



Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Eric Adams, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Daniel R. Garodnick, Chair

98-42 - Special Height and Setback Regulations

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 12/16/2024

98-42 - Special Height and Setback Regulations

LAST AMENDED

6/23/2005

The height and setback regulations of the underlying district shall not apply, except as set forth in this Section, inclusive. Furthermore, for any #zoning lot# located adjacent to the #High Line#, the provisions of Section [98-50](#), inclusive, shall also apply. All heights shall be measured from the #base plane#, unless otherwise specified.

98-421 - Obstruction over the High Line

LAST AMENDED

11/13/2012

Within the #Special West Chelsea District#, the #High Line# shall remain open and unobstructed from the #High Line bed# to the sky, except for improvements constructed on the #High Line# in connection with the use of the #High Line# as a public open space, and except where the #High Line# passes through and is covered by a #building# existing on November 13, 2012.

98-422 - Special rooftop regulations

LAST AMENDED

12/6/2023

The provisions of Section [33-42](#) (Permitted Obstructions) shall apply to all #buildings or other structures# within the #Special West Chelsea District#, except that dormers may penetrate a maximum base height in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (c)(1) of Section [23-623](#) (Permitted obstructions in certain districts). However, dormers may not exceed the maximum #building# height in Subareas C, F and G where the maximum base height and maximum #building# height are the same.

All mechanical equipment located within 15 feet of the level of the #High Line bed# that is within 25 feet of the #High Line#, measured horizontally, or within the #High Line frontage#, as applicable, shall be screened and buffered with no intake or exhaust fans or vents facing directly onto the #High Line#.

98-423 - Street wall location, minimum and maximum base heights and maximum building heights

LAST AMENDED

3/16/2023

The provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall apply to all #buildings or other structures#. Such provisions are modified for certain subareas as set forth in paragraphs (b) through (h) of this Section.

(a) For all #buildings#

(1) #Street wall# location provisions

On #wide streets#, and on #narrow streets# within 50 feet of their intersection with a #wide street#, the #street wall# shall be located on the #street line# and extend along such entire #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# up

to at least the minimum base height specified in the table in this Section. On #narrow street# frontages, beyond 50 feet of their intersection with a #wide street#, the #street wall# shall be located on the #street line# and extend along at least 70 percent of the #narrow street# frontage of the #zoning lot# up to at least the minimum base height specified in the table in this Section.

Where #street walls# are required to be located on the #street line#, recesses, not to exceed three feet in depth from the #street line#, shall be permitted on the ground floor where required to provide access to the #building#. Above a height of 12 feet, up to 30 percent of the #aggregate width of street walls# may be recessed beyond the #street line#, provided any such recesses deeper than 10 feet along a #wide street#, or 15 feet along a #narrow street#, are located within an #outer court#. Furthermore, no recesses shall be permitted within 30 feet of the intersection of two #street lines# except that, to allow articulation of #street walls# at the intersection of two #street lines#, the #street wall# may be located anywhere within an area bounded by the two #street lines# and a line connecting such #street lines# at points 15 feet from their intersection.

For #developments# that occupy the entire #block# frontage of a #street# and provide a continuous sidewalk widening along such #street line#, the boundary of the sidewalk widening shall be considered to be the #street line# for the purposes of this Section.

The #street wall# location provisions of this Section shall not apply along that portion of any #street# frontage:

- (i) over which the #High Line# passes;
 - (ii) occupied by existing #buildings# to remain, unless such #buildings# are vertically #enlarged#; or
 - (iii) between the #High Line# and a #side lot line#, where such frontage measures less than 20 feet.
- (2) Maximum #building# heights

- (i) For C6-2A and C6-3A Districts

In C6-2A and C6-3A Districts, the maximum base height, maximum #building# height and the maximum number of #stories# shall be as set forth in Section [23-662](#) (Maximum height of buildings and setback regulations) for the residential equivalent of an R8A and R9A District, respectively. For #buildings# meeting the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of Section [23-664](#) (Modified height and setback regulations for certain Inclusionary Housing buildings or affordable independent residences for seniors), such maximum heights and number of #stories# may be modified in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of Section [23-664](#) for such districts' applicable residential equivalent. Separate maximum #building# heights are set forth within such Sections for #Quality Housing buildings# with #qualifying ground floors# and for those with #non-qualifying ground floors#.

