard: The likelihood and magnitude of anticipated hazard events.
 - o Exposure: Local landscape characteristics that tend to increase or decrease storm effects.
 - o Vulnerability: The capacity of an asset to return to service after an event.
- **Needs and Opportunities Assessment:** Determining needs and opportunities to improve local economic growth and enhance resilience to future storms.
- **Strategies for Investment and Action:** Developing strategies and the projects and actions needed to implement the strategies; identifying potential costs and benefits of chosen projects and actions, as well as potential funding sources.
- **Implementation Schedule:** Preparing an implementation schedule of the actions needed to implement the strategies.

Communities began the planning process in the late summer and have collectively held more than 100 Committee Meetings and dozens of larger-scale Public Engagement Events to date. Communities will produce a Conceptual Plan by the end of October and a Final Plan by the end of March. A successful plan will describe projects and actions needed for the community to rebuild a more resilient and economically strong community. A successful plan will also qualify a community to receive federal funding to implement the identified projects and actions.

Timeline:

Conceptual Plan Complete	October 28, 2013
List of Strategies Complete	November 30, 2013
Overview of Priority Projects Complete	December 30, 2013
List of Projects and Actions Complete	March 31, 2014
Final Plan Complete	March 31, 2014



Plan Contents

The items contained in a NY Rising Community plan include:

Overview

- Geographic Scope of Plan
- Description of Storm Damage
- Critical Issues
- Community Goals
- Relationship to Regional Plans

Assessment of Risk and Needs

- Community Assets
- Assessment of Risk to Assets
- Assessment of Needs and Opportunities

Reconstruction Strategies

- Community Planning and Capacity Building
- Economic Development
- Health and Social Services
- Housing
- Infrastructure
- Natural and Cultural Resources

Implementation Schedule

- Schedule of Implementation Actions



A Successful Plan

A successful plan should include:

- **Assessment of risk to key assets.** As the bedrock of the plan, an inventory of the vulnerabilities of key assets will help a community set priorities among needed projects and actions.
- **Projects and actions to restore and increase the resilience of key assets.** The recovery plan should address both the restoration of key assets and actions that will make them more resilient to future threats. Examples of such projects and actions include restoration or mitigation of natural infrastructure (e.g. wetlands, oyster reefs, dunes, and other green infrastructure), changes in land use regulations (e.g. changes in use, increased setbacks, and transfer of density) to encourage sound development, and investments in transportation or other improvements in community systems to prepare for future threats.
- **Protection of vulnerable populations.** New measures to protect vulnerable persons (people with disabilities, low and very-low income populations, elderly, young children, homeless and people at risk of becoming homeless) through housing decisions and other services. For example, site new facilities in lower risk areas, require backup power systems for critical facilities such as nursing homes and hospitals, and improve communications systems to ensure that vulnerable persons are not left without aid. Some actions to address vulnerable populations could include amendments to municipal emergency management procedures.
- **Projects with economic growth co-benefits.** Projects to enhance community resilience will improve the future of the local economy. For example, investments in new transportation infrastructure may facilitate the growth of Main Street business corridors; and investments in new recreational assets (e.g. new green space that serves as a buffer against flooding) may protect against storm damage or serve as redundant protection in critical areas, while also drawing tourists or facilitating the growth of new businesses.
- **Regional coordination.** Regional coordination can enable stakeholderes to work together across jurisdictions to leverage resources, opportunities and long-term objectives.
- **Detailed implementation agendas.** A clear and detailed description of the actions needed to implement the plan will provide a template for success. This includes assigning responsibility for specific actions to specific individuals or organizations, and establishing timelines for each action, as appropriate.



NY Rising Communities

The NY Rising Communities are a mix of counties, cities, towns, villages, Census-designated places, and Neighborhood Tabulation Areas. Below is a list of the selected communities as organized into Planning Committees.

