Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Sideya Sherman, Chair

42-60 - SIGN REGULATIONS

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42-60 - SIGN REGULATIONS

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

42-61 - Definitions

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

Words in italics are defined in Section 12-10 or, if applicable exclusively to this Chapter, in this Section.

42-62 - Permitted Signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, #signs# are permitted subject to the provisions of the following Sections:

Section 42-63 (Surface Area and Illumination Provisions)

Section 42-64 (Permitted Projection or Height of Signs)

Section 42-65 (Additional Regulations for Signs Near Certain Parks and Designated Arterial Highways)

Section 42-66 (Special Provisions Applying Along District Boundaries)

Section 42-67 (Additional Sign Regulations for Adult Establishments)

Section 42-68 (Signs Erected Prior to December 13, 2000).

However, notwithstanding any provision of this Section, flags, banners or pennants other than those that are #advertising signs#, located on any #zoning lot# used primarily for #community facility# #uses# of a civic, philanthropic, educational or religious nature, are permitted in all districts, as indicated, without limitation.

42-63 - Surface Area and Illumination Provisions

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, all permitted #signs# shall be subject to the restrictions on #surface area# and illumination as set forth in this Section, provided that the following #signs# shall be exempted from such restrictions on #surface area#:

> #Illuminated# non-#flashing signs#, other than #advertising signs#, located in a window within a #building#, with a total #surface area# not exceeding eight square feet on any #zoning lot# and limited to not more than three such #signs# in any window.

For the purpose of determining permitted #surface area# of #signs# for #zoning lots# occupied by more than one establishment, any portion of such #zoning lot# occupied by a #building# or part of a #building# accommodating one or more establishments on the ground floor may be considered as a separate #zoning lot#.

No #illuminated sign# shall have a degree or method of illumination that exceeds standards established by the Department of Buildings by rule pursuant to the City Administrative Procedure Act. Such standards shall ensure that illumination on any #illuminated sign# does not project or reflect on #residences# or #joint living-work quarters for artists# so as to interfere with the reasonable use and enjoyment thereof. Nothing herein shall be construed to authorize a #sign with indirect illumination# to arrange an external artificial source of illumination so that direct rays of light are projected from such artificial source into #residences# or #joint living-work quarters for artists#.

42-631 - Total surface area of signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, the total #surface area# of all permitted #signs#, including non-#illuminated# or #illuminated signs#, shall not exceed the limitation established for non-#illuminated signs#, as set forth in Section 42-632.

42-632 - Non-illuminated signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, non-#illuminated signs# with total #surface areas# not exceeding six times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#, in feet, but in no event more than 1,200 square feet for each #sign#, are permitted.

However, in any #Manufacturing District# in which #residences# or #joint living-work quarters for artists# are, under the provisions of the Zoning Resolution, allowed as-of-right or by special permit or authorization, the total #surface area# of all such permitted #signs# shall not exceed six times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#, in feet, and that the #surface area# of each #sign# shall not exceed 750 square feet.

42-633 - Illuminated or flashing signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, #illuminated# or #flashing# #advertising signs# are not permitted.

#Illuminated# or #flashing signs#, other than #advertising signs#, and #accessory# or #advertising# #signs with indirect illumination# are permitted, provided that the total #surface area# of all such #signs#, in square feet, shall not exceed:

(a) for #illuminated# or #flashing signs# other than #advertising signs#, five times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#, in feet, and that the #surface area# of each #sign# shall not exceed 500 square feet; and

(b) for #accessory# or #advertising# #signs with indirect illumination#, five times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#, in feet, and that the #surface area# of each #sign# shall not exceed 750 square feet.

However, in any #Manufacturing District# in which #residences# or #joint living-work quarters for artists# are, under the provisions of the Zoning Resolution, allowed as-of-right or by special permit or authorization, the total #surface area# of all such permitted #signs# shall not exceed five times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#, in feet, and that the #surface area# of each #sign# shall not exceed 500 square feet.

42-64 - Permitted Projection or Height of Signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, all permitted #signs# are subject to the applicable regulations of this Section, inclusive.

42-641 - Permitted projection

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, except as otherwise provided in Section 42-642 (Additional regulations for projecting signs), no permitted #sign# shall project across a #street line# more than 18 inches for double- or multi-faceted #signs# or 12 inches for all other #signs#, except that:

(a) in M1-5B, M1-5M and M1-6M Districts, for each establishment located on the ground floor, non-#illuminated signs# other than #advertising signs# may project no more than 40 inches across a #street line#, provided that along each #street# on which such establishment fronts, the number of such #signs# for each establishment shall not exceed two two-sided #signs# separated at least 25 feet apart, and further provided that any such #sign# shall not exceed a #surface area# of 24 by 36 inches and shall not be located above the level of the first #story# ceiling.

