Sandy Regional Infrastructure Resilience Coordination

Enhancing Coastal Infrastructure Resilience through Regional Coordination

October 16, 2014
Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force

Released Rebuilding Strategy in August 2013 with 69 recommendations for long term recovery

- Oversight by Principals of Federal agencies, departments, and offices
- Progress tracking by Sandy Program Management Office in Washington, DC
- Articulated Infrastructure Resilience Guidelines to inform federal infrastructure investments
  - Comprehensive Analysis
  - Transparent and Inclusive Decision Process
  - Regional Resilience
  - Long-Term Efficacy and Fiscal Sustainability
  - Environmentally Sustainable and Innovative Solutions
  - Targeted Financial Incentives
  - Adherence to Resilience Performance Standards

One of the Infrastructure Resilience Guideline relates specifically to regional resilience:

- collaborative work with partners across all levels of governance and the private sector from the neighboring communities and states
- promote regional and cross-jurisdictional approach to resilience
- identify interdependencies among and across geography and infrastructure systems
- compound individual investments towards shared goals; foster leadership
- build capacity
- share information and best practices on infrastructure resilience

Recommendation 4: “Apply Infrastructure Resilience Guidelines to all Federal infrastructure investments and projects for Sandy recovery.”
Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force
Rebuilding Strategy

- Recommendation 4: “Apply Infrastructure Resilience Guidelines to all Federal infrastructure investments and projects for Sandy recovery.”

- Recommendation 6: “Federal, State, and local agencies should continue to coordinate Sandy recovery infrastructure resilience projects.”

- Recommendation 24: “Ensure Sandy recovery water infrastructure projects are coordinated with other infrastructure investments.”
Sandy Regional Infrastructure Resilience Coordination Group

- **Members**: Federal, State, and Local government officials responsible for Sandy grants for infrastructure projects

- **Objective**: Support regional resilience across federal infrastructure investments by gathering, discussing, and considering technical information about planned and proposed projects to identify and seize opportunities to address scopes or timelines to facilitate implementation, consistent with grant requirements, and the Infrastructure Resilience Guidelines.

- **Regional Federal Resources**:
  - Senior officials in Sandy-affected region administering largest grants
  - Sandy Recovery Office senior staff dedicated to interagency coordination
  - NDRF RSF Field Coordinators from resource agencies
  - Responsible staff from permitting and regulatory agencies
  - Technical experts from agencies on resilience and related infrastructure

- **Key Activities**:
  - Quarterly Meetings
  - Project Database
  - Technical Coordination Teams
  - Adjunct Team on Interagency Issues
  - Integration with Federal Permitting & Review Team
  - Interagency Agreements
  - Interagency Briefings
Technical Coordination Teams

1. **Coastal Flood Management**
   2. Hoboken/Jersey City/Weehawken, NJ
   3. NYC
   4. Meadowlands, NJ
   5. Long Island
   6. Connecticut

7. **Transportation**

8. **Wastewater Treatment**

9. **Water Supply**

10. **Energy**
    a. Liquid Fuels
    b. Microgrids
Technical Coordination Teams

- **Members**: Federal, State, and Local government staff with responsibility for or technical knowledge regarding infrastructure projects supported by grants from Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 for Sandy.

- **Mission Statement**: Support regional resilience across federal infrastructure investments in the region most impacted by Hurricane Sandy, and facilitate planning, development, and implementation of infrastructure projects funded through the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 by
  - gathering, discussing, and considering technical information related to planned and proposed projects in order to identify opportunities to enhance resilience,
  - advising grantees and project sponsors on project scopes so that the projects may have enhanced resilience, individually or together, and
  - identifying potential implementation challenges such as funding and/or federal review and permitting issues that can be addressed through collaboration or referral to appropriate federal committees or groups dedicated to the issues,

consistent with grant requirements for expenditure of the federal funds, and the Infrastructure Resilience Guidelines as set forth in the Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Strategy, dated August 2013.