Long Island: Nassau County
Village of Atlantic Beach, East Atlantic Beach
Lido Beach, Point Lookout
City of Long Beach
Baldwin, Baldwin Harbor
Village of Freeport
Seaford, Wantagh
Bellmore, Merrick
Bay Park, Village of East Rockaway
South Valley Stream
Village of Bayville
Barnum Island, Oceanside, Village of Island Park, Harbor Isle
Village of Cedarhurst, Hewlett, Village of Lawrence, Woodmere, Village of Hewlett Neck, Village of Hewlett Harbor, Meadowmere, Inwood
Massapequa, Village of Massapequa Park, East Massapequa

Long Island: Suffolk County
Village of Amityville, Copiague
Village of Babylon, West Babylon
Village of Lindenhurst
Fire Island
West Gilgo to Captree
Village of Mastic Beach
Oakdale, West Sayville
West Islip



New York City
Brighton Beach, Coney Island, Manhattan Beach, Seagate
Gerritsen Beach, Sheepshead Bay
Lower Manhattan
Broad Channel
New Howard Beach, Old Howard Beach
Red Hook
Breezy Point Community (Breezy Point, Roxbury)
Rockaway West (Belle Harbor, Neponsit, Rockaway Beach, Rockaway Park)
Rockaway East (Arverne, Edgemere, Bayswater, Far Rockaway)
Staten Island (East and South Shores)

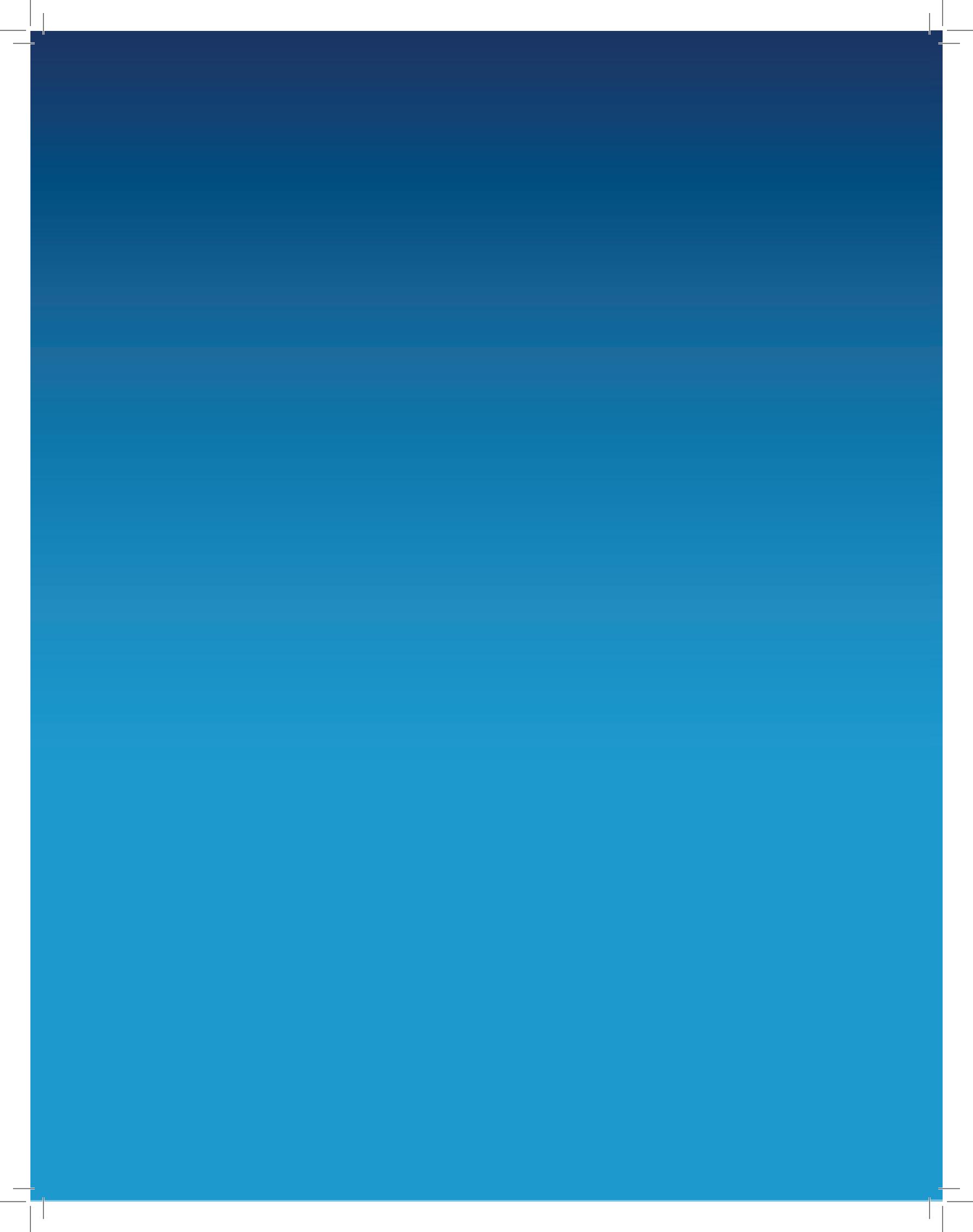
Upstate: Capital Region, North Country, Mohawk Valley
Town of Jay, Town of Keene
City of Amsterdam, Town of Amsterdam, Town of Florida
City of Schenectady, Town of Rotterdam
Village of Waterford
Town of Esperance, Village of Esperance, Village of Schoharie, Village of Middleburgh
*Herkimer County
*Oneida County
*Montgomery County

