



## **Zoning Resolution**

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

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

# **93-70 - PUBLIC ACCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIAL SITES**

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## 93-70 - PUBLIC ACCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIAL SITES

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

Public access shall be provided for special sites as specified in this Section, inclusive. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Section, inclusive, and any underlying regulation, the provisions of this Section shall govern.

No building permit shall be issued for any #development# or #enlargement# on such sites other than for an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# until the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies to the Department of Buildings that the provisions of this Section have been met.

An application for such certification shall be filed with the Chairperson showing the plan of the #zoning lot#; a site plan indicating the area and dimensions of all required public access areas and the location of all proposed #buildings#, and a detailed plan or plans demonstrating compliance with the provisions of this Section. For certifications relating to the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, the requirements set forth in paragraph (h) of Section [93-71](#), shall apply. For certifications relating to 450 West 33rd Street, the requirements set forth in Section [93-722](#) shall apply. For certifications relating to the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard, the requirements set forth in Section [93-732](#) shall apply.

Plans for public access areas shall be set forth in an instrument in a form acceptable to the City, and setting forth such provisions as necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Section. Such instrument shall be filed and duly recorded in the Borough Office of the City Register of the City of New York and indexed against the property. Such filing and recording of the instrument shall be a precondition for the Chairperson's certification under this Section. The recording information shall be included on the certificate of occupancy for any #building#, or portion thereof, on the

#zoning lot# issued after the recording date.

The Chairperson shall allow for the phased development of public access areas upon certification to the Commissioner of Buildings that a plan has been submitted that provides for the completion of any public access area that is integral to the #development# of a #building# or #buildings# within each phase. The completion of the Cultural Facility Plaza shall be deemed integral only to an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# and to no other #use# or #development# in the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1. Where the public use and enjoyment of a public access area is contingent upon #development# on an adjacent #zoning lot# that has not yet occurred, the Chairperson may allow for the future development of such public access area at the time that the adjacent #zoning lot# is #developed#. For the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1, such phased development plan may provide for the outdoor plaza described in paragraph (b) of Section [93-71](#) to be constructed in phases. For 450 West 33rd Street and the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard, such phased development plan shall comply with additional provisions set forth in Sections [93-722](#) and [93-732](#), respectively.

For any portion of any #development# or #enlargement# other than an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#, no temporary certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of any #development# or #enlargement# with a #floor area ratio# of 10.0 or more until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access area is substantially complete, and the public access area is open to and useable by the public. No permanent certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of such #development# or #enlargement# with a #floor area ratio# of 10.0 or more until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access area is complete and that all public access requirements of this Section have been met in accordance with the plans for such public access areas. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for #zoning lots# with multiple #buildings# for which the Chairperson has certified that a plan has been submitted that provides for the phased development of public access areas through completion of any public access area that is integral to the #development# of a #building# or #buildings# within each phase, such certifications shall be made with respect to substantial completion or completion of the public access areas integral to each such phase, except as provided in paragraph (h) of Section [93-71](#), and Section [93-732](#). Issuance of a temporary or permanent

certificate of occupancy for any #building#, or portion of a #building#, not occupied by an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# shall not be conditioned upon the completion, substantial completion or improvement of the Culture Facility Plaza.

For an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#, no temporary certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for such #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the Culture Facility Plaza described in paragraph (j) of Section [93-71](#) is substantially complete and open to and useable by the public and no permanent certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the Culture Facility Plaza is complete. If a moveable portion of the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# is not initially constructed as part of the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# but is constructed at a later date, any closure of the Culture Facility Plaza necessary for such construction shall not affect the validity of any certificate of occupancy previously issued for the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#. No temporary certificate of occupancy for the moveable portion that is thereafter constructed, or an amended temporary certificate of occupancy for the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# that includes the moveable portion, may be issued by the Department of Buildings until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the reconstructed Culture Facility Plaza is substantially complete and open to and useable by the public and no permanent certificate of occupancy for the moveable portion that is thereafter constructed, or an amended permanent certificate of occupancy for the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# that includes the moveable portion, may be issued by the Department of Buildings until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the reconstructed Culture Facility Plaza is complete.

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## **93-71 - Public Access Areas in the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1**

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LAST AMENDED

6/6/2024

Any #development# in the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1 shall provide public access areas in accordance with the following requirements:

(a) Amount of public access areas

Public access areas shall be provided in an amount not less than 55 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot#. At least 40 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot# shall be publicly accessible and open to the sky. At least an additional 15 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot# shall be publicly accessible and may be either open or enclosed. Such open or enclosed areas shall be comprised of the types of public access areas listed in paragraphs (b) through (f), and paragraphs (h) and (j), of this Section. For purposes of determining compliance with such 55 percent and 40 percent requirements, the Culture Facility Plaza, any portion of the connection to the High Line allowed to be covered by the moveable portion of an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# pursuant to paragraph (f), and any portion of the connection to the High Line that is not required to have a clear height of 60 feet pursuant to paragraph (f) shall be deemed publicly accessible and open to the sky at all times, including any time when a moveable portion of an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# extends over the Culture Facility Plaza or the connection to the High Line. Open areas may also include the area of the sidewalk widening along Eleventh Avenue required pursuant to Section 93-61 and, at the option of the owner, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#. If the Cultural Facility Plaza is closed during the construction of the moveable portion of the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#, the amount of publicly accessible open space shall not be considered reduced during such period.

All public access areas listed in this Section, other than the #ERY High Line# and the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, shall be accessible to the public, as follows:

- (1) unenclosed public access areas shall be accessible between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m., except that any portions of the outdoor plaza, as described in paragraph (b) of this Section, designed and constructed for purposes of vehicular use, shall be accessible at all times, except as necessary to perform maintenance and repairs or address hazardous or emergency conditions;
- (2) enclosed portions of the through block connection and connection to the public plaza, described in paragraphs (d) and (e) of this Section, shall be accessible to the public between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.; and
- (3) upon completion of the Tenth Avenue bridge, described in paragraph (g) of this Section, access between the bridge and the outdoor plaza shall be provided by means of the through block connection between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m.

All public access areas, other than the #ERY High Line# and the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, shall include public space signage erected at conspicuous locations. Such signs shall include the statement “Open to the Public,” followed by the hours of operation specified in this paragraph (a). The public space signage for the Culture Facility Plaza may include additional information, consistent with the provisions of paragraph (j) of this Section.

(b) **Outdoor plaza**

A publicly accessible space, open to the sky (hereinafter referred to as the “outdoor plaza”), shall be located within the area bounded by West 33rd Street, the southerly prolongation of the eastern sidewalk widening line of Hudson Boulevard East, a line 250 feet north of and parallel to West 30th Street, Eleventh Avenue, a line 220 feet south of and parallel to West 33rd Street, and the southerly prolongation of the western sidewalk widening line of Hudson Boulevard West. Such open area may extend beyond such boundaries and have necessary grade changes, and up to 10 percent of the area of such outdoor plaza may be covered by a #building or other structure#.

In addition, a #building# containing eating or drinking establishments and other #uses# listed under Use Group VI may be located within the outdoor plaza (but shall not be included as public access area pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section [93-71](#)), provided that any such #building#:

- (1) is located within the area west of the southerly prolongation of the western sidewalk widening line of Hudson Boulevard West and within 400 feet of West 30th Street;
- (2) covers no more than 3,600 square feet of the #zoning lot# at the level of the outdoor plaza and above;
- (3) contains no more than 7,200 square feet of #floor area# at the level of the outdoor plaza and above, and no more than 3,600 square feet of #floor area# below the level of the outdoor plaza;
- (4) has a maximum north-south dimension of 85 feet at the level of the outdoor plaza and above;
- (5) is located such that the maximum east-west dimension measured along a line 355 feet from West 30th Street is 40 feet at the level of the outdoor plaza and above. For portions of the #building# located north or south of such line, the maximum east-west dimension shall increase at a rate of one foot in the east-west dimension for every four feet in the north-south dimension from such line, up to a maximum east-west dimension of 60 feet; and
- (6) has a maximum perimeter wall height of 24 feet, and a maximum #building# height of 30 feet. Above a height of 24 feet, no portion of a #building# may penetrate a #sky exposure plane# that begins at a height of 24 feet above the perimeter walls and rises over the #building# at a slope of 2.5 feet of horizontal distance for each foot of vertical distance. Such heights shall be measured from the highest level of the adjoining portions

of the outdoor plaza.

No #building# location or setback requirements shall apply to any #building# walls facing the northern, eastern or southern boundaries of the outdoor plaza.

#Building# walls fronting upon the western boundary of the outdoor plaza shall extend along at least 70 percent of the length of the southerly prolongation of the western sidewalk widening line of Hudson Boulevard West and shall rise to a minimum height of 90 feet and a maximum height of 120 feet. Above a height of 120 feet, a setback at least 20 feet in depth is required from such prolongation line. However, such #building# wall may rise without setback at such prolongation line, provided the aggregate width of such #building# wall does not exceed 50 percent of the width of such line and provided all other portions of the #building# that exceed a height of 120 feet are set back at least 20 feet from such prolongation line at a height not lower than 90 feet.

The retail and glazing requirements of paragraph (k) of this Section shall apply to at least 70 percent of the length of all #building# walls facing each side of the outdoor plaza, except that such retail requirements shall not apply to any #building#, or portion of a #building#, located west of the southerly prolongation of the eastern sidewalk widening line of Hudson Boulevard East and within 220 feet of West 30th Street containing #uses# listed under Use Group III or an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#.

(c) Public plaza

A publicly accessible space, (hereinafter referred to as a “public plaza”), shall be provided at the intersection of Tenth Avenue and West 30th Street. Such public plaza shall have a minimum area of 12,000 square feet with a minimum frontage of 180 feet along Tenth Avenue and a minimum frontage of 60 feet along West 30th Street. Such public plaza shall be open to the sky except that such space may be covered by the #ERY High Line# structure, including any

connections to the #ERY High Line# or other design features, as well as a #building# or portion of a #building# as allowed pursuant to Section [93-514](#), paragraph (a)(4), except that no #building# or portion of a #building# may encroach within the area that is within 60 feet of Tenth Avenue and 180 feet of West 30th Street. In addition, no more than 50 percent of the public plaza shall be covered by the permitted obstructions described in Section [37-726](#), paragraph (a), as well as any vents or shafts that are placed by the Department of Environmental Protection within the portion of the public plaza that is subject to an access easement.