- (ii) For all other districts

All portions of #buildings or other structures# that exceed the applicable maximum base height

specified in the table in this Section shall provide a setback at a height not lower than the applicable minimum base height. A setback with a depth of at least 10 feet shall be provided from any #street wall# fronting on a #wide street#, and a setback with a depth of at least 15 feet shall be provided from any #street wall# fronting on a #narrow street#, except such dimensions may include the depth of permitted recesses in the #street wall#.

No #building or other structure# shall exceed the maximum #building# height specified in the table in this Section.

(b) Subareas A and D

(1) #Street wall# location

In Subarea D, on #corner lots# between the north side of West 18th Street and the south side of West 22nd Street, a #street wall# with a minimum height of 15 feet shall be located on the #narrow# #street line# between 50 and 150 feet of its intersection with Eleventh Avenue.

In Subarea D, for #buildings# that do not include towers as set forth in paragraph (b)(3) of this Section, the #street wall# location provisions set forth in paragraph (a) shall not apply to any #zoning lot# that occupies the entire Eleventh Avenue #block# front. In lieu thereof, #street walls# with a minimum base height of 60 feet shall be located within 10 feet of all #street lines# bounding such #zoning lot# and extend along at least 70 percent of each #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#.

(2) Setback provisions

The setback provisions for portions of #buildings# above the maximum base height set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply. In lieu thereof, no portion of a #building or other structure# that exceeds the applicable maximum base height shall penetrate a #sky exposure plane# that begins above the #street line# at the maximum base height and rises over the #zoning lot# at a ratio of 2.7 feet of vertical distance to one foot of horizontal distance on a #narrow street#, and 5.6 feet of vertical distance to one foot of horizontal distance on a #wide street#.

(3) Tower provisions

Any #building#, or portion thereof, which in the aggregate occupies not more than 40 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot# and penetrates the #sky exposure planes# set forth in paragraph (b)(2) of this Section, is hereinafter referred to as a “tower.” Such towers are permitted provided they are set back at least 10 feet from a #wide# #street line# and at least 15 feet from a #narrow# #street line#, and provided no other portion of the #building# exceeds the applicable maximum base height. In addition, the following rules shall apply:

(i) For #zoning lots# with less than 20,000 square feet of #lot area#, such tower may occupy more than 40 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot# in accordance with the provisions of Section [33-454](#) (Towers on small lots).

(ii) Any #story# within the highest 40 feet of such tower (the “penthouse portion”), shall not exceed 85

percent of the gross area of the highest #story# directly below such penthouse portion.

- (iii) In Subarea A, such tower shall occupy at least 30 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot#, except that such minimum #lot coverage# requirement shall be reduced to 25 percent above a height of 220 feet. However, no minimum #lot area# requirement shall apply to the highest four #stories# or 40 feet of such #building#, whichever is less.
- (iv) In Subarea A, the maximum length of any #story# located above a height of 220 feet shall not exceed 150 feet. Such length shall be measured by inscribing within a rectangle the outermost walls at the level of each #story# entirely above a height of 220 feet. Any side of such rectangle shall not exceed 150 feet.
- (v) In Subarea A, for any #zoning lot# with more than 75 feet of #narrow street# frontage in which a #side lot line# is located within an area bounded by a line 200 feet east of and parallel to Eleventh Avenue and a line 410 feet east of and parallel to Eleventh Avenue, no tower portion of a #building# shall be located closer than 25 feet to such #side lot lines#.
- (vi) In Subarea D, the maximum #building# height shall be 250 feet, and the maximum length of any #story# located above the maximum base height shall not exceed 150 feet. Such length shall be measured by inscribing within a rectangle the outermost walls at the level of each #story# wholly or partially above the maximum base height. Any side of such rectangle shall not exceed 150 feet. However, for #zoning lots# that occupy the entire Eleventh Avenue #block# front, a portion of the #street wall# may rise above the maximum base height without setback from Eleventh Avenue, provided the #aggregate width of the street wall# for Eleventh Avenue does not exceed 100 feet.

(c) Subareas C, F and G

In Subareas C, F and G, for #zoning lots# with #wide# and #narrow street# frontage, no #street wall# is required beyond 50 feet of a #wide street#. Furthermore, for any #development# or #enlargement# that occupies at least one corner of the Tenth Avenue #block# front and extends along the Tenth Avenue frontage of the #zoning lot# for at least 170 feet, exclusive of existing #buildings# to remain, a lowered #street wall# shall be provided for any #building# that exceeds 45 feet in height. Such lowered #street wall# shall have a maximum height of 45 feet and a minimum height of 35 feet and extend along the Tenth Avenue frontage for a width not less than 25 percent and not more than 30 percent of the #aggregate width of street walls# facing Tenth Avenue. Such lowered #street wall# portion of the Tenth Avenue frontage shall be located at the intersection of Tenth Avenue and a #narrow street#. Such lowered #street wall# shall extend along such #narrow# #street line# for a distance of at least 50 feet from Tenth Avenue. Beyond 50 feet of Tenth Avenue, excluding the #High Line frontage# of a #building#, such portion of the #building# shall not exceed a height of 45 feet.

