



## Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Eric Adams, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Daniel R. Garodnick, Chair

# **99-05 - Special Height and Setback Regulations**

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 11/15/2024

---

## 99-05 - Special Height and Setback Regulations

---

LAST AMENDED  
5/12/1994

The height and setback regulations of Sections [23-63](#), [23-64](#), [23-65](#), [24-52](#), [24-53](#), [24-54](#), [33-43](#), [33-44](#) and [33-45](#) shall not apply. In lieu thereof, the height and setback regulations set forth in Sections [99-051](#) through [99-054](#), inclusive, shall apply.

---

### 99-051 - Location, height and setback of street wall

---

LAST AMENDED  
2/2/2011

(a) #Street walls# along Madison Avenue

For #developments# or #enlarged# portions of #buildings# with frontage on Madison Avenue or on a side #street# within 50 feet of its intersection with Madison Avenue, the following regulations shall apply:

(1) The #street wall# of the base of such #building# shall be located on the #street line# or, if there is an existing #abutting# #building# fronting on the same #street line# that is set back from such #street line#, the #street wall# of the base may be aligned with the #street wall# of the #abutting# #building# for a distance of not less than 10 feet measured horizontally from the side wall of such #abutting building#. However, such setback distance shall not exceed 15 feet from the #street line#. All #street walls# built pursuant to this paragraph shall extend along the full length of the #street line# and rise vertically without setback for:

- (i) not less than 110 feet but not more than 120 feet above #curb level# ; or
- (ii) the full height of the #building# ;

whichever is less.

(2) Above the base, a setback is required for all portions of a #building# which exceed a height of 120 feet above #curb level#. Such setback shall be provided at a height not lower than 110 feet above #curb level#, and shall have a minimum depth of 10 feet from a #wide# #street line# and a minimum depth of 15 feet from a #narrow# #street line#.

(3) No portion of a #building# may exceed the height limitations of Section [99-054](#) (Maximum building height).

(b) #Street walls# along side #streets#

For #developments# or #enlarged# portions of #buildings# with frontage on a side #street# beyond 50 feet of its intersection with Madison Avenue, the following regulations shall apply:

(1) The #street wall# of the base of such #building# shall be located on the #street line# or, if there is an existing #abutting# #building# fronting on the same #street line# that is set back from such #street line#, the #street wall# of the base shall be aligned with the #street wall# of the #abutting# #building# for a distance of not less than 10 feet measured horizontally from the side wall of such #abutting# #building#. However, such setback distance need not exceed 10 feet from the #street line#. All #street walls# built pursuant to this paragraph shall extend along the full length of the #street line# and rise vertically without setback for:

- (i) a height of 60 feet above #curb level# ; or

- (ii) the height of a #street wall# before setback, if applicable, of that portion of an existing #building# nearest the #development# or #enlargement#, fronting on the same #street line#, and located on the same or an adjoining #zoning lot# ;

whichever is higher.

- (2) Alternatively, the #street wall# location provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section may apply to the base of a #building# along a side #street# beyond 50 feet of its intersection with Madison Avenue, up to a distance of 70 feet from its intersection with Madison Avenue.
  - (3) Above the base, a setback is required for all portions of a #building#. Such setback shall have a minimum depth of 10 feet from a #wide# #street line# and a minimum depth of 15 feet from a #narrow# #street line#.
  - (4) No portion of a #building# may exceed the height limitations of Section [99-054](#) (Maximum building height).
- (c) #Street walls# in Historic Districts

For any #zoning lot# located in a Historic District designated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the minimum base height and #street wall# location regulations of this Section shall be modified as follows:

- (1) The minimum base height of a #street wall# may vary between the height of the #street wall# of an adjacent #building# before setback, if such height is lower than the minimum base height required, up to the minimum base height requirements of this Section.
- (2) The location of the #street wall# of any #building# may vary between the #street wall# location requirements of this Section, and the location of the #street wall# of an adjacent #building# fronting on the same #street line#.