Such public plaza shall contain the following amenities:

- (1) no less than 120 linear feet of fixed seating;
- (2) no less than 12 moveable tables and 48 moveable chairs; and
- (3) no less than four trees or multi-stemmed equivalents measuring at least four inches in caliper at the time of planting, which trees or multi-stemmed equivalents may be planted in a planting bed. In addition, such public plaza shall contain at least two of the following additional amenities:
  - (i) artwork;
  - (ii) water features; or
  - (iii) food service located in a retail space directly accessible from the public plaza.

The glazing requirements of paragraph (k) of this Section shall apply to at least 70 percent of the length of all #building# walls, other than the #building# walls of any facility operated by the Long Island Rail Road, or its successor, facing each side of the public plaza. In addition, at least 25 percent of the frontage of all #building# walls facing the portion of the public plaza

that is within 60 feet of Tenth Avenue and 180 feet of West 30th Street shall be occupied by #uses# listed in Use Group VI or the connection to the public plaza described in paragraph (e) of this Section.

(d) Through block connection

A publicly accessible through block connection shall be provided connecting the outdoor plaza with the Tenth Avenue sidewalk within 50 feet or anywhere north of the center line of West 32nd Street. Public access shall also be provided between such through block connection and the Tenth Avenue bridge at the time such bridge is constructed pursuant to paragraph (g) of this Section, and may connect to other public access areas or sidewalks. Such through block connection may be open to the sky or enclosed, need not be linear and may have necessary grade changes.

Such through block connection shall have a minimum width of 30 feet and any enclosed portion shall have a minimum height of 30 feet. As an alternative, if an enclosed atrium space adjacent to the outdoor plaza is provided as part of the through block connection that meets all the following dimensional requirements: (1) comprises no less than 4,000 square feet with a minimum height of 60 feet and a minimum depth of 50 feet as measured by a line parallel from the #building# wall facing the outdoor plaza; (2) is free of #building# structural obstructions other than vertical circulation and other elements occupying no more than 500 square feet in the aggregate; and (3) contains interior walls facing such area that comply with the ground floor retail #use# requirements of paragraph (k) of this Section then such through block connection may: (i) have a minimum width of 24 feet; and (ii) have a minimum height of 34 feet for at least 70 percent of the aggregate enclosed area of the through block connection (including the atrium), provided that no portion of the through block connection shall have a minimum height less than 17 feet.

The retail and glazing requirements of paragraph (k) of this Section shall apply to at least 50

percent of the length of all #building# walls facing each side of the through block connection (or, if enclosed, the interior walls facing the through block connection). The through block connection may be occupied by the following permitted obstructions: vertical circulation elements including escalators, stairs and elevators, columns and lighting elements, provided that such permitted obstructions shall not occupy more than 20 percent of the through block connection, and a single path of travel no less than 24 feet in width is maintained. Vertical circulation elements traversing the grade changes of the through block connection shall be considered a part of the through block connection and not an obstruction.

(e) Connection to public plaza

A public way, open or enclosed, shall be provided connecting the outdoor plaza or the through block connection with the public plaza. Such connection need not be linear and may have necessary grade changes. The retail and glazing requirements of paragraph (k) of this Section shall apply to at least 50 percent of the length of all #building# walls facing each side of such connection (or, if enclosed, the interior walls facing the connection). The minimum clear width of such public way shall be 20 feet. For any portions that are enclosed, the minimum clear height shall be 34 feet within at least 50 percent of the enclosed area of the connection to the public plaza, provided that no portion of the connection to the public plaza shall have a minimum height less than 17 feet. The connection to the public plaza may be occupied by the following permitted obstructions: vertical circulation elements including escalators, stairs and elevators, columns and lighting elements, provided that such permitted obstructions shall not occupy more than 20 percent of the connection to the public plaza and a single path of travel no less than 20 feet in width is maintained. Vertical circulation elements traversing the grade changes of the connection to the public plaza shall be considered a part of the connection to the public plaza and not an obstruction.

(f) Connection to High Line

A publicly accessible connection between the High Line and the outdoor plaza (hereinafter referred to as the “connection”) shall be provided that has a minimum width, measured parallel to the High Line, of 60 feet and is located east of the Culture Facility Plaza. For a width of 60 feet measured parallel to the High Line, the clear height of the connection shall be at least 60 feet. Above such height, overhangs of the 60 foot width dimension of the connection shall be permitted by the movable portion of the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#, provided that the angle of such overhang is a maximum of 14 degrees east of the vertical extension of the western edge of such 60 foot width, as measured from the intersection of such vertical extension with the 60 foot clear height of the connection. Additionally, such overhang shall project over no more than 16 feet of the 60 foot width dimension. Any portion of the connection east of the minimum 60 foot width shall, if covered, have a minimum clear height of 60 feet. The movable portion of the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# shall be permitted to overhang any portion of the connection west of such minimum 60 foot width, provided that the angle of such overhanging portion is a maximum of 14 degrees measured at the western edge of the connection at its ground level. The glazing requirements of paragraph (k) of this Section shall apply to at least 50 percent of the length of all #building# walls facing the connection.

(g) Tenth Avenue bridge

A publicly accessible pedestrian bridge shall be provided over Tenth Avenue linking the through block connections required pursuant to paragraph (d) of this Section and paragraph (a) of Section [93-72](#) (Public Access Areas at 450 West 33rd Street). Such bridge need not be constructed until the 450 West 33rd Street through block connection has been completed. Such bridge may be open or enclosed, have a minimum clear width of 30 feet and, if enclosed, have a minimum clear height of 15 feet. Such bridge shall be located within 10 feet of the center line of West 32nd Street and be at the same elevation as the through block connection required pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section [93-72](#).

(h) #ERY High Line# and #Tenth Avenue Spur#

The #ERY High Line# shall be provided as a publicly accessible open area. The #Tenth Avenue Spur# may, at the option of the owner, also be provided as a publicly accessible open area.

(1) In order to meet the public access area requirements of Section [93-71](#), paragraph (a), and this paragraph (h), the following shall be provided for the #ERY High Line#, and shall, if the owner has elected to include the #Tenth Avenue Spur# as a public access area, be further provided for the #Tenth Avenue Spur#:

- (i) Payment of the #High Line Rehabilitation Deposit#; or subject to entry into construction-related agreements with the City or its designee, completion of the rehabilitation of the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, not later than March 31, 2013, subject to a determination of force majeure by the City in accordance with the terms thereof. If the owner has elected to perform the rehabilitation work, then all such work shall be completed in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by or on behalf of the City;
- (ii) Payment of the #High Line Landscape Improvement Deposit#;
- (iii) Provision of #High Line Maintenance Funding#;
- (iv) An easement agreement allowing use of the #ERY High Line# for public space in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph (h), as well as for use and access for rehabilitation, improvement, maintenance and repair purposes, acceptable to the City.

Such requirements shall be set forth in agreements or instruments in a form acceptable to the City, including such provisions as are necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Section. The execution of such agreements by the owner, and mortgagees and parties in interest of the owner, and, where appropriate, the filing and recordation of such instruments in the Borough Office of the City Register of the City of New York, indexed against the property, shall be a precondition to the Chairperson's certification to the Department of Buildings for a building permit under Section [93-70](#). The recording information shall be included on the certificate of occupancy for any #building#, or portion thereof, on the #zoning lot# issued after the recording date.

- (2) No certification for the phased development of public access areas on the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1 under Section [93-70](#) shall be permitted unless the #ERY High Line# is included as a public access area for the initial phase in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph (h).
- (3) No crane permit shall be granted for construction of a #development# or #enlargement# in such initial phase until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that:
  - (i) either the #High Line Rehabilitation Deposit# has been made or all construction documents and instruments necessary for accomplishment of the rehabilitation of the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, in accordance with paragraph (h)(1)(i) of this Section, have been executed and delivered; and (ii) the #High Line Landscape Improvement Deposit# has been made.
- (4) No temporary or permanent certificate of occupancy for a #development# or #enlargement# in such initial phase shall be granted unless the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that (i) either the #High Line Rehabilitation Deposit# has been previously furnished or the rehabilitation of the #ERY High Line# and, if

applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, have been completed in accordance with the construction documents and instruments; (ii) the initial installment of #High Line Maintenance Funding# has been delivered, provided and to the extent that the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, have been substantially completed and are open for use by the public; and (iii) the easement agreement described in paragraph (h)(1)(iv) of this Section, is in effect for the #ERY High Line#. The requirement for a certification of substantial completion of public access areas before the granting of a temporary certificate of occupancy for the #development# or #enlargement# within such phase pursuant to Section [93-70](#) shall not apply with respect to the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#.

- (5) Nothing herein shall be construed to affect any obligation of the owner to make the #High Line Rehabilitation Deposit# at an earlier date, in accordance with the terms of agreements or instruments entered into by the parties, or to complete rehabilitation work for the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, by March 31, 2013, subject to a determination of force majeure by the City in accordance with the terms of such agreements.
- (6) Use by the City of the #High Line Landscape Improvement Deposit# for improvement of the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, shall be subject to approval by the Chairperson, based upon a determination that the design and location of access points to the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, have been arranged such that public use thereof will not result in any significant adverse impacts with respect to transit or pedestrians.

- (i) Certifications for phased development pursuant to Section [93-70](#) granted before May 31, 2012

If a certification for the phased development of public access areas on the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1 under Section [93-70](#) was granted before May 31, 2012, such certification shall

expire 45 days following such date and shall thereupon no longer be in force and effect. Within said 45-day period, a new application for certification pursuant to Section [93-70](#) and Section [93-71](#), paragraph (h), shall be filed by the owner which shall include the #ERY High Line# and, if applicable, the #Tenth Avenue Spur#, as public access areas associated with the initial phase, in addition to any other public access areas previously so certified. The expiration of any certification under Section [93-70](#) granted before May 31, 2012, shall not affect the validity of any permit issued by the Department of Buildings prior to the expiration of such 45-day period, provided the new application under Section [93-70](#) and Section [93-71](#), paragraph (h), is made within such 45-day period.