Upstate: Hudson Valley & Catskills
Village of Margaretville
Village of Sidney
Town of Prattsville
Town of Shandaken, Town of Hardenburgh
Ulster County Communities (Town of New Paltz, Village of New Platz, Town of Saugerties, Village of Saugerties, Town of Wawarsing, Village of Ellenville, Town of Rochester, Town of Olive, Town of Woodstock, Town of Rosendale)
Town of Stony Point
Village of Washingtonville

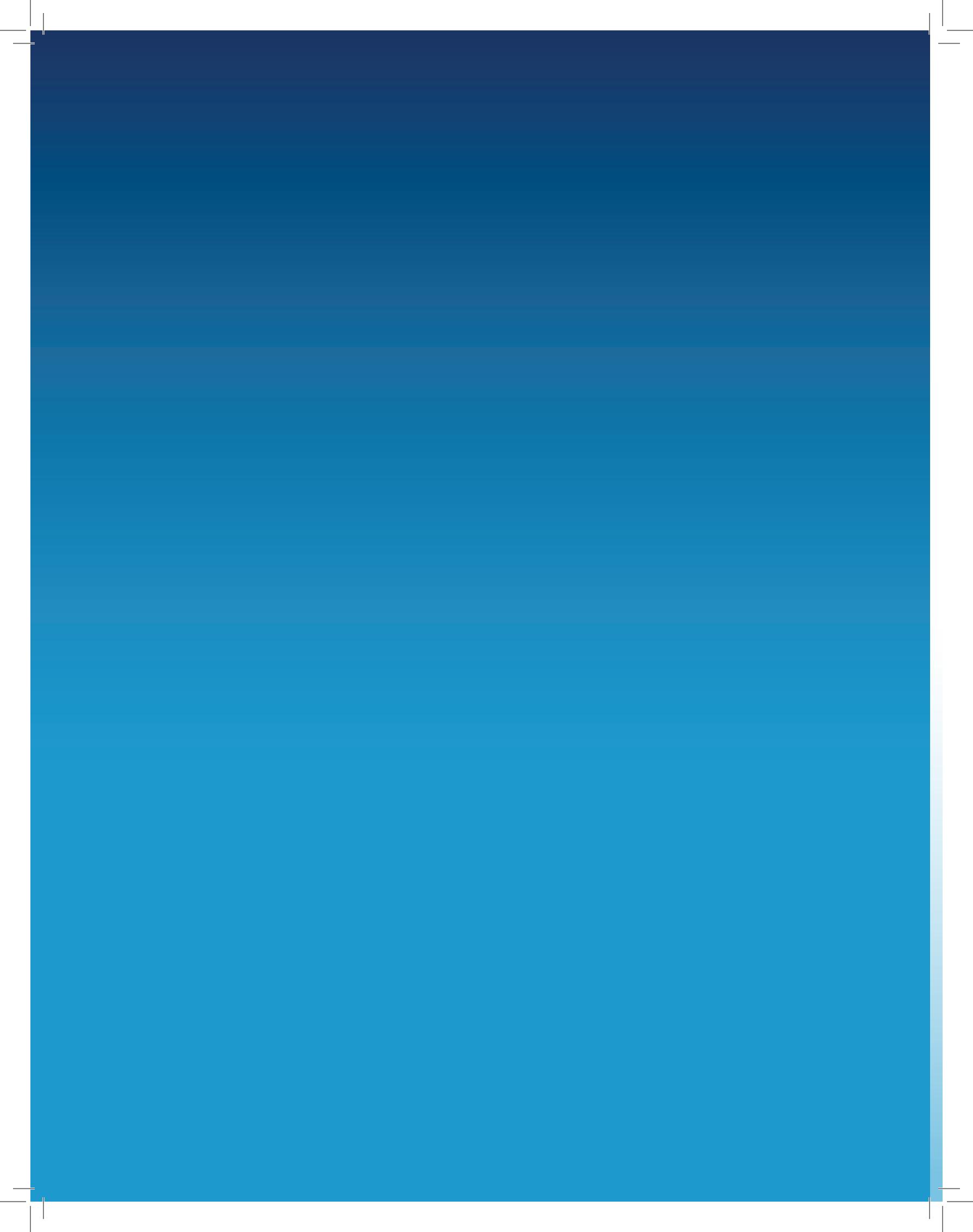
Upstate: Southern Tier & Central New York
Broome County Communities (City of Binghamton, Town of Conklin, Town of Union, Town of Vestal, Village of Johnson City, Village of Endicott)
Tioga County Communities (Town of Nichols, Village of Nichols, Town of Owego, Village of Owego, Town of Tioga)
*Madison County