(b) for #zoning lots# occupied by more than two theaters designed, arranged and used for live performances of drama, music or dance and located within the area bounded by West 34th Street, Eighth Avenue, West 42nd Street and Tenth Avenue, permitted #signs# may project across a #street line# no more than 4 feet, 6 inches, provided the height of any such #signs# shall not exceed 55 feet above #curb level#.

42-642 - Additional regulations for projecting signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, permitted #signs# other than #advertising signs# may be displayed as follows:

(a) Non-#illuminated signs# may be displayed on awnings or canopies permitted by the Administrative Code, with a #surface area# not exceeding 12 square feet and with the height of letters not exceeding 12 inches. Any commercial copy on such #signs# shall be limited to identification of the name or address of the #building# or an establishment contained therein.

(b) #Signs# may be displayed on marquees permitted by the Administrative Code, provided that no such #sign# shall project more than 48 inches above nor more than 12 inches below such marquee.

42-643 - Height of signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, permitted #signs# shall not extend to a height greater than 40 feet above #curb level#, provided that non-#illuminated signs# or #signs with indirect illumination# may extend to a maximum height of 75 feet.

42-65 - Additional Regulations for Signs Near Certain Parks and Designated Arterial Highways

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, the provisions of paragraphs (a), (b) and (c), or paragraph (d), of this Section, shall apply for #signs# near designated arterial highways or certain #public parks#.

(a) Within 200 feet of an arterial highway or a #public park# with an area of one-half acre or more, #signs# that are within view of such arterial highway or #public park# shall be subject to the following provisions:

(1) no permitted #sign# shall exceed 500 square feet of #surface area#; and

(2) no #advertising sign# shall be allowed; nor shall an existing #advertising sign# be structurally altered, relocated or reconstructed.

(b) Beyond 200 feet from such arterial highway or #public park#, the #surface area# of such #signs# may be increased one square foot for each linear foot such sign is located from the arterial highway or #public park#.

(c) The more restrictive of the following shall apply:

(1) any #advertising sign# erected, structurally altered, relocated or reconstructed prior to June 1, 1968, within 660 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of an arterial highway, whose message is visible from such arterial highway, shall have legal #non-conforming# #use# status pursuant to Section 52-83 (Non-conforming Advertising Signs), to the extent of its size existing on May 31, 1968; or

(2) any #advertising sign# erected, structurally altered, relocated or reconstructed between June 1, 1968, and November 1, 1979, within 660 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of an arterial highway, whose message is visible from such arterial highway, and whose size does not exceed 1,200 square feet in #surface area# on its face, 30 feet in height and 60 feet in length, shall have legal #non-conforming use# status pursuant to Section 52-83, to the extent of its size existing on November 1, 1979. All #advertising signs# not in conformance with the standards set forth herein shall terminate.

(d) Within one-half mile of any boundary of the City of New York, permitted #signs# and #advertising signs# may be located along any designated arterial highway that is also:

(1) a "principal route" or "toll crossing" that prohibits direct vehicular access to abutting land and provides complete separation of conflicting traffic flows; and

(2) a through truck route designated by the New York City Department of Transportation; and

(3) that crosses a boundary of the City of New York, without regard to the provisions of paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this Section, provided any such permitted or #advertising sign# otherwise conforms to the regulations of this Chapter including, with respect to an #advertising sign#, a location not less than 500 feet from any other #advertising sign#, except that, in the case of any such permitted or #advertising sign# erected prior to August 7, 2000, such #sign# shall have #non-conforming# #use# status pursuant to Sections 52-82 (Non-conforming Signs Other Than Advertising Signs) and 52-83 with respect to all other regulations of this Chapter to the extent of the degree of #non-conformity# of such #sign# as of August 7, 2000, including, with respect to an #advertising sign#, its location within 500 feet of any other such #advertising sign#.

Upon application, the requirements of paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this Section shall be waived, provided that the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies that such waiver is limited to a single non-#flashing sign# other than an #advertising sign#, located on a #zoning lot# not less than one and one-half acres and, all other permitted #signs#, other than #advertising signs# located on such #zoning lot#, that are subject to the provisions of this Section, conform with all the #sign# regulations applicable in C1 Districts.