In the event that a certification for the phased development of public access areas on the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1 under Section [93-70](#) was granted before May 31, 2012, and a crane permit for the construction of a #development# or #enlargement# within such initial phase was granted prior to 45 days after May 31, 2012, the preconditions to issuance of a crane permit set forth in Section [93-71](#), paragraph (h), shall be prerequisites for the grant of any new certification for phased development made under this paragraph (i).

(j) Culture Facility Plaza

A publicly accessible space located east of and #abutting# the non-moveable portion of an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#, and bounded to the north by the outdoor plaza and to the south by the #ERY High Line# shall be provided. During times when the Culture Facility Plaza is not covered by the moveable portion of an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#, the Culture Facility Plaza may be used for purposes of outdoor events related to an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#. Outdoor installations for such events, including seating, shall be restricted to the Culture Facility Plaza. All such events shall be open and accessible to the general public free of admission charge, provided that ticketed events with tickets available on a first come, first served, or timed basis, shall be permitted. During all times

when the Culture Facility Plaza is not used for an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# event or covered by the moveable portion of an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#, the Culture Facility Plaza shall be open and accessible to the public between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. Notwithstanding any other provision, the Culture Facility Plaza may be closed to the public not more than 12 days each calendar year for an event related to the #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility#, provided that not less than five days prior to any such closing, notice is given to the applicable community board and is posted at conspicuous locations at such plaza. No #building# or portion of a #building# that is not used for an #ERY Culture, Festival and Exhibit Facility# shall have any obligation to comply with the requirements of paragraph (a), or this paragraph (j), of this Section related to the Culture Facility Plaza.

(k) Retail continuity requirements for public access areas

Within the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1, the retail continuity and transparency requirements of this paragraph are applicable to specified #building# walls facing certain public access areas. The applicability of retail, transparency or both provisions, are set forth in the individual provisions of this Section.

(1) Retail requirements

#Uses# on the portion of the #ground floor level# frontage along a publicly accessible open space required pursuant to this paragraph, to the minimum depth set forth in Section [37-32](#) (Access and Circulation), inclusive, shall be limited to permitted #commercial uses#, except for lobbies, entrances and exits to off-street parking facilities and entryways to #mass transit stations#, as provided by Section [37-33](#) (Maximum Width of Certain Uses). However, within the Eastern Rail Yard Subarea A1, the width of a lobby located on a #building# wall facing the eastern boundary of the outdoor plaza

may occupy 120 feet or 25 percent of such #building# wall, whichever is less. At least 50 percent of the frontage not otherwise occupied by excepted #uses# shall be allocated to #uses# listed under Use Groups VI and VIII. All parking shall be wrapped by #floor area# in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of Section [37-35](#).

(2) Glazing requirements#

Ground floor level# #street walls# shall be glazed in accordance with the provisions of Section [37-34](#) (Minimum Transparency Requirements).

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## **93-72 - Public Access Areas at 450 West 33rd Street**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

For the purposes of this Section [93-72](#), inclusive, 450 West 33rd Street shall be considered the area bounded by the eastern #street line# of Tenth Avenue, the northern #street line# of West 31st Street, a line 302 feet east of the eastern #street line# of Tenth Avenue and the southern #street line# of West 33rd Street. Such area shall include the tax lots located at Block 729, Lots 1 and 15, existing on April 29, 2014. Any #development# or #enlargement# in such area shall provide public access areas in accordance with the provisions of this Section. However, if a special permit has been granted for the #development# of an arena pursuant to Section [74-41](#) in the area bounded by the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, the northern #street line# of West 31st Street, a line 498 feet west of the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue and the southern #street line# of West 33rd Street, the provisions of this Section may be waived or modified in conjunction with such special permit. All public access areas listed in this Section shall be accessible to the public between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m.

(a) Through block connection

A publicly accessible through block connection shall be provided within 10 feet of the prolonged center line of West 32nd Street, at an elevation that connects the Tenth Avenue pedestrian bridge required pursuant to paragraph (g) in Section [93-71](#) with the Dyer Avenue Platform required pursuant to paragraph (b) of this Section and paragraph (e) of Section [93-73](#) (Public Access Areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard). Public access shall also be provided between such through block connection and the Tenth Avenue sidewalk.

For #developments# or #enlargements# where 75 percent or less of the total #floor area# existing on the #zoning lot# on January 19, 2005, has been demolished, such through block connection shall be open or enclosed and have a minimum clear width of 30 feet. If enclosed, at least 75 percent of such through block connection shall have a minimum clear height of 30 feet, and the remainder shall have a minimum clear height of 20 feet.

For #developments# or #enlargements# where more than 75 percent of the total #floor area# existing on the #zoning lot# on January 19, 2005, is demolished, such through block connection shall have a minimum width of 60 feet and a minimum clear path of 20 feet, and have retail uses fronting upon at least 50 percent of its northern and southern boundaries. At least 60 percent of such through block connection shall be enclosed, with an average clear height of 60 feet and a roof of transparent material that allows for natural daylight to enter. Direct access shall be provided to any #building# adjacent to such through block connection. The maximum height of a #building# wall along the southern boundary of the through block connection shall not exceed the average height of the enclosed portion, or the height at which an arched or angled ceiling of the enclosed through block connection begins, whichever is less. Any portion of a #building# that exceeds such height shall be set back at least 20 feet in depth from the southern boundary of the through block connection. Any portion of such through block connection that is open to the sky shall comply with the provisions for #public plazas# set forth in Sections [37-718](#), [37-726](#), [37-728](#), [37-741](#), [37-742](#), [37-743](#), [37-744](#), [37-75](#), [37-76](#)

and [36-77](#).

An #enlargement# that does not increase the total #floor area# on the #zoning lot# to more than 1,373,700 square feet, shall not be considered an #enlargement# for purposes of this paragraph (a).

(b) Dyer Avenue Platform

A permanent easement shall be provided along the eastern edge of 450 West 33rd Street, as shown on Map 1 (Subdistrict B: 450 West 33rd Street and Ninth Avenue Rail Yard Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B of this Chapter, for the purposes of constructing the Dyer Avenue Platform required pursuant to paragraph (d) of Section [93-73](#). Such easement shall have a minimum width of 33 feet. Any amenities required by paragraph (d) of Section [93-73](#) may be located within such easement.

(c) West 31st Street Passageway

A publicly accessible passageway space, (hereinafter referred to as the "West 31st Street passageway") shall be provided connecting the Tenth Avenue podium required pursuant to paragraph (d) of this Section to the Dyer Avenue Platform required pursuant to paragraph (d) of Section [93-73](#), as shown on Map 1 in Appendix B. The West 31st Street passageway shall be located at the same elevation as the Dyer Avenue Platform. Such space shall be located within 35 feet of West 31st Street, have a minimum clear path of 10 feet and be visually open to West 31st Street except for structural elements of the #building# at 450 West 33rd Street.

(d) Tenth Avenue podium

(1) Location and minimum dimensions

A publicly accessible area (hereinafter referred to as the "Tenth Avenue podium") shall be provided at the corner of Tenth Avenue and West 31st Street, as shown on Map 1 in Appendix B. The Tenth Avenue podium shall have a minimum area of 1,800 square feet, be located at the same elevation as the Dyer Avenue Platform required pursuant to paragraph (d) of Section [93-73](#), and shall connect to the West 31st Street passageway required pursuant to paragraph (c) of this Section.

(2) Required amenities

The Tenth Avenue podium shall contain a minimum of four trees and be directly accessible from West 31st Street by a staircase and elevator. The stair and the adjoining area shall be open to West 31st Street except for columns and structural elements of the 450 West 33rd Street #building#.

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**93-721 - Design and maintenance requirements for public access areas at 450 West 33rd Street**

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LAST AMENDED

8/9/2017

Public access areas at 450 West 33rd Street provided pursuant to the requirements of Section [93-72](#) shall comply with the applicable design reference standards set forth in paragraph (a), and the maintenance provisions of paragraph (b) of this Section.

(a) Design reference standards

The public access areas required by paragraphs (c) and (d) of Section [93-72](#) shall comply with the following applicable design standards:

- (1) at least two litter receptacles in such public access areas shall be provided;
- (2) the public access areas at 450 West 33rd Street shall provide the following public signage system:
  - (i) One entry plaque shall be provided in each of the following locations:
    - (a) the Dyer Avenue access point to the West 31st Street Passageway;
    - (b) the Tenth Avenue Podium access point to the West 31st Street Passageway; and
    - (c) the #street# level entrance to the Tenth Avenue Podium.
  - (ii) Each entry plaque is subject to the signage standards as set forth in paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(4) of Section [37-751](#) (Public space signage systems).
  - (iii) Each entry plaque shall be mounted on a wall, a permanent free-standing post, or on a post located within a planter, with its center five feet above the elevation of the nearest walkable pavement. The maximum height of such free-standing post shall be six feet, with a maximum width and depth of 16 inches. Each entry plaque shall be in a position that clearly identifies the entry into the portion of the public access areas at 450 West 33rd Street that such plaque is provided in connection with, and placed so that the entire entry plaque is obvious and directly visible, without any obstruction, along every

line of sight from all paths of pedestrian access to that portion of the public access areas at 450 West 33rd Street.

- (iv) A minimum of two information plaques, constructed from the same permanent materials as the entry plaque, or combined with one or more of the required entry plaques, shall be provided within the public access areas. Information plaques shall be mounted on a wall, a permanent free-standing post, or on a post located within a planter, with its center five feet above the elevation of the nearest walkable pavement. The maximum height of such free-standing post shall be six feet, with a maximum width and depth of 16 inches.
- (v) The information plaque is subject to the signage standards as set forth in paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(6) of Section [37-751](#), except that paragraph (b)(3) shall be modified to read, “in lettering three-eighths of an inch in height, the words: ‘This public access area contains:’” followed by the total linear feet of seating, the type and quantity of trees and the number of additional required amenities, such as moveable seating, that are provided in the portion of the public access area in which the entry plaque or information plaque is provided.

