**Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Report Cards**

**Governor Christie and the Office of Recovery and Rebuilding**

**Overall: D**

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| Issues | Score | Why? |
| **Leadership** | **D** |  |
| During and Immediate Aftermath | **A** | His leadership following the storm started out very strong and hands on. |
| More Recently | **D** | That leadership has faded. Except for cutting some ribbons and staged meetings he has been more focused out-of-state than in New Jersey |
| **Responsiveness** | **D-** |  |
| Transparency | **F** | The Office of Recovery and Rebuilding oversees cleanups and recovery operations but has not held public meetings or met with the Legislature. |
| Accountability | **F** | The Governor and the Office of Rebuilding and Recovery does not seem to be accountable to the public or anyone. |
| Public Process | **D** | Very limited with no public hearings. There was a public comment period for the State’s rebuilding plan but no stakeholder hearings have been held. |
| **Policy and Planning** | **F** |  |
| Science-based Policy Decisions | **F** | He has refused to allow the Coastal Ocean Protection Council to meet or even have appointments.  The administration has not incorporated Rutgers’ work on climate in to their policies.  The Governor refuses to act on mounting climate science projecting impacts on New Jersey in the future and is not taking steps to address sea level rise. |
| Regional Planning | **F** | The State Plan has been ignored. The Governor has shelved his flawed State Strategic Plan so no planning guidance is being implemented in the recovery.  The Governor signed the Economic Opportunity Act allowing development in sensitive areas |
| Mitigation and Adaptation Planning | **F** | The Governor has stopped progress under previous administrations to implement hazard planning to address sea level rise. He has not required programs and mapping to deal with sea level rise, climate change, and adaptation and mitigation for those impacts as part of rebuilding |
| **Action** | **D-** |  |
| Addressing Climate Change | **F** | The Governor eliminated the DEP Office of Climate Change and pulled New Jersey out of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (almost causing a crash in the solar market). His revised Energy Master Plan reduces our renewable energy and energy efficiency goals in favor of more fossil fuels. He has not implemented the Global Warming Response Act or the Offshore Wind Economic Development Act |
| Restoring Natural Systems | **D** | The Governor has yet to outline any meaningful plans for funding open space purchases or a coastal buyout program  The Governor is supporting a seawall in Mantoloking that will not work and other engineered dune systems that aren’t as effective as natural systems  There is extremely limited money for wetland restoration programs that will better protect people and property  The Governor ordered the Attorney General to acquire dune easements using legal proceedings |
| Energy Efficiency and Green Building Codes | **F** | Unlike other states impacted by Sandy, NJ is using outdated building codes and has refused to adopt the latest standards as part of rebuilding  The Governor has diverted over $900 million from the Clean Energy Fund over the last four years. This money could have gone to help families rebuild in a more efficient manner |
| Infrastructure | **C** | BPU is now including some funding for distributive generation, microgrid, and combined heat and power because they are getting federal monies for a resiliency bank.  Because of the requirement of federal funds, there is now some better planning to make our infrastructure more resilient.  Sewer, water, and other infrastructure is being reinstalled without permits if located in the same footprint, where it was previously destroyed  Vetoed **S2680 (Sacco),**which would have allowed development on piers in coastal high hazard areas in certain urban municipalities |
| Regulatory Issues | **F** | The DEP CAFRA rules weaken protections for our coast.  Rebuilding is being done through Emergency Orders and Administrative Consent Orders without oversight in hazardous areas  The Governor’s office is not addressing loopholes in existing regulations or proposing changes to fix the problems  The administration updated FEMA maps for the first time in 30 years, which was required for federal funding. However the FEMA maps do not take into account sea level rise |
| **Outcomes** | **F** |  |
| Oversight | **UNKNOWN** | State agencies are being overseen by the Governor and his office but there is no transparency so it is unclear exactly what that oversight is  There is data up on the website for public review |
| Implementation | **F** | Too many people are still out of their homes and are having too much trouble dealing with state agencies as they rebuild. They are also having trouble dealing with federal agencies and the state is not helping |