

Legislation at a Glance

Proposal 12: Analyze Wind Risks

Implemented

Local Law 81 of 2013

Summary

New York City is in a hurricane-prone region and our building code incorporates modern standards for wind design. However, most NYC buildings were constructed under older codes that did not include the same level of protection. In addition, buildings under construction and climate change impacts are not fully addressed in the new codes. This legislation directs the Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability to study and report on the effects of wind on certain especially vulnerable categories of buildings. The legislation also requests climate change analysis.

New Requirements or Changes

Effective: October 2, 2013

NYC Administrative Code, Title 3, Subchapter 2, Section 3-124

This legislation requires a report to be provided within two years of enactment to the mayor and the council from the Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability on the impact of heavy winds. The report is to include:

- An analysis on the types of existing buildings that are at risk for falling debris based on the age, construction, height, and occupancy of such buildings;
- An analysis on the effects of wind on buildings that are raised, supported by columns or moved in order to address flood hazard concerns;
- An analysis on the effects of wind on buildings that are under construction;
- An analysis of forecasts related to potential changes in the frequency, intensity, and path of future storm events;
- An examination of the benefits of installing and maintaining weather stations across the city, to better understand localized wind patterns.
- Recommendations on addressing the above concerns, including recommendations on revising building and construction codes.

Implementation Notes

There are no known issues with fulfilling the requirements of this legislation.