- (3) the minimum level of illumination shall be 1.5 horizontal foot candles (lumens per foot);
- (4) no gates, fences or other barriers shall be permitted within such public access areas; and
- (5) for the purposes of applying the #sign# regulations to #building# walls facing public access areas, such public access areas shall be considered #streets#.

(b) Maintenance

The owner(s) shall be responsible for the maintenance of all public access areas, including, but not limited to, litter control, management of pigeons and rodents, maintenance of required lighting levels, and the care and replacement of furnishings and vegetation.

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### **93-722 - Certification for public access areas at 450 West 33rd Street**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

For #enlargements# that do not increase the total #floor area# on the #zoning lot# to more than 1,373,700 square feet, in accordance with the provisions of Section [93-732](#) (Certification for public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard), no temporary or permanent certificate of occupancy shall be issued by the Department of Buildings for more than 3,204,000 square feet of #floor area developed# or #enlarged# on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard until the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies to the Commissioner of Buildings that a phasing plan has been submitted requiring the West 31st Street Passageway and the Tenth Avenue Podium, required pursuant to paragraphs (c) and (d) of Section [93-72](#) (Public Access Areas at 450 West 33rd Street), respectively, to be substantially complete and open to and useable by the public.

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### **93-73 - Public Access Areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard**

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LAST AMENDED

6/6/2024

For the purposes of this Section [93-73](#), inclusive, the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard shall be considered the area bounded by the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, the northern #street line# of West 31st Street, a line located 498 feet west of the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue and the southern #street line# of West 33rd Street. Such area shall include the tax lots located at Block 729, Lots 50 and 60, existing on April 29, 2014. Any #development# in such area shall provide public access areas in accordance with the provisions of Section [93-73](#), inclusive.

Public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard shall be comprised of the types of public access areas listed in this Section. Public access areas shall also include the area of the sidewalk widenings along Ninth Avenue and West 33rd Street required pursuant to Section [93-61](#). The entry plaza and the art plaza, as set forth in paragraphs (a) and (c) of this Section, respectively, shall be subject to the hours of access provisions set forth in Section 37-727. All other public access areas listed in this Section shall be accessible to the public between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m.

(a) Entry Plaza

(1) Location and minimum dimensions

A publicly accessible space, open to the sky (hereinafter referred to as the “entry plaza”), shall be located within the area bounded by the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, the southern #street line# of West 33rd Street, a line 168 feet south of and parallel to the southern #street line# of West 33rd Street and a line 60 feet west of and parallel to the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, as shown on Map 1 (Subdistrict B: 450 West 33rd Street and Ninth Avenue Rail Yard Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B of this Chapter. The entry plaza shall have a minimum area of 10,080 square feet, shall have a minimum frontage along Ninth Avenue of 168 feet and shall provide a direct connection to the central plaza required pursuant to paragraph (b) of this Section. No more than 50 percent of the entry plaza area shall be covered by the permitted obstructions described in paragraph (a) of Section 37-726.

(2) Required amenities

The entry plaza shall have the following amenities:

- (i) a minimum of eight trees (or other amounts equivalent to a minimum of 32 caliper inches);
- (ii) at least 336 linear feet of seating including a minimum of 48 moveable chairs and 12 moveable tables. At least 50 percent of the seating, including movable seats, shall have backs and no more than 50 percent of the seating with backs shall be movable seating;
- (iii) two or more planting beds which, in the aggregate, occupy an area of at least 800 square feet. No more than 35 percent of the linear feet of the planting beds shall have bounding walls exceeding 18 inches in height above an adjacent walking surface;
- (iv) ground floor transparency, in accordance with the provisions of Section [37-34](#), shall apply to at least 70 percent of the length of all #building# walls facing the entry plaza; and
- (v) one clear pedestrian circulation path with a minimum width of 12 feet shall be provided adjacent to the #building# facing the entry plaza and shall extend for the full length of the #building# frontage.

(b) Central Plaza

(1) Location and minimum dimensions

A publicly accessible space (hereinafter referred to as the “central plaza”), shall be located within an area bounded by the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, a line 168 feet south of and parallel to the southern #street line# of West 33rd Street, a line

478 feet west of and parallel to the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, a line 167 feet north of and parallel to the northern #street line# of West 31st Street beyond 40 feet of the western street line of Ninth Avenue, a line 40 west of and parallel to the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue and a line 187 feet north of and parallel to the northern #street line# of West 31st Street within 40 feet of the western street line of Ninth Avenue, as shown on Map 1 in Appendix B of this Chapter. Except as provided in paragraph (b)(3) of this Section, the central plaza shall have a minimum area of 47,800 square feet, and shall have a minimum north-south dimension of 100 feet as measured from the #building# walls of the #buildings# facing onto the central plaza of. The central plaza shall be open to the sky, except:

- (i) for the area occupied by the pavilion permitted by paragraph (b)(2)(vii) of this Section; and
- (ii) within a line 115 feet west of and parallel to the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, a #building# may cantilever over the central plaza and required circulation paths located therein, provided such cantilever extends no greater than 10 feet over such central plaza.

(2) Required amenities

The central plaza shall contain the following features and amenities:

(i) Landscaped area

A landscaped area shall be provided and shall contain a minimum of 44 trees (or other amounts equivalent to a minimum of 176 caliper inches), and planting beds which, in the aggregate, occupy an area of at least 7,500 square feet.

Within the area bounded by the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue and a

line drawn 45 feet west of the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, a minimum of 1,000 square feet of such total requirement shall be occupied by planting beds.

(ii) Seating

A minimum of 725 linear feet of seating shall be provided, with 120 moveable chairs and 30 moveable tables. At least 50 percent of the required seating shall have backs.

Within the area bounded by the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue and a line drawn 45 feet west of the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, a minimum of 50 linear feet of seating of such total requirement shall be provided, of which 50 percent shall have backs.

(iii) Event space

The portion of the central plaza located beyond a line drawn 295 feet west of and parallel to the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue may be used for events (hereinafter referred to as the "event space"). Such event space may be used for events not exceeding a maximum area of 4,500 square feet, except as set forth below for summer public events and winter public events. When the event space is not being used for an event (general public events, summer public events, winter public events and private events), it shall contain a minimum of 192 linear feet of seating, with 96 moveable chairs and 24 moveable tables and, between April 1 and November 15, a minimum of two moveable food carts within the event space or on the periphery thereof. Such tables and chairs shall be in addition to the amount required for the landscaped area in paragraph (b)(2)(ii) of this Section. When the event space is being used for an event (general public events, summer public events, winter

public events and private events), the additional tables, chairs and moveable food carts may be removed.

(a) General Public Events

At all times of the year, the event space may be used to host general public events which are open and accessible to the general public and free of admission. During such public events, the event space may contain associated temporary structures and seating.

(b) Summer Public Events

For not more than 75 days between April 1 and November 15, the event space may be used for summer public events which are open and accessible to the general public and free of admission charge, where the temporary structures and seating associated with such summer public events may extend beyond 4,500 square feet, provided that the total area used for such summer public events does not exceed an additional 2,000 square feet and is located beyond a line drawn 295 feet west of and parallel to the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue.

(c) Winter Public Events

Between November 15 and April 1, an ice skating rink, together with associated temporary structures, may extend beyond 4,500 square feet, provided that the total area used for the ice skating rink together with associated temporary structures does not exceed an additional 2,000 square feet and is located beyond a line drawn 295 feet west of and parallel to the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue. The ice

skating rink shall be open and accessible to the general public, but a fee for use of the ice skating rink may be charged, provided the combined total admission and equipment rental fees do not exceed the highest of such combined fees charged at any one rink operating in a #public park#.

(d) Private Events

The City Planning Commission may allow the closing of the event space for up to 12 private events per year pursuant to a restrictive declaration acceptable to the City and recorded in the Office of the City Register for New York County and indexed against the property.

For all events specified in this Section, temporary structures or seating associated with such an event (general public events, summer public events, winter public events and private events) permitted by this paragraph may be installed in the event space, provided the circulation paths required in paragraph (b)(2)(iv) of this Section remain unobstructed at all times.

(iv) Circulation paths

Circulation paths in the central plaza shall meet the following minimum requirements:

- (a) pedestrian circulation paths with an aggregate width of not less than 30 feet shall be provided;
- (b) at least two of the required circulation paths with a minimum clear width of 12 feet shall be located within 20 feet of the facade of each #building# facing the central plaza;

- (c) in addition to the circulation paths required by paragraph (b)(2)(iv)(a) of this Section, at least two circulation paths shall be provided through the landscaped area required by paragraph (b)(2)(i) of this Section, which connect with the circulation paths required by paragraph (b)(2)(iv)(b) of this Section;
- (d) all circulation paths shall be unobstructed during events held in the event space permitted by paragraph (b)(2)(iii) of this Section; and
- (e) clear paths, with a total minimum aggregate width of 20 feet, shall be located at the boundary between the entry plaza, required pursuant to paragraph (a) of this Section, and the central plaza, required by paragraph (b) of this Section, and at the boundary between the art plaza, required pursuant to paragraph (c) of this Section, and the central plaza, required by paragraph (a) of this Section, provided that up to eight feet of such required clear path may be located within the entry plaza and within the art plaza, respectively, and that all clear paths counted toward the aggregate minimum width required by this paragraph shall be a minimum of 7 feet, 6 inches in clear width, and be located no further than 12 feet apart from one another.

(v) Transparency

The transparency requirements of Section [37-34](#) (Minimum Transparency Requirements) shall apply to the ground floor level of at least 70 percent of the length of all #building# walls facing each side of the central plaza.

