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Homes damaged by Sandy to be auctioned off

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WOODBURY - Officials have announced that waterfront homes damaged by Sandy will be up for auction in May.

The state bought out the damaged homes at full market value through the New York Rising program.

News 12 had previously reported the state would demolish the homes and preserve the land. However, officials say 81 homes in Nassau County and 69 in Suffolk County will be auctioned off as fixer-uppers or tear-downs.

Some residents are upset the state paid full value while the homes will be sold for a fraction of the cost. For example, one house in Lindenhurst had a value of \$475,000 before the storm and the opening bid will be \$157,000.

Residents say they are also concerned that the houses will be bought and built into something that doesn't fit within the community.

Auctions are **May 19** and **May 20** at the Hyatt Regency Long Island in Hauppauge.

<http://bit.ly/1xbO42d>