

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW YORK STATE GUIDELINES FOR POST-STORM REDEVELOPMENT PLANS

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Much of New York's marine coast, including New York City, Nassau County and Suffolk County, is heavily developed and vulnerable to damages from both tropical and extra-tropical storms. The New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) estimates \$680 billion in building stock existing in the seven counties comprising New York City and Long Island. Over 11 million people live in these counties. With so much development already existing in areas prone to storm damages, it is not feasible to acquire, relocate, or defend all development. Instead, it will be necessary to guide post-storm reconstruction into more hazard resistant locations over the course of time to create sustainable, storm-resilient communities.

The purpose of a post-storm redevelopment plan is to reduce future risk and exposure to coastal hazard damages and enhance community resilience. Resilience is the capacity of a community's social, economic, cultural and natural resources to adapt to future conditions and endure expected impacts from storms without significant impairment. In order to achieve storm resilience, avoid repeating the mistake of high risk development, and use disaster funds effectively and efficiently, local governments need planning guidance in place before storm damages occur.

At the present time, there is little guidance on the content of an effective post-storm redevelopment plan or means of measuring when a post-storm redevelopment plan provides sufficient risk reduction. The objective of the proposed project is to assess community resilience and create guidelines that can be used by local governments on Long Island to prepare post-storm redevelopment plans. The guidelines will help communities describe their current exposure to coastal storm impacts, establish and maintain an inventory of vulnerable community assets, and identify and prioritize mitigation tools to manage, reduce, or eliminate coastal hazard impacts. A standardized damage monitoring program will also be developed to help communities report damage incidents and gauge improvement in community resilience as a result of implementing mitigation measures through a post-storm redevelopment plan.

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