(vi) Retail continuity

At least 40 percent of the frontage of any #building# fronting on the central plaza shall comply with the retail continuity requirements of paragraph (a) of

Section [37-76](#) (Mandatory Allocation of Frontages for Permitted Uses) and at least 50 percent of the aggregate frontage of all #buildings# fronting on the central plaza shall comply with the retail continuity requirements of paragraph (a) of Section [37-76](#). Such retail space shall have a minimum depth of 30 feet measured perpendicular to the wall adjoining the central plaza.

(vii) Pavilion

A #building# (hereinafter referred to as a "pavilion") containing #uses# listed in Use Groups 6A and 6C may be located within the central plaza, provided that such pavilion, and any seating associated with a #use# in the pavilion, shall be located at least ten feet west of the prolongation of the east face of the #building# fronting on the north side of the central plaza. The pavilion shall have a minimum #lot coverage# of 1,000 square feet and a maximum #lot coverage# of 3,000 square feet, with a maximum width of 40 feet parallel to Ninth Avenue. Such pavilion shall be no more than one #story# in height, except such one #story# limitation may be exceeded by portions of the pavilion allocated to mechanical equipment as well as restrooms and a food preparation kitchen occupying, in the aggregate, no more than 200 square feet area. Such pavilion shall not exceed a height limit of 25 feet, except that the permitted obstructions set forth in Section [33-42](#), as well as restrooms and a food preparation kitchen located above the level of the first #story# may be permitted to exceed such height limit provided that the height of such restroom and food preparation kitchen do not exceed ten feet. Seating may be provided for the #uses# in the pavilion provided that the total area occupied by the pavilion and such associated seating does not exceed a maximum #lot coverage# of 3,600 square feet and that such seating shall not count towards meeting the seating requirements set forth in paragraphs (b)(2)(ii) and (iii) of this Section. Floor space within the pavilion shall not be considered #floor

area#. At least 60 percent of the exterior walls of the pavilion shall be transparent except for structural supports, provided that 100 percent of the east facing wall of the pavilion shall be transparent except for structural supports.

(3) Alternative design option

Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (b)(1) of this Section, the minimum north-south width of the central plaza may be reduced to no less than 80 feet for at least 50 percent of the aggregate frontage of the #buildings# fronting on the central plaza, provided that such narrowed portion begins no further than 150 feet from the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, and further provided that the minimum size of the central plaza is not less than 41,382 square feet. The minimum height of a #building# wall fronting upon such narrowed portion shall be 45 feet, and the maximum height of such #building# wall shall not exceed 85 feet. Above a height of 85 feet, the minimum setback distance shall be 10 feet and the minimum distance between #buildings# fronting on the central plaza shall be 100 feet.

(c) Art Plaza

(1) Location and minimum dimensions

A publicly accessible space open to the sky (hereinafter referred to as the “art plaza”) shall be located in the area bounded by the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue, the northern #street line# of West 31st Street, a line 40 feet west of and parallel to the western #street line# of Ninth Avenue and a line 187 feet north of and parallel to the northern #street line# of West 31st Street, as shown on Map 1 in Appendix B. The art plaza shall have a minimum area of 7,480 square feet, a minimum east-west dimension of 40 feet and shall provide a direct connection to the central plaza required pursuant to paragraph (b) of this Section.

(2) Required amenities

The art plaza shall contain the following features and amenities:

- (i) a minimum of four trees (or other amounts equivalent to a minimum of 16 caliper inches);
- (ii) planting beds which, in the aggregate, occupy an area of at least 410 square feet;
- (iii) a minimum of 45 linear feet of seating;
- (iv) one or more pieces of artwork. Such artwork may not incorporate addresses, text or logos related to the adjacent #building# or tenants of such #building#; and
- (v) the transparency requirements of Section 37-34 shall apply to the ground floor level of at least 70 percent of the length of all #building# walls facing the art plaza.

(d) Dyer Avenue Platform

(1) Location and minimum dimensions

A publicly accessible platform shall be constructed over Dyer Avenue connecting West 33rd Street and West 31st Street (hereinafter referred to as the “Dyer Avenue Platform”), as shown on Map 1 in Appendix B. The Dyer Avenue Platform shall include the easement area described in paragraph (b) of Section 93-72 and shall directly connect with the central plaza and the West 31st Street connector required by paragraphs (b) and (e) of this Section, respectively. The Dyer Avenue Platform shall have a minimum east-west dimension of 53 feet and a minimum north-south dimension of 455 feet. However, such minimum east-west dimension may be reduced

to accommodate an extension of such existing egress stair in order to adjoin the level of the platform, or to accommodate up to 15 inches of additional exterior wall thickness added to the eastern face of the existing #building# at 450 West 33rd Street. Except for any portion of the Dyer Avenue Platform which on April 29, 2014, was covered by the #building# located at 450 West 33rd Street and the existing egress stairs on the eastern face on such #building#, or the permitted additions thereto, respectively, the Dyer Avenue Platform shall be open to the sky.

(2) Required amenities

The Dyer Avenue Platform shall contain the following features and amenities which may be located on the portion of the Dyer Avenue Platform located within the easement provided pursuant to paragraph (b) of Section [93-72](#) (Public Access Areas at 450 West 33rd Street):

- (i) a minimum of 16 trees (or other amounts equivalent to a minimum of 64 caliper inches), of which a minimum of 12 trees (or other amounts equivalent to a minimum of 48 caliper inches) shall be located south of the center line of the prolongation of West 32nd Street;
- (ii) planting beds, which in the aggregate, occupy an area of at least 1500 square feet, of which a minimum of 450 square feet of planting beds shall be located south of the center line of the prolongation of West 32nd Street and a minimum of 250 square feet of planting beds shall be located within 30 feet of the southern street line of 33rd Street. No more than 25 percent of the linear feet of the planting beds shall have bounding walls exceeding 18 inches in height above an adjacent walking surface;
- (iii) a minimum of 350 linear feet of seating shall be provided, of which 50 percent shall consist of seats with backs and with at least 210 linear feet of seating located south of the center line of the prolongation of West 32nd Street and a

minimum of 50 linear feet of seating located within 30 feet of the southern street line of West 33rd Street;

- (iv) the glazing requirements of Section [37-34](#) shall apply to the ground floor level of at least 70 percent of the length of all #building# walls fronting on the eastern edge of the Dyer Avenue Platform; and
- (v) at least two pedestrian circulation paths with a minimum clear path of eight feet or one circulation path with a minimum clear path of 12 feet shall be provided along the full length of the Dyer Avenue Platform, from West 31st Street to West 33rd Street.

Vertical circulation elements, including stairs and ramps traversing the grade changes of the Dyer Avenue Platform shall be considered a part of the Dyer Avenue Platform and not an obstruction.

(e) West 31st Street Connector

(1) Location and minimum dimensions

A publicly accessible connection (hereinafter referred to as the “West 31st Street connector”) shall be provided between the Dyer Avenue Platform required pursuant to paragraph (e) of this Section and West 31st Street, as shown on Map 1 in Appendix B. The West 31st Street connector shall be located on West 31st Street adjoining the eastern boundary of the Dyer Avenue Platform and shall have a minimum area of 450 square feet.

(2) Required amenities

The West 31st Street connector shall be directly accessible from West 31st Street by a staircase with a minimum width of eight feet and by an elevator.

(f) Connection to below-grade passage

Where a pedestrian passage extending from the Eighth Avenue Subway beneath West 33rd Street to the west side of Ninth Avenue has been constructed, an entrance within the #development# shall be constructed that connects with such passage.

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**93-731 - Design and maintenance requirements for public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard**

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LAST AMENDED

8/9/2017

Public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard provided pursuant to the requirements of Section [93-73](#), shall comply with the applicable design reference standards set forth in paragraph (a) and the maintenance provisions of paragraph (b) of this Section.

(a) Design reference standards

- (1) seating shall meet the minimum and maximum dimensional standards set forth in paragraphs (1) through (7) of Section [37-741](#) (Seating), inclusive;
- (2) where planting areas are provided, they shall meet the soil depth, continuous area, permeable surface and irrigation requirements of Section [37-742](#) (Planting and trees). Where trees are provided, they shall meet the planting standards, soil requirements and irrigation standards set forth in Section [37-742](#);
- (3) steps shall meet the minimum dimensional standards set forth in Section [37-725](#) (Steps);

- (4) kiosks or open air cafes shall meet the operational and service requirements listed in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Section [37-73](#) (Kiosks and Open Air Cafes) and shall not occupy in the aggregate more than 20 percent of the public access areas required by Section [93-73](#). Seating provided as part of an open air cafe shall not count towards meeting the seating requirements of a public access area listed in Section [93-73](#);
- (5) the public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard shall provide the following public signage system:
  - (i) One entry plaque in each of the following locations:
    - (a) entry to the Entry Plaza from West 33rd Street;
    - (b) entry to the Central Plaza from Ninth Avenue;
    - (c) entry to the Art Plaza from West 31st Street;
    - (d) sidewalk level entry to the West 31st Street Connector; and
    - (e) entry to the Dyer Avenue Platform from West 33rd Street.
  - (ii) Each entry plaque is subject to the signage standards as set forth in paragraph (a)(1) through (a)(4) of Section [37-751](#) (Public space signage systems).
  - (iii) Each entry plaque shall be mounted on a wall, a permanent free-standing post, or on a post located within a planter, with its center five feet above the elevation of the nearest walkable pavement. The maximum height of such

free-standing post shall be six feet, with a maximum width and depth of 16 inches. Each entry plaque shall be in a position that clearly identifies the entry into the portion of the public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard that such plaque is provided in connection with, and placed so that the entire entry plaque is obvious and directly visible, without any obstruction, along every line of sight from all paths of pedestrian access to that portion of the public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard.

- (iv) A minimum of one information plaque, constructed from the same permanent materials as the entry plaques, or combined with one or more of the required entry plaques, shall be provided within the Art Plaza, the Entry Plaza, the Central Plaza and Dyer Avenue. The information plaque shall be mounted on a wall, a permanent free-standing post, or on a post located within a planter, with its center five feet above the elevation of the nearest walkable pavement. The maximum height of such free-standing post shall be six feet, with a maximum width and depth of 16 inches.
- (v) Each information plaque is subject to the signage requirements as set forth in paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(6) of Section [37-751](#) except that paragraph (b)(3) shall be modified to read, “in lettering three-eighths of an inch in height, the words: ‘This public access area contains:’” followed by the total linear feet of seating, the type and quantity of trees and the number of additional required amenities, such as moveable seating, that are provided in the portion of the public access area in which the entry plaque or information plaque is provided.

