



## **Zoning Resolution**

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK**  
**Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor**

**CITY PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Daniel R. Garodnick, Chair**

# **52-531 - Permitted reconstruction or continued use**

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 2/8/2026

---

## 52-531 - Permitted reconstruction or continued use

---

LAST AMENDED

9/21/2011

In all districts, if any #building#, except a #building# subject to the provisions of Section [52-54](#) (Buildings Designed for Residential Use in Residence Districts), or of Section [52-56](#) (Multiple Dwellings in M1-1D Through M1-5D Districts), which is substantially occupied by a #non-conforming# #use#, is damaged or destroyed by any means, including any demolition as set forth in Sections [52-50](#) et seq., to the extent of 50 percent or more of its total #floor area#, such #building# may either:

- (a) be repaired or #incidentally altered#, and the existing #non-conforming# #use# may be continued; or
- (b) be reconstructed, but only for a conforming #use#; provided, however, that in no event shall any such reconstruction create a #non-compliance# or increase the degree of #non-compliance# of a #non-complying# #building#.

However, where the damage or destruction is so great that the provisions in Sections [54-41](#) and [54-42](#) relating to Damage, Destruction or Demolition in Non-Complying Buildings also apply, the latter Sections shall govern the permitted #bulk# of the reconstructed #building#.

In addition, the alteration of an existing #building# resulting in both the removal of more than 75 percent of the #floor area# and more than 25 percent of the perimeter walls of such existing #building#, and the replacement of any portion thereof, shall be considered a #development# for the purposes of the provisions set forth in Section [11-23](#) (Demolition and Replacement).

In applying the provisions of this Section to damaged or destroyed structures, substantially utilized by a #non-conforming# #use#, any appropriate measure of the size of such structures shall be substituted for #floor area# in determining the extent of damage or destruction.

In the event that any demolition, damage or destruction of an existing #building# produces an unsafe condition requiring a Department of Buildings order or permit for further demolition of #floor area# to remove or rectify the unsafe condition, and the aggregate #floor area# demolished, damaged or destroyed including that ordered or permitted by the Department of Buildings constitutes 50 percent or more of the total #floor area# of such #building#, then such #building# may be repaired or reconstructed only in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) or (b) in this Section.

For the purposes of this Section, any #single-family# or #two-family residence# located within an M1-1D, M1-2D, M1-3D, M1-4D, M1-5D or M1-6D District and existing on June 20, 1988, shall be a conforming #use#.

For the purposes of this Section, #buildings# that #abutted# one another on a single #zoning lot# on the date of such damage or destruction shall be considered a single #building#.