Upstate: Niagara County
*Niagara County

* Denotes additional communities to be supported by non-CDBG-DR funding.



NY Rising to The Top Competition





Governor Cuomo has established the \$25 million NY Rising to the Top Competition to foster innovation, encourage collaboration, and promote the development of the best possible recovery plans. In this race to the top, those final plans that demonstrate the most exemplary achievement in one or more of the following categories will be awarded up to \$3 million in bonus funding for each category it wins. One winner will be selected for each category. Additional information will be available in the upcoming months.

1. **Best Regional Collaborations** A winner will be chosen based upon the degree to which plans, projects, or actions:
 - Incorporate multiple levels of government, private, academic, non-profit sectors
 - Address trans-boundary regional issues
 - Address regional economic development
 - Incorporate strategies that use innovative land use planning tools, such as performance zoning standards and Transfer of Development Rights (TDR), to relocate or protect vulnerable populations
 - Include input and recommendations from the Regional Economic Development Councils
 - Demonstrate decision-making by consensus
 - Build upon sectors identified in Regional Economic Development Council plan and support Regional Economic Development Council priority projects
 - Promote the development of regional land use planning and shared services
 - Promote regional collaborations in a manner not listed above
2. **Best Use of Technology in the Planning Process** A winner will be chosen based upon the degree to which plans:
 - Use technology in the planning process such as GIS mapping and analysis, simulation, design imaging and modeling
 - Use technology to distribute information on coastal and riverine processes to facilitate educated discussion
 - Use technology to engage the public, including but not limited to web-streaming for meetings and forums and social media
 - Promote use of technology in the planning process in a manner not listed above
3. **Best Community Involvement in the Planning Process** A winner will be chosen based upon the degree to which plan development:
 - Provided opportunities for public workshops, training, and information to discuss hazard risks and community goals for redevelopment
 - Provided for outreach and participation of neighboring municipalities in events organized by a NY Rising Community
 - Provided opportunities for meaningful community involvement throughout the planning process



- Used multiple methods for communication and outreach such as surveys, one on one discussions, sector meetings, social media, and more
- Engaged students, elderly individuals, disabled individuals, minorities, low and moderate income individuals, and other individuals with additional needs
- Promoted community involvement in the planning process in a manner not listed above

4. **Best Inclusion of Vulnerable Populations** A winner will be chosen based upon the degree to which plans, projects, or actions:

- Demonstrate effective outreach to vulnerable populations with evidence of their inclusion in the planning process
- Incorporate strategies that use innovative land use planning tools, such as performance zoning standards and Transfer of Development Rights (TDR), to relocate or protect vulnerable populations
- Promote retrofitting existing buildings such as low to moderate income housing, nursing homes, hospitals, and adult care facilities to make them more resilient to flood damage
- Promote relocation of vulnerable populations out of harm's way when appropriate to avoid storm-related risks
- Incorporate policies, projects, or actions that demonstrably further the interests of elderly individuals, disabled individuals, minorities, low and moderate income individuals, and other individuals with additional needs
- Promote inclusion of vulnerable populations in a manner not listed above

5. **Best Use of Green Infrastructure to Bolster Resilience** A winner will be chosen based upon the degree to which plans, projects, or actions:

- Incorporate redevelopment of hardened structures using soft engineering approaches
- Demonstrate a reduction in the amount of impervious surface within a Community
- Create public policies that offer local incentives for the private use of green infrastructure projects such as density bonuses, fee waivers, tax credits, and zoning law amendments
- Incorporate strategies that use open spaces as retention for increased stormwater
- Promote projects that will utilize natural methods for shoreline erosion control or streambank erosion control
- Include green infrastructure to bolster resilience in a manner not listed above



6. **Best Innovative and Cost-Effective Financing of Critical Projects** A winner will be chosen based upon the degree to which project financing can:
- Incorporate public/private partnerships using public funds to leverage private investment
 - Incorporate innovative methods such as the implementation of local tax districts
 - Incorporate funding from non-profit organizations
 - Incorporate multiple sources of grant funding
 - Incorporate innovative methods such as the creation of development rights banks that use funds from sale of development rights to fund critical projects
 - Incorporate the creation of a revolving loan program that uses interest from loans to finance public improvements
 - Incorporate innovative and cost-effective financing of critical projects in a manner not listed above
7. **Best Infrastructure Investments with Multiple Co-Benefits** A winner will be chosen based upon the degree to which plans, projects, or actions:
- Use existing investments in roads, culverts, dikes, levees, seawalls, dunes with minor improvements to increase resilience
 - Use existing public land such as parkland for flood storage capacity
 - Use public rights-of-ways to create wetlands and other green infrastructure measures to buffer nearby development
 - Promote projects that utilize publicly-owned property to create multiple uses/benefits such as converting public buildings in a manner so they are capable of serving as shelters
 - Promote infrastructure projects that increase stormwater capacity to both reduce flooding and improve water quality
 - Convert under-utilized property in the floodplain into natural buffer areas to increase resilience
 - Correct a pre-storm issue that was exacerbated during the storm in a manner that will increase resilience
 - Incorporate infrastructure investments with multiple co-benefits in a manner not listed above