(6) where #buildings# front on to public access areas, canopies, awnings, marquees and sun control devices shall be permitted pursuant to the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of Section [37-726](#) (Permitted obstructions);

- (7) the aggregate number of litter receptacles in such public access areas shall be 21;
- (8) no gates, fences or other barriers shall be permitted within such public access areas except that protective bollards provided in connection with the development of the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard may be located within the required public access areas; and
- (9) for the purposes of applying the #sign# regulations to #building# walls facing public access areas, such public access areas shall be considered #streets#.

(b) Maintenance

The owner or owners shall be responsible for the maintenance of all public access areas, including, but not limited to, litter control, management of pigeons and rodents, maintenance of required lighting levels, and the care and replacement of furnishings and vegetation.

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### **93-732 - Certification for public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

No certification for the phased development of public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard shall be permitted until a plan has been submitted that provides for the completion of public access areas in accordance with the provisions of this Section. Such plan shall provide, at a minimum, that the entry plaza, required pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section [93-73](#) (Public Access Areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard) will be provided in connection with the construction of a #building#

located on the northeast corner of the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard, that the art plaza, required pursuant to paragraph (c) of Section [93-73](#), will be provided in connection with the construction of a #building# located on the southeast corner of the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard and that in connection with the construction of a #building# on the southwest corner of the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard, the West 31st Street connector required by paragraph (e) of Section [93-73](#), and a 20-foot wide paved area along the eastern edge of Dyer Avenue and extending for the north-south dimension of such #building# will be provided.

An application for certification under this Section shall be filed with the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission and such application shall include a site plan indicating the area and dimensions of the public access area, or portions thereof, and a detailed plan or plans demonstrating compliance with the requirements of Section [93-73](#).

Plans for the public access areas shall be set forth in an instrument in a form acceptable to the City, including such provisions as are necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Section. Such instrument shall be filed and duly recorded in the Office of the City Register of the City of New York for New York County and indexed against the property. Such filing and recording of the instrument shall be a precondition for the Chairperson's certification to the Department of Buildings under this Section. The recording information shall be included on the certificate of occupancy for any #building#, or portion thereof, on the #zoning lot# issued after the recording date.

No temporary certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of a #development# within a phase until the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access area, or portions thereof associated with such phase, is substantially complete and that such public access area, or portions thereof, are open to and useable by the public. No permanent certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of such #development# until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access areas, or portions thereof, are fully complete, and that all requirements of this Section have been met in accordance with the plans for public access area, or portions thereof associated with such phase.

No temporary certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for a #building#, or portion thereof, where the total amount of #floor area# that has been #developed# or #enlarged# on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard exceeds 3,204,000 square feet until the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies to the Commissioner of Buildings that the public access areas at 450 West 33rd Street required by paragraphs (c) and (d) of Section [93-72](#) and that all public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard required by Section [93-73](#) have been substantially completed and are open and usable by the public. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chairperson may, with respect to the public access area required by paragraph (c) and the elevator required by paragraph (d) of Section [93-72](#) at 450 West 33rd Street, certify to the Commissioner of Buildings that such temporary certificate of occupancy may be issued absent their substantial completion provided that:

- (a) the owner of 450 West 33rd Street has submitted proof that all or portions of the area of the West 31st Street passageway required by paragraph (c) of Section [93-72](#) was at any time subject to a lease with an expiration date of December 31, 2019, and was not able to obtain control of the areas subject to such lease on or before December 31, 2017;
- (b) a letter of credit has been posted in accordance with City requirements, and such letter of credit:
  - (1) is in an amount equal to 200 percent of the estimated cost to construct the public access area and the elevator at 450 West 33rd Street, required by paragraphs (c) and (d) of Section [93-72](#), respectively, as set forth in a cost estimate prepared by a professional engineer. Such cost estimate shall be based upon construction documents prepared by a registered architect and submitted with the application for certification pursuant to this Section, and shall be subject to review and acceptance by the City; and
  - (2) authorizes the City to draw upon the letter of credit if such public access area and elevator have not been substantially completed and are not open and usable by the

public by December 31, 2022;

- (c) that an easement agreement has been recorded granting the City access to 450 West 33rd Street and the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard, as may be necessary for purposes of constructing the public access area and elevator required by paragraphs (c) and (d) of Section [93-72](#), respectively, if they are not completed by the owner by December 31, 2022; and
- (d) in addition to the foregoing, such letter of credit shall be maintained from the date of certification for temporary certificates of occupancy, pursuant to this Section, until the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies to the Commissioner of Buildings that the public access area required by paragraph (c) and the elevator required by paragraph (d) of Section [93-72](#) have been substantially completed and are open and usable by the public, or until same have been substantially completed by the City. The Chairperson may, no more frequently than annually, require the submission of an updated or new letter of credit in an amount that reflects changes in costs over time, and such updated or new letter of credit shall be subject to the requirements and procedures of paragraph (b) of this Section, until such letter of credit is released based upon substantial completion.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that a temporary public access area plan is approved pursuant to Section [93-734](#) (Certification to temporarily modify public access areas for construction staging), no temporary certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of a #development# until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access area, or portions thereof associated with a phase of #development#, is substantially complete and in accordance with such temporary public access area plan, and the public access area, or portions thereof, are open and useable by the public. No permanent certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of such #development# until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access area, or portions thereof associated with such phase, has been fully completed in accordance with the plan therefor, and that such public access area, or portions thereof, are open and useable by the public.

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## **93-733 - Certification to modify general requirements of public access areas for ventilation demands**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

The Chairperson of the City Planning Commission may modify the general requirements of the public access areas listed in Section [93-73](#) (Public Access Areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard), provided that the Chairperson certifies to the Commissioner of Buildings that such a change is necessary to accommodate unforeseen ventilation demands within the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard. In addition to the site plan required pursuant to Section [93-732](#) (Certification for public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard), a mechanical plan shall be provided demonstrating the need to modify such general requirements.

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## **93-734 - Certification to temporarily modify public access areas for construction staging**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

In the event that the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission that the area designated for public access will be required for construction staging or similar activities in a future phase of #development#, the application for the site plan approval may be accompanied by a request for approval of a temporary public area which may include fewer amenities and other features required pursuant to Section [93-73](#) (Public Access Areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard), as necessary to accommodate such future construction staging or similar activities.

Such temporary public access area plan shall be subject to review and approval in the same manner as site plan approval pursuant to Section [93-732](#) (Certification for public access areas on the Ninth Avenue Rail Yard) and, if approved pursuant thereto, shall be implemented and remain in effect only for the period necessary to accommodate the need for use of the public access area for construction staging or similar activities in a future phase of development. Following the expiration of such period, the site plan shall be implemented.

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## **93-74 - Public Access Areas in Pennsylvania Station Subarea B4**

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LAST AMENDED

6/6/2024

The provisions of this Section shall apply to any #development# in the Pennsylvania Station Subarea B4 of the Farley Corridor Subdistrict B.

**(a) Public space**

A publicly accessible enclosed space with a minimum area of 32,500 square feet shall be provided. Such space shall have at least 100 feet of frontage along the Eighth Avenue #street line#, and have a minimum clear height of 60 feet. The length of such space shall not exceed four times its narrowest width. Up to one-half of such space may be below-grade but shall be visually connected to the at-grade space. Furthermore, such below-grade space shall be connected to the at-grade space by escalators on at least two sides. The retail and glazing requirements of Section [37-76](#) shall apply to least 70 percent of the length of all #building# walls facing each side of such space. Such space shall provide direct access to the through block connection required pursuant to paragraph (b) of this Section, adjacent #building# lobbies and transit facilities.

(b) Through block connection

A through block connection shall be provided linking West 31st Street and West 33rd Street, at least 300 feet from Eighth Avenue and with direct access to the public space required pursuant to paragraph (a) of this Section. Such through block connection shall have a minimum clear width of 20 feet and may be open or enclosed. If enclosed, such through block connection shall have a minimum clear height of 30 feet.

(c) Plaza

A publicly-accessible plaza, open to the sky, may be provided at the intersection of Eighth Avenue and West 31st Street. Such plaza shall have a minimum area of 12,000 square feet with a minimum frontage of 60 feet along West 31st Street, and be provided in accordance with the standards for #public plazas# set forth in Section [37-70](#), inclusive.

(d) Corner circulation space

Corner circulation spaces shall be provided at the corners of Eighth Avenue and West 31st Street and Eighth Avenue and West 33rd Street. Such spaces shall comply with the requirements for corner circulation spaces of paragraph (d) of Section [37-53](#). Such spaces shall count towards meeting the pedestrian circulation space requirements of Section [93-63](#). However, no corner circulation space shall be required at the corner of Eighth Avenue and West 31st Street if a plaza is provided at such corner in accordance with paragraph (c) of this Section.

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## **93-75 - Publicly Accessible Open Spaces in Subdistrict F**

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Public access areas in Subdistrict F shall be comprised of publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways.

Publicly accessible open spaces are listed in this Section, inclusive. Such publicly accessible open spaces shall be comprised of the Western Open Space, the Central Open Space, the Southwest Open Space, the Northeast Plaza, the Midblock Connection, and the #High Line# as described within this Section, inclusive. Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B identifies the location of publicly accessible open spaces.

General requirements for each publicly accessible open space are set forth within this Section. Design requirements for each publicly accessible open space are set forth in Section [93-77](#) (Design Criteria for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F). The phasing and approval process for each publicly accessible open space is set forth in Section [93-78](#) (Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F).

All publicly accessible open spaces listed in this Section shall be accessible to the public from the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. with the exception of the #High Line# and the Northeast Plaza. The Northeast Plaza shall provide hours of access pursuant to Section 37-727.