For the purposes of this Section, arterial highways shall include all highways that are shown on the Master Plan of Arterial Highways and Major Streets as "principal routes," "parkways" or "toll crossings," and that have been designated by the City Planning Commission as arterial highways to which the provisions of this Section shall apply.

42-651 - Advertising signs on waterways

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

No moving or stationary #advertising sign# shall be displayed on a vessel plying waterways adjacent to #Manufacturing Districts# and within view from an arterial highway.

For the purposes of this Section, arterial highways shall include all highways that are shown on the Master Plan of Arterial Highways and Major Streets as "principal routes," "parkways" or "toll crossings" and that have been designated by the City Planning Commission as arterial highways to which the provisions of this Section shall apply.

For the purposes of this Section, an #advertising sign# is a #sign# that directs attention to a profession, business, commodity, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered elsewhere than upon the premises of the vessel and is not #accessory# to a #use# on such vessel.

42-66 - Special Provisions Applying Along District Boundaries

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

42-661 - Restrictions along district boundary located in a street

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, and within 100 feet of the #street line# of any #street# or portion thereof in which the boundary of an adjoining #Residence District# is located, or which adjoins a #public park# of one-half acre or more, #advertising signs# that face at an angle of less than 165 degrees away from such #Residence District# or park boundary shall not be permitted and all other #signs# facing at less than such an angle shall conform with all the #sign# regulations applicable in C1 Districts as set forth in Sections 32-61 to 32-68, inclusive, relating to Sign Regulations.

42-662 - Restriction on angle and height above curb level

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, and within 500 feet of the boundary of a #Residence District# or #Commercial District#, except C7 or C8 Districts, any illuminated portion of any #sign# shall face at an angle of more than 90 degrees away from such boundary line and a #sign with indirect illumination# may extend only to a height of 58 feet above #curb level#.

42-67 - Additional Sign Regulations for Adult Establishments

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, all permitted #signs#, other than #advertising signs#, for #adult establishments# shall conform with the provisions of this Chapter, except that the maximum #surface area# of all #signs#, other than #advertising signs#, for #adult establishments# shall not exceed, in the aggregate, three times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#, but in no event more than 150 square feet per establishment, of which no more than 50 square feet may be #illuminated# and no portion thereof may be #flashing#.

No #signs# for #adult establishments# shall be permitted on the roof of any #building#, nor shall such #signs# extend above #curb level# at a height greater than 25 feet.

42-68 - Signs Erected Prior to December 13, 2000

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, a #sign# erected prior to December 13, 2000, shall have #non-conforming use# status pursuant to Sections 52-82 (Non-conforming Signs Other Than Advertising Signs) or 52-83 (Non-conforming Advertising Signs) with respect to the extent of the degree of #non-conformity# of such #sign# as of such date with the provisions of Sections 42-52, 42-53 and 42-54, where such #sign# shall have been issued a permit by the Department of Buildings on or before such date. In all such districts, as indicated, a #sign# other than an #advertising sign# erected prior to December 13, 2000, shall also have #non-conforming use# status pursuant to Section 52-82 with respect to the degree of #non-conformity# of such #sign# as of such date with the provisions of Section 42-55, paragraphs (a)(1) and (b), where such #sign# shall have been issued a permit by the Department of Buildings on or before such date. Nothing herein shall be construed to confer #non-conforming use# status upon any #advertising sign# located within 200 feet of an arterial highway or of a #public park#

with an area of one-half acre or more, and within view of such arterial highway or #public park#, or where such #advertising sign# is located at a distance from an arterial highway or #public park# with an area of one-half acre or more which is greater in linear feet than there are square feet of #surface area# on the face of such #sign#, contrary to the requirements of Section 42-55, paragraph (b). The #non-conforming use# status of signs subject to Section 42-55, paragraphs (c)(1), (c)(2) and (d), shall remain unaffected by this provision.

For the purposes of this Section, arterial highways shall include all highways that are shown on the Master Plan of Arterial Highways and Major Streets as "principal routes," "parkways" or "toll crossings," and that have been designated by the City Planning Commission as arterial highways to which the provisions of this Section shall apply.

42-69 - Sign Regulations in M1-6D Districts

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

In M1-6D Districts, #signs# are permitted subject to the #sign# regulations applicable in C6-4 Districts, as set forth in Section 32-60, inclusive.