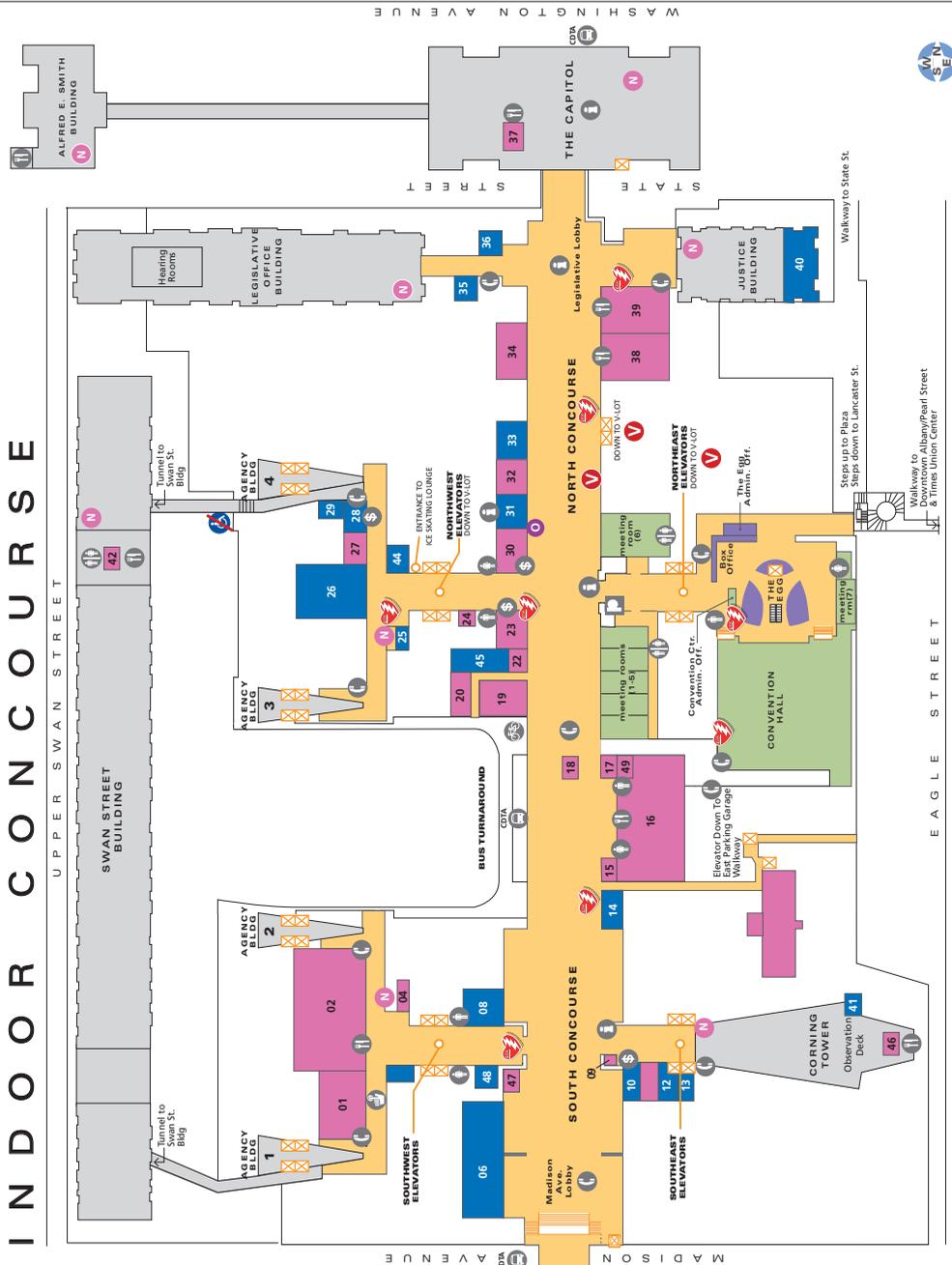


8. **Best Approach to Resilient Economic Growth** A winner will be chosen based upon the degree to which plans, projects, or actions:
- Incorporate projects and programs that retrofit existing businesses and/or business districts to make them more resilient to storm damage
 - Provide guidance and assistance to small businesses on post-storm business recovery planning
 - Implement policies and strategies that assist in relocating at-risk businesses to more sustainable and protected locations and propose new uses for the vacated locations
 - Incorporate land use planning and regulation to promote resilient economic growth, including but not limited to the creation or furtherance of a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, development of a comprehensive land use plan, adoption of zoning measures, subdivision regulations, or local natural resource regulations
 - Incorporate strategies or policies that focus on economic development that do not rely upon being located near a floodplain or coast zone

Empire State Plaza Concourse Map



INDOOR CONCOURSE



KEY :

- PUBLIC CORRIDORS
- CONVENTION CENTER
- Information
- Convention Hall
- Meeting Rooms 1-7
- Administrative Office
- THE EGG
- Administrative Office
- Box Office
- Hart Theatre
- Swyer Theatre
- RETAIL/FOOD
- YMCA
- 01 Pastabilities Cafeteria
- 02 Scissor Wizard Hair Styling
- 04 Subway
- 09 Just Jewellery Repair
- 15 McDonald's/Sandella's
- 16 Plaza Food Court Cafeteria
- 17 Hutch House Bakery (Starbucks)
- 18 Lark Street Flower Market
- 19 Acoti's Hair Salon
- 20 Peanut Land Express
- 22 Citizens Bank
- 24 Thomas's Famous Shoe Shine
- 27 GHI Family Dental Practice
- 30 Key Bank
- 32 SEFCU Credit Union
- 34 Legislative Gazette
- 37 Capitol Deli Cafeteria
- 38 Liberty Market Cafeteria
- 39 Albany Room Restaurant
- 42 Swan Street Grill
- 46 African Reflections
- 47 Sodexo Catering Office
- 49
- STATE OFFICES
- 06 NY Network Broadcast Ctr.
- 08 OGS Plaza Manager, Cultural Events
- Post Office
- 12 Employee Health Services
- 13 OGS Conference Room
- 14 New York State Police
- 15 New York State Police
- 26 OGT Telecommunications
- 29 Office of Minority & Women Owned Businesses
- 29 Employee Assistance Program
- 31 PLAZA VISITOR CENTER & I LOVE NY INFORMATION
- 33 Empire State College
- 35 NYS Assembly Payroll & Travel Unit
- 36 NYS Assembly Human Resources
- 40 Vietnam Gallery
- 41 Observation Deck
- 44 Department of State/Fire Prevention and Control
- 45 CEPA Local 660
- 48 OGS Food Service Office