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### **93-751 - General requirements for the Western Open Space**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A publicly accessible open space, (henceforth referred to as the “Western Open Space”), shall be provided in Subdistrict F. Such a space shall be open to the sky, except that amenities that are provided in accordance with this Section and Section [93-77](#) (Design Criteria for Public Access Areas in

Subdistrict F) shall be permitted to cover a portion of the Western Open Space.

(a) General purpose

The Western Open Space is intended to serve the following purposes:

- (1) to provide a major open space that joins the northern portion of the #High Line# open space network on its west to the open space networks leading to the Hudson Park and Boulevard on its east;
- (2) to provide a large open lawn area overlooking the Hudson River for public use and enjoyment; and
- (3) to provide transition areas that offer shade, supplemental space between the open lawn and surrounding #building# and connections between surrounding publicly accessible open spaces.

(b) Location and minimum dimensions

The Western Open Space shall be located east of the #High Line#, and encompass the area between Sites 1 and 5 as shown on Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B. The Western Open Space shall have a minimum easterly boundary of 225 feet, as measured from the easterly #street line# of Twelfth Avenue.

(c) Core elements

The Western Open Space shall provide the following core elements:

(1)   Lawn area

An accessible lawn area shall be provided with a minimum area of one acre. Any lawn area located within 40 feet of a #building# wall on Sites 1 or 5 shall not contribute towards this one acre requirement. The required lawn area shall be comprised of the following amenities:

- (i)   a continuous lawn area shall be provided over a minimum of 75 percent of the required one acre. Such area shall have a maximum slope of three degrees and unobstructed visual access toward the Hudson River; and
- (ii)   a transitional lawn area may be provided for a maximum of 25 percent of the required one acre of lawn area. Such area need not be continuous, and shall have a maximum slope of 15 degrees. Trees and other plantings shall be permitted in such area.

(2)   #High Line# connection

Access to the #High Line# shall be provided along a minimum of 75 feet and a maximum of 150 feet of #High Line# frontage length. Such frontage need not be continuous, however, in order to qualify as unobstructed access that contributes to the minimum 75 foot requirement set forth in this paragraph (c)(2), a minimum frontage width of five feet is required. Such access need not be opened to the public until the #High Line# is reconstructed as public open space in accordance with the provisions of Section [93-756](#) (General requirements for the High Line).

(3)   Supplemental area

Any space provided in the Western Open Space which does not meet the criteria for lawn area set forth in paragraph (c)(1) of this Section or the criteria for the #High Line# connection set forth in paragraph (c)(2) shall be designated as supplemental area and shall comply with the requirements set forth in this paragraph (c)(3).

A minimum of 50 percent of the supplemental area shall be landscaped with soft ground cover, and the remaining 50 percent may be paved. At least one tree shall be provided for every 2,000 square feet of supplemental area. Such trees may be distributed anywhere within the supplemental area.

A minimum of two unimpeded paved pedestrian accesses, each with a minimum width of 12 feet, shall be provided in the supplemental area. One such pedestrian access shall link the Allee of the West 32nd Street Extension, as defined in paragraph (c)(2) of Section [93-761](#) and shown on Map 3 in Appendix B, to the #High Line#, and the second such pedestrian access shall link the West 31st Street Extension to the #High Line#.

A minimum of one linear foot of seating shall be provided for every 75 square feet of supplemental area. At least 50 percent of such required seating shall provide seatbacks. Such seating may be distributed anywhere within the supplemental area.

Permanent structures such as food or information kiosks, pavilions or public restrooms may be placed within the supplemental area, provided the height of such structures does not exceed 20 feet. The maximum #lot coverage# that all such permanent structures may occupy shall be 400 square feet, and such structures shall be exempt from the definition of #floor area#.

(d) Transparency

For portions of #buildings# on Site 1 and Site 5 fronting upon the Western Open Space, a minimum of 50 percent of the surface area of the ground floor #street wall# fronting upon the open space shall be treated with clear, untinted transparent material.

(e) Permitted encroachments from private streets and pedestrian ways

The Connector and the terminus of the West 32nd Street Extension shall be permitted to encroach upon the supplemental area of the Western Open Space, provided that the site and landscape plans incorporating the private street or pedestrian way are approved in conjunction with the Western Open Space, pursuant to Section [93-78](#) (Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F).

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## **93-752 - General requirements for the Central Open Space**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A publicly accessible open space, (henceforth referred to as the “Central Open Space”), shall be provided in Subdistrict F. Such a space shall be open to the sky, except that portions of a #building# on Site 3 and amenities that are provided in accordance with Sections [93-75](#) and [93-77](#) (Design Criteria for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F) shall be permitted to cover a portion of the Central Open Space.

(a) General purpose

The Central Open Space is intended to serve the following purposes:

(1) to serve as a neighborhood open space;

- (2) to provide amenities for area residents, workers and the general public; and
- (3) to provide areas that offer varied programs, supplemental spaces between amenities and surrounding #buildings# and connections between surrounding publicly accessible open spaces.

(b) Location and dimensions

The Central Open Space shall be located within the area bounded by the West 32nd Street Extension, the West 31st Street Extension, the Connector and Eleventh Avenue, and shall also be comprised of any portion of Sites 3 and 4 that are not covered by #buildings# at the ground level as shown on Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B.

The Central Open Space shall have a minimum dimension in the north-south direction as measured from the southerly #street line# of the West 32nd Street Extension to the northerly #street line# of the West 31st Street Extension of 175 feet. In addition, the minimum dimension of the Central Open Space in the north-south direction between the northern boundary of Site 3 and the southerly #street line# of the West 32nd Street Extension shall be 55 feet.

The Central Open Space shall have a minimum dimension in the east-west direction as measured from the easterly #street line# of the Connector to the westerly #street line# of Eleventh Avenue of 545 feet. In addition, the minimum dimension of the open space in the east-west direction between the eastern boundary of Site 3 and the western boundary of Site 4 shall be 265 feet.

Within 350 feet of the Eleventh Avenue #street line#, the maximum height of the finished grade of the Central Open Space shall be 45 feet above the Manhattan Datum, which is 2.75

feet above sea level. Beyond 350 feet of Eleventh Avenue, the maximum height of the finished grade shall be 47 feet above the Manhattan Datum.

(c) Core elements

The Central Open Space shall provide the following core elements:

(1) Lawn area

An accessible lawn area shall be provided with a minimum aggregate area of 10,000 square feet and a maximum slope of three degrees. Such area need not be continuous. Any lawn area located within 12 feet of a #building# wall on Sites 3 or 4 shall not contribute towards such minimum gross area.

(2) Playground

A playground shall be provided with a minimum area of 10,000 square feet.

(3) Supplemental area

Any space in the Central Open Space other than the required lawn area set forth in paragraph (c)(1) of this Section or the required playground space set forth in paragraph (c)(2) of this Section, shall be designated as supplemental area and shall comply with the requirements set forth in this Section.

A minimum of 50 percent of the supplemental area shall be landscaped with soft ground cover, and the remaining 50 percent may be paved. At least one tree shall be provided for every 1,500 square feet of the supplemental area. Such trees may be

distributed anywhere within the supplemental area.

A minimum of two unimpeded paved pedestrian accesses, each with a minimum width of 12 feet, shall be provided in the supplemental area. Such pedestrian access shall link the West 31st and West 32nd Street Extensions and be no closer than 150 feet to one another at any point.

A minimum of one linear foot of seating shall be provided for every 75 square feet of supplemental area. At least 50 percent of such required seating shall provide seatbacks. Such seating may be distributed anywhere within the supplemental area.

Within 15 feet of a required sidewalk or pedestrian access, the slope of the supplemental area shall not exceed 7.5 degrees, or a maximum height of two feet. Beyond 15 feet of a required sidewalk or pedestrian access, the slope of the supplemental area shall not exceed 15 degrees.

(d) Permanent structures

Permanent structures, such as food or information kiosks, pavilions or public restrooms may be placed within the Central Open Space, provided the height of such structures does not exceed 20 feet. The maximum #lot coverage# that all such permanent structures may occupy shall be 400 square feet and such structures shall be exempt from the definition of #floor area#.

(e) Transparency

For portions of #buildings# in Site 4 fronting upon the Central Open Space, a minimum of 50 percent of the surface area of the ground floor #street wall# fronting upon the open space shall be treated with clear, untinted, transparent material.

(f) Permitted encroachments from private streets and pedestrian ways

The Connector and the terminus of the West 31st Street Extension shall be permitted to encroach upon the supplemental area of the Central Open Space, provided that the site and landscape plans incorporating the private street or pedestrian way are approved in conjunction with the Central Open Space, pursuant to Section [93-78](#) (Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F).

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### **93-753 - General requirements for the Southwest Open Space**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A publicly accessible open space, (henceforth referred to as the “Southwest Open Space”), shall be provided in Subdistrict F. Such accessible open space shall be open to the sky, except that portions of a #building or other structure# on Site 5, the #High Line# and amenities that are provided in accordance with Sections [93-75](#) and [93-77](#) (Design Criteria for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F) shall be permitted to cover a portion of the Southwest Open Space.

(a) General purpose

The Southwest Open Space is intended to serve the following purposes:

- (1) to serve as an inviting pedestrian gateway to the Western Rail Yard from open space networks along the Hudson River;

- (2) to provide pedestrian amenities and connections between surrounding public spaces both on and adjacent to the Western Rail Yard; and
- (3) to offer a unique open space experience for pedestrians through the negotiation of the area's grade changes.

(b) Location and minimum dimensions

The Southwest Open Space shall be located within the area bounded by Twelfth Avenue, the Western Open Space, the West 31st Street Extension, Site 6 and West 30th Street, and shall also be comprised of any portion of Site 5 which is not covered by a #building or other structure# at the ground level as shown on Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B.

The Southwest Open Space shall have a minimum dimension in the east-west direction as measured from the easterly #street line# of Twelfth Avenue to the western boundary of Site 6 of 400 feet. However, if the length of Site 6 is extended to accommodate a public #school# in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of Section [93-568](#) (Site 6), the minimum dimension of the Southwest Open Space shall be 360 feet.