---

## **99-052 - Recesses, balconies and dormers**

---

LAST AMENDED  
2/2/2011

(a) Recesses

Recesses are permitted to provide #outer courts#, balconies or articulation of #street walls# at the intersection of two #street lines#. In addition, recesses may be required or prohibited due to the width of the #zoning lot# or the location of the #street wall# of an adjacent #building#. For the purposes of this Section, the provisions of Section [23-842](#) (Wide outer courts) shall not apply. In lieu thereof, the width of any such #court# shall be at least one and one-third times its depth. All recesses shall be provided in accordance with the following provisions:

- (1) Above a height of 20 feet above #curb level#, or above the level of the second #story#, whichever is lower, up to 30 percent of the #street wall# of a base may be recessed from the #street line#. However, no recesses shall be permitted within 30 feet of the intersection of two #street lines#, unless such recesses are provided within an area bounded by the two #street lines# and a line connecting such #street lines# at points 15 feet from their intersection.
- (2) Where the #development# or #enlarged# portion of a #building# is adjacent to an existing #building# located on a #zoning lot# having frontage on the same #street line#, no recesses shall be provided in the #street wall# of the #development# or #enlargement# for a distance of 10 feet from the adjacent corner of the existing #building# to a height equal to the height of the existing #building#.
- (3) Except for a #zoning lot# with less than 50 feet of frontage, or a #zoning lot# with less than 100 feet of frontage

and located entirely in a Historic District designated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, recesses are required on the #street walls# of #buildings# facing Madison Avenue, in accordance with the following provisions:

- (i) above a height of 20 feet above #curb level#, or above the level of the second #story#, whichever is lower, at least 25 percent of the length of the #street wall# of a base at the level of every #story# shall be recessed from the #street line# to a depth of at least five feet. Such recesses shall be unobstructed from their lowest level to the sky; and
- (ii) above the base, the #street wall# shall be articulated with recesses that occupy at least 20 percent of the length of the #street wall# at the level of every #story# to a depth of at least five feet. Such recesses shall be unobstructed from their lowest level to the sky.

(b) Balconies

Balconies shall comply with the following provisions:

- (1) No balconies shall be permitted to extend beyond the #street wall# of the base built in accordance with the height and setback regulations of Section [99-051](#) (Location, height and setback of street wall), paragraph (a).
- (2) Balconies shall be permitted in recesses that are not required to be unobstructed from their lowest level to the sky.

(c) Dormers

For the purposes of this Section, a dormer shall be a vertical extension of the #street wall# of a base allowed as a permitted obstruction within a required setback area. A dormer may be located anywhere on a #wide street#, and on a #narrow street# within 70 feet of its intersection with a #wide street#. However, a dormer shall not be located within 10 feet of a #side lot line# unless it fully abuts an adjoining #building#.

On any #street# frontage, the aggregate width of all dormers at the required setback level shall not exceed 60 percent of the width of the #street wall# of the highest #story# of the base. For each foot of height above the base, the aggregate width of all dormers at that height shall be decreased by one percent of the #street wall# width of the highest #story# of the base.

---

## 99-053 - Special provisions for narrow buildings

---

LAST AMENDED  
2/2/2011

If the width of a #street wall#, built pursuant to Section [99-051](#) or [99-052](#), is 45 feet or less, then the #building# shall comply with the provisions of Section [23-692](#) (Height limitations for narrow buildings or enlargements).

---

## 99-054 - Maximum building height

---

LAST AMENDED  
2/2/2011

The height of all #buildings or other structures# shall comply with the following provisions:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of this Section, the height of all #buildings or other structures# shall not

exceed 170 feet above #curb level#. However, such #buildings or other structures# may exceed 170 feet, to a height of 19 #stories# or 210 feet, whichever is less, provided that the gross area of each #story# located above 170 feet does not exceed 80 percent of the gross area of the #story# directly below it.

- (b) For the purposes of this Section, the Midblock Transition Portion shall be that portion of a #zoning lot# located within the area between 70 feet and 100 feet from the Madison Avenue #street line#, except for a #zoning lot# which has frontage on a #wide street# not located in a historic district. Within the Midblock Transition Portion, a #building or other structure# shall not penetrate an imaginary plane that begins above a line 100 feet from the Madison Avenue #street line# at a height of 20 feet above the height of a #street wall# built pursuant to Section [99-051](#), paragraph (b), and rises over the Midblock Transition Portion to a height of 120 feet above #curb level# at a distance of 70 feet from the Madison Avenue #street line#.