The provisions of this Section, relating to the location and height of the lowered #street wall# portion of the Tenth Avenue frontage of a #building# are illustrated in Diagram 1 (Street Wall and High Line Frontage Regulations in Subareas C, F and G) in Appendix C of this Chapter.

In Subarea C, for #zoning lots# with Tenth Avenue frontage between West 24th Street and West 28th Street, the maximum #building# height shall be 125 feet.

In Subarea C, for any #enlargement# on a #zoning lot# that is subject to the provisions of Section [98-242](#) (Located partially within Subarea C and partially within M1-5 Districts) and located in a Historic District designated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the minimum base height shall be the height of the existing #street wall# of the #building# to be #enlarged# and no #street wall# shall be required above such minimum base height.

(d) Subarea E

The #street wall# location provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply on a #zoning lot# fronting on West 18th Street and located partially in Subareas D, E and G, where #floor area# has been transferred pursuant to Section 98-241. A maximum of 60 percent of the West 18th Street frontage within Subarea E may rise without setback to a maximum #building# height of 250 feet, and a minimum of 20 percent of the West 18th Street frontage within Subarea E shall rise without setback to a minimum height of 60 feet and a maximum height of 85 feet and be located within 10 feet of the #street line#.

(e) Subarea H

No #building or other structure# shall be located east of the #High Line#, unless otherwise specified in agreements and other instruments that provide for City construction of some or all of the At-Grade Plaza Work and some or all of the Stairway and Elevator Work, executed in accordance with Appendix D.

No portion of a #building or other structure# shall exceed a height of 85 feet except for two #buildings#, or portions of #buildings#, hereinafter referred to as “Tower East” and “Tower West.” At or above the base height, both such towers shall be set back at least 10 feet from any #street wall# facing a #wide street# and at least 15 feet from any #street wall# facing a #narrow street#. Such setbacks shall be provided at a height not lower than 60 feet, except that such setbacks may be provided at a height not lower than 40 feet, provided at least 65 percent of the #aggregate width of street walls# facing #narrow streets# and at least 60 percent of the #aggregate width of street walls# facing #wide streets# have a minimum base height of 60 feet.

Tower East shall be located in its entirety within 240 feet of the Tenth Avenue #street line#, and Tower West shall be located in its entirety within 200 feet of the Eleventh Avenue #street line#. Tower East shall not exceed a height of 290 feet and Tower West shall not exceed a height of 390 feet. No portion of Tower East shall be located closer than 25 feet to any portion of Tower West.

A maximum of 50 percent of the #street wall# of Tower West may rise without setback from a #narrow# #street line#. Such portion of the #street wall# shall be located a minimum of 15 feet and a maximum of 20 feet from the #narrow# #street line#.

(f) Subarea I

In that portion of Subarea I located within 300 feet of Tenth Avenue between West 16th Street and West 17th Street, the #street wall# location provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply along Tenth Avenue, as shown in Diagram 5 of Appendix C of this Chapter, but shall apply along a minimum of 85 percent of the West 16th Street and West 17th Street frontages. No portion of a #building or other structure# located within 300 feet of Tenth Avenue shall exceed a height of 120 feet, except for one #building# which may have a height not to exceed 250 feet

provided such #building# is located in its entirety between 10 feet and 90 feet of West 17th Street and has a length that does not exceed 175 feet when measured parallel to the West 17th Street #street line#.

In all other portions of Subarea I, the provisions of paragraph (a) shall apply.

(g) Subarea J

The provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply to any #development# or #enlargement# that utilizes the provisions of Section [98-25](#). In lieu thereof, the provisions of this paragraph (g) shall apply.

(1) Midblock Zone

The Midblock Zone shall be that portion of Subarea J located more than 150 feet west of the Ninth Avenue #street line# and more than 200 feet east of the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Within the Midblock Zone, a #building# shall have a maximum #street wall# height before setback of 110 feet, and shall have a maximum #building# height of 130 feet.

