



Recover. Rebuild. Restore.

What They're Saying: **"A Sensible Approach"**

Governor Christie's Recovery Action Plan Is "A Positive Message To Homeowners And Business Owners" That "Help Is On The Way"

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Spokesman Adam Glantz. "...said New Jersey did 'outstanding work' in filing the plan well before the three-month deadline and said the agency plans a swift review." (MaryAnn Spoto, "N.J. sends feds its plan for \$1.8B in Hurricane Sandy funds," [Star-Ledger](#), 3/13/13)

- "We'll do our best to fast-track it and get the money out to the people who desperately need it..."

The Star-Ledger. "New Jersey just gave the feds its blueprint for how it wants to distribute these recovery funds, and overall, it takes a sensible approach. The first \$1.8 billion in federal grants will be focused on housing and helping small businesses get back on their feet." (Editorial, "Overall, NJ's Sandy plan takes sensible approach," [Star-Ledger Editorial Board](#), 3/17/13)

- "Putting the state in charge of these grants makes sense, because it's best equipped to handle the billions at stake."

The Record. "The Christie administration last week announced precisely how it wants to spend its initial, \$1.8 billion installment of federal Sandy aid. If there is an overall theme to the governor's plan, it's to refurbish the Jersey Shore as quickly as possible." (Editorial, "Moving quickly on restoration," [The Record Editorial Board](#), 3/17/13)

- "Rebuilding grants of up to \$150,000 would go to qualified homeowners. ... Grants of that magnitude can be a godsend for homeowners financially struggling more than four months after superstorm Sandy. They also would help many owners elevate their properties to meet new flood standards. That's crucial, because homeowners who don't elevate may face insurance premiums of an estimated \$31,000 a year."
- "Another proposed program offers \$10,000 grants to homeowners who agree to stay in their homes. ... We agree that maintaining a community's 'fabric' is desirable."
- "The administration does propose about \$250 million to help rebuild and redevelop rental housing, with a majority of the money earmarked for low- and moderate-income people. More money may be needed in the future, but this is a reasonable start."

- “No matter how the administration's blueprint turns out, it's going to happen quickly. The goal is to begin implementing it on April 15. ...The thousands impacted by Sandy need assistance as fast as they can get it.”

The Press of Atlantic City: “[I]t was good news that Gov. Chris Christie's administration has moved quickly to file a plan for disbursing the first round of federal flood aid - \$1.8 billion in community block grants. In early February, states affected by Sandy were given 90 days to file action plans with the federal government. New Jersey submitted its plan Tuesday - well ahead of the deadline.” (Editorial, “Sandy aid plan / Help is on the way,” [Press of Atlantic City](#), 3/17/13)

- “One positive aspect of the plan is that the money will be administered by the state, rather than going to county and municipal governments. With billions of dollars at stake, it is important that a central administration be accountable for how it is spent. (This is New Jersey, after all.)”
- “For those whose lives were turned upside down by Sandy, the fact that New Jersey has filed its plan is one more indication, at least, that help is on the way.”

New Jersey Business & Industry Association President Philip Kirschner “We thank Governor Christie for coming to the aid of New Jersey’s small businesses in their time of greatest need ... Even now, nearly five months after the storm hit, there are still many businesses throughout the state struggling to recover from its devastating impacts. The Governor’s actions will help get them up and running again.” (New Jersey Business & Industry Association Press Release, 3/15/13)

- “We have heard from many businesses affected by Sandy, and the fact is that grants are key to getting them back on their feet...”
- “Many businesses impacted by Sandy have been severely damaged and cannot take on more debt. These grants are just what they need to rebuild.”

The National Federation of Independent Businesses New Jersey State Director Laurie Ehlbeck: “...said the announcement sends a positive message to homeowners and business owners nervous about how post-Sandy regulatory changes might affect their rebuilding efforts.” (Jared Kaltwasser, “Business groups applaud Christie course on federal Sandy aid,” [NJBIZ](#), 3/14/13)

- “This is hopeful to us, because it shows me that at least the people up there making decisions are conscious of the issues that businesses have in their attempts to reopen or rebuild...”

New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce Senior Vice President Michael Egerton: “...said he's pleased with the \$25 million allocated for tourism marketing. He said the money would supersede a supplemental appropriation bill aimed at funding the effort.” (Jared Kaltwasser, “Business groups applaud Christie course on federal Sandy aid,” [NJBIZ](#), 3/14/13)

- “We want to make sure before the summer season is in high gear there's proper marketing. Businesses are open. The Shore is open, and we want to make sure we don't lose those tourism dollars.”

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