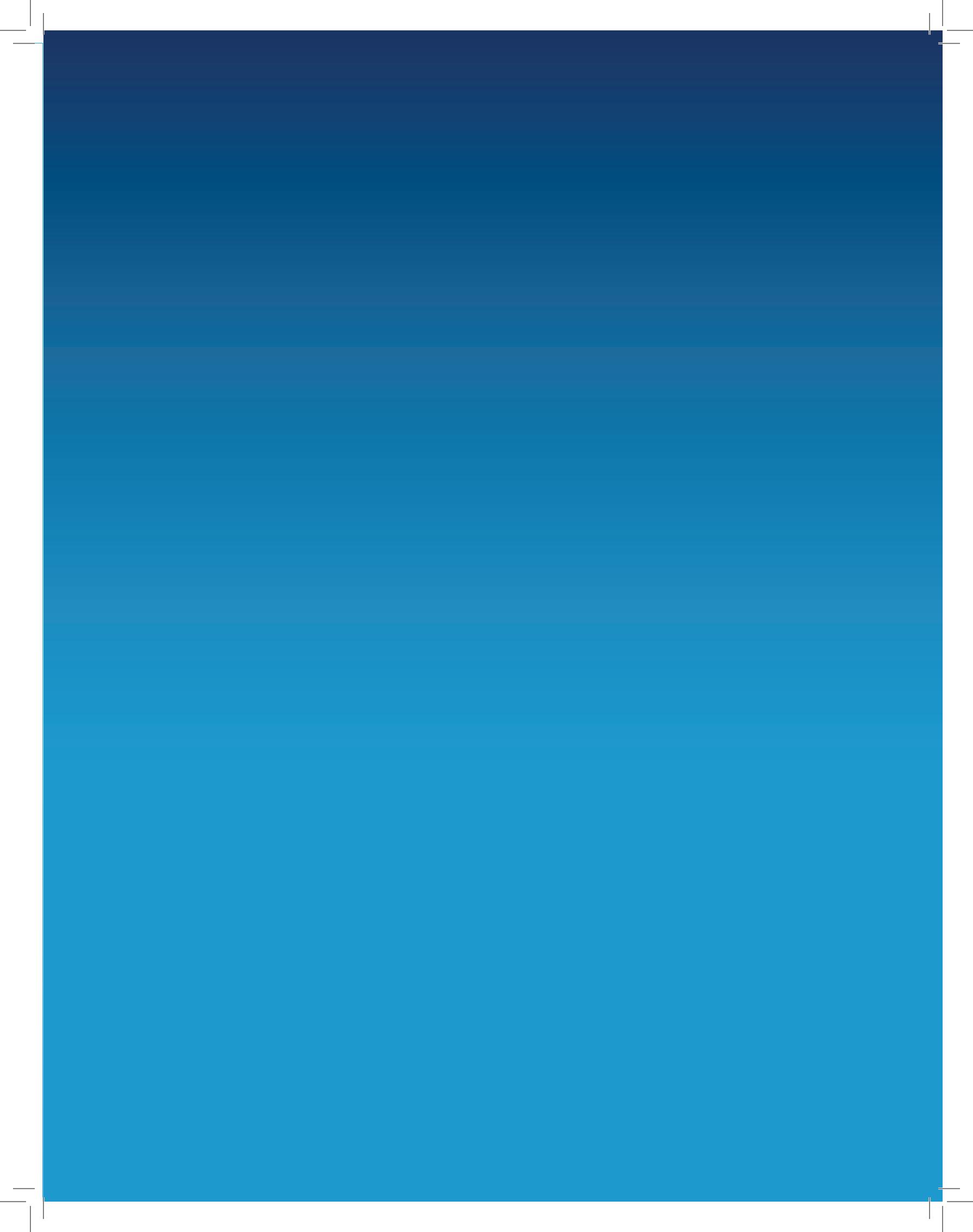
ACCESS TO PLAZA LEVEL
through the following buildings:
Corning Tower
Agency Buildings 1, 2, 3 & 4
The Egg
The Capitol
Cultural Education Center

05 CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTER
NY State Museum, Library & Archives

05 AED (Automated External Defibrillator)
*The Concourse is handicapped accessible, except where noted.



ALBANY, NEW YORK





Governor Andrew M. Cuomo