(2) Ninth Avenue Zone

The Ninth Avenue Zone shall be that portion of Subarea J within 150 feet of the Ninth Avenue #street line#. Within the Ninth Avenue Zone, any portion of a #building# shall have a maximum #street wall# height of 130 feet before setback and a maximum #building# height of 135 feet. Any #building# located above a height of 130 feet shall be set back at least five feet from the Ninth Avenue #street wall# and at least 15 feet from the West 15th Street and West 16th Street #street walls#.

(3) Tenth Avenue Zone

The Tenth Avenue Zone shall be that portion of a #zoning lot# within 200 feet of the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Within the Tenth Avenue Zone, any portion of a #building# shall have a maximum #street wall# height of 185 feet before setback and a maximum #building# height of 230 feet, provided that any portion of a #building# located above a height of 90 feet shall be set back not less than 15 feet from the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Any portion of a #building# located above a height of 185 feet shall be set back at least 10 feet from the West 15th and West 16th Street #street lines#, and at least 25 feet from the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Any portion of a #building# above a height of 200 feet shall be set back at least 25 feet from the West 15th and West 16th Street #street lines#, and at least 35 feet from the Tenth Avenue #street lines#, and any portion of a building located above a height of 215 feet shall be set back at least 75 feet from the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Permitted obstructions allowed pursuant to Section [33-42](#) shall be permitted.

(h) Subarea K

The provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply. In lieu thereof, the provisions of the underlying zoning districts shall apply.

| District or Subarea | | Minimum Base Height (in feet) | Maximum Base Height (in feet) | Maximum #Building# Height (in feet) |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| M1-5 | | 50 | 95 | 135 |
| Subarea A | within 50 feet of a #wide street# | 60 | 85 | _____ ¹ |
| | between 50 and 100 feet of a #wide street# | 15 | 85 | _____ ¹ |
| | for #zoning lots# with only #narrow street# frontage | 40 | 60 | _____ ¹ |
| Subarea B | | 60 | 95 | 135 |
| Subarea C | for #zoning lots# with only #narrow street# frontage | 60 | 110 | 110 |
| | for #zoning lots# with Tenth Avenue frontage | 105 ² | 125 ² | 125 ² |
| | for #zoning lots# with Eleventh Avenue frontage | 125 ² | 145 ² | 145 ² |
| Subarea D | | 60 | 90 | 250 ¹ |
| Subarea E | | 60 | 105 ³ | 120 ³ |
| Subarea F | | 60 ² | 80 ² | 80 ² |
| Subarea G | for #zoning lots# with only #narrow street# frontage | 60 | 95 | 95 |
| | | | | |

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | for #zoning lots# with #wide street# frontage | 105 ² | 120 ² | 120 ² |
| Subarea H | | 60 ⁴ | 85 ⁴ | _____ ⁴ |
| Subarea I | within 300 feet of Tenth Avenue between W. 16th St. & W. 17th St. | 60 | 85 | 120 ⁵ |
| | all other areas | 60 | 105 | 135 |
| Subarea J | Midblock Zone | NA | 110 ⁶ | 130 ⁶ |
| | Ninth Avenue Zone | NA | 130 ⁶ | 135 ⁶ |
| | Tenth Avenue Zone | NA | 185 ⁶ | 230 ⁶ |
| Subarea K | | NA ⁷ | NA ⁷ | NA ⁷ |

¹ see Section [98-423](#), paragraph (b)

² see Section [98-423](#), paragraph (c)

³ see Section [98-423](#), paragraph (d)

⁴ see Section [98-423](#), paragraph (e)

⁵ see Section [98-423](#), paragraph (f)

⁶ see Section [98-423](#), paragraph (g)

⁷ see Section [98-423](#), paragraph (h)

98-424 - Authorization to modify certain bulk regulations

LAST AMENDED
3/22/2006

For #zoning lots# located entirely within 75 feet of the west side of the #High Line#, the City Planning Commission may

authorize the modification of height and setback regulations set forth in Sections [98-40](#) and [98-50](#), inclusive, the transparency requirements set forth in Sections [98-141](#) and [98-54](#), and the underlying #rear yard# and minimum distance between #legally required windows# and walls or #lot lines# regulations. The Commission shall find that such modification will result in a better distribution of #bulk# on the #zoning lot# and will not adversely affect access to light and air for surrounding public areas.

The Commission may prescribe appropriate conditions and safeguards to enhance the character of the surrounding area.