The Southwest Open Space shall have a minimum dimension in the north-south direction as measured from the northerly #street line# of West 30th Street to the southern boundary of the Western Open Space of 180 feet and a maximum dimension of 200 feet.

(c) Core elements

The Southwest Open Space shall have the following core elements. For the purpose of determining the amount of an amenity to provide in relation to the area of the Southwest

Open Space, the area of the Southwest Open Space shall exclude the area occupied by a #building or other structure# on Site 5 and the #High Line#.

A minimum of 50 percent of the area of the Southwest Open Space shall be landscaped with soft ground cover, and the remaining 50 percent of the Southwest Open Space may be paved. At least one tree shall be provided for every 1,500 square feet of Southwest Open Space.

An unimpeded paved pedestrian access with a minimum width of 12 feet shall link either Twelfth Avenue or West 30th Street and the West 31st Street Extension. If such pedestrian access contains 'switchbacks,' comprised of a series of ascending pedestrian ways, the minimum distance between midpoints of each way, as measured, in plan, from the northerly edge of one way to the southerly edge of the next ascending way shall be 15 feet.

A second unimpeded paved pedestrian access with a minimum width of 12 feet shall link either Twelfth Avenue or West 30th Street and the #High Line bed# or with an elevator located adjacent to the #High Line# that provides public access to the #High Line bed#. Such access need not be opened to the public until the #High Line# is reconstructed as public open space in accordance with the provisions of Section 93-756.

A minimum of one linear foot of seating shall be provided for every 75 square feet of soft ground cover provided within the Southwest Open Space. At least 50 percent of such required seating shall provide seatbacks.

Permanent structures, such as food or information kiosks, pavilions or public restrooms shall be permitted within the Southwest Open Space, provided the height of such structures does not exceed 20 feet. The maximum area #lot coverage# that all such permanent structures may occupy shall be 1,000 square feet, provided that such structures are located entirely west of the #High Line#. Such permanent structures shall be exempt from the definition of #floor area#.

(d) Permitted encroachments from private streets

The terminus of the West 31st Street Extension shall be permitted to encroach upon the Southwest Open Space, provided that the site and landscape plans for the West 31st Street Extension are approved in conjunction with the Southwest Open Space, pursuant to Section [93-78](#) (Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F).

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### **93-754 - General requirements for the Northeast Plaza**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A publicly accessible open space, (henceforth referred to as the “Northeast Plaza”), shall be provided at the intersection of West 33rd Street and Eleventh Avenue, as shown on Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B. The area of such space shall be at least 2,600 square feet, and shall have a minimum #street# frontage of 40 feet along each #street#. The Northeast Plaza shall be provided in accordance with the standards for #public plazas#, as set forth in Section [37-70](#) (PUBLIC PLAZAS), exclusive of the area dimensions set forth in Section 37-712.

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### **93-755 - General requirements for the Midblock Connection**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A pedestrian way, (henceforth referred to as the “Midblock Connection”), shall be provided between West 33rd Street and the West 32nd Street Extension, as shown on Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public

Access Area Plan) in Appendix B.

(a) General purpose

The Midblock Connection is intended to serve the following purposes:

- (1) to provide pedestrian access between West 33rd Street and the Western Rail Yard Subdistrict F; and
- (2) to provide amenities similar to a through block public plaza.

(b) Location and dimensions

The entirety of the Midblock Connection shall be located between 335 feet and 455 feet west of the westerly Eleventh Avenue #street line#.

The minimum width of the Midblock Connection, measured in the east-west direction, shall be 60 feet.

(c) Core elements

The Midblock Connection shall provide the following core elements:

- (1) A minimum of one unimpeded pedestrian access, with a minimum width of 12 feet, shall be provided to connect the West 32nd Street Extension with West 33rd Street;
- (2) A minimum of one linear foot of seating shall be provided for every 75 square feet of the Midblock Connection. A minimum of 50 percent of the required seating shall

provide seatbacks; and

- (3) A minimum of 20 percent of the gross area of the Midblock Connection shall be landscaped with soft ground cover, and shall provide a minimum of one tree per every 1,500 square feet.

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## **93-756 - General requirements for the High Line**

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LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

For the portion of the #High Line# that is located within the boundary of Subdistrict F, the following provisions shall apply.

(a) General purpose

The #High Line# is intended to serve the following purposes:

- (1) to serve as a continuation of the #High Line# public open space to the east and to the south of West 30th Street;
- (2) to offer a pedestrian and passive open space experience similar to the #High Line# open space south of West 30th Street, through planting, materials and amenities, while taking into account the nature and character of the Western Rail Yard Subdistrict F; and

(3) to allow for connections to other public areas on the Western Rail Yard Subdistrict F.

(b) Permitted #uses#

Any permitted change of #use# for the #High Line# shall be made pursuant to the provisions of Section [93-10 \(USE REGULATIONS\)](#).

(c) Core elements

The #High Line# open space shall provide amenities including, but not limited to, planting, seating and lighting designed to complement and be integrated with portions of the #High Line# south of West 30th Street in a manner that provides both visual and pedestrian continuity along the #High Line# open space network. The #High Line# open space shall not be subject to the design criteria for public access areas in Subdistrict F set forth in Section [93-77](#).

The site and landscape plans for the #High Line# approved pursuant to Section [93-78](#) (Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F) shall make provision for access points to and from the #High Line# open space, including the public access provided in the Southwest Open Space pursuant to Section [93-753](#) (General requirements for the Southwest Open Space) and, subject to agreement, shall include support facilities necessary for the operation, maintenance and public enjoyment of the #High Line# open space located in Subdistrict F, or at other locations north of West 30th Street.

(d) Certification to modify requirements adjacent to the #High Line#

The Chairperson of the City Planning Commission may modify certain regulations on adjacent development sites 1 through 6, provided that the Chairperson certifies to the

Commissioner of Buildings that such a change is necessary in order to provide access to the #High Line# open space or to accommodate facilities for the #High Line# open space, and that such change is compatible with the character of developed portions of the #High Line# south of West 30th Street.

The following regulations may be modified:

- (1) The ground floor level requirements set forth in Section [93-14](#) (Ground Floor Level Requirements), where applicable;
- (2) The unobstructed five foot separation between the #High Line# and a #street wall# on Sites 1, 5 and 6 required pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section [93-561](#) (General rules for Subdistrict F) in order to accommodate a pedestrian access way, open to the sky, between the #High Line# and such development sites. However, the required five foot #street wall# separation from the edge of the #High Line# shall not be modified;
- (3) The #street wall# requirements for Site 6 set forth in Section [93-562](#) (Street wall regulations for certain streets), only as necessary to accommodate pedestrian access onto the #High Line#;
- (4) The general requirements for the Western Open Space and the Southwest Open Space set forth in Section [93-75](#) (Publicly Accessible Open Spaces in Subdistrict F); and
- (5) The general requirements for the 30th Street Corridor set forth in Section [93-76](#) (Publicly Accessible Private Streets and Pedestrian Ways in Subdistrict F).

Any application for such change shall be included in the application for the site and landscape plans submitted pursuant to the provisions of Section [93-78](#) (Site and Landscape Plans for

Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F) for the #High Line# open space.

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## **93-76 - Publicly Accessible Private Streets and Pedestrian Ways in Subdistrict F**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

Public access areas in Subdistrict F shall be comprised of publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways.

Publicly accessible private streets and pedestrian ways shall be provided in Subdistrict F in addition to the publicly accessible open spaces required in Section [93-75](#). Such private streets and pedestrian ways shall be comprised of the West 31st and West 32nd Street Extensions, the West 30th Street Corridor and the Connector. Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B of this Chapter identifies the location of these publicly accessible private streets and pedestrian ways.

General requirements for each publicly accessible private street and pedestrian way are set forth within this Section. Design requirements for each publicly accessible private street and pedestrian way are set forth in Section [93-77](#) (Design Criteria for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F). The phasing and approval process for each publicly accessible private street and pedestrian way are set forth in Section [93-78](#) (Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F).

Publicly accessible private streets and pedestrian ways listed in this Section shall be accessible to the public at all times.

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### **93-761 - General requirements for the West 32nd Street Extension**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A private street, (henceforth referred to as the “West 32nd Street Extension”), shall be provided south of and parallel to West 33rd Street.

(a) General purpose

The West 32nd Street Extension is intended to serve the following purposes:

- (1) to serve as the primary publicly accessible pedestrian and vehicular connection to the Western Rail Yard from Eleventh Avenue;
- (2) to provide an experience substantially similar to active public #streets# in other high-density, mixed use districts;
- (3) to provide a unique urban park-like experience for an active public #street# by connecting the Western Open Space and the Eastern Rail Yard plaza with a pedestrian Allee, as defined in paragraph (c)(2) of this Section and shown on Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B; and
- (4) to provide a private street with core elements that are substantially similar to the surrounding public #streets#.

(b) Location and dimensions

The West 32nd Street Extension shall have its northerly edge located a minimum of 180 feet and a maximum of 200 feet south of the West 33rd Street #street line#, as shown on Map 3 in Appendix B, except that a terminus to the West 32nd Street Extension, located west of the

Connector shall be permitted to expand beyond the maximum dimensions, provided that such terminus extends to provide a #building# entrance drive along Site 1, and complies with the provisions set forth in paragraph (e) of Section [93-751](#) (General requirements for the Western Open Space).

(c) Core elements

The West 32nd Street Extension shall provide the following core elements:

(1) Streets and sidewalk requirements

The West 32nd Street Extension shall be a private street constructed to minimum Department of Transportation and Fire Department standards for public #streets#.

Such private street shall consist of:

(i) a road bed, paved with asphalt, with a minimum width pursuant to the requirements set forth by the Fire Department;

(ii) a 20 foot minimum sidewalk along its entire northern curb; and

(iii) a 25 foot minimum sidewalk along its entire southern curb.

(2) Planting and seating requirements for the southern sidewalk and the Allee

Two trees shall be planted for every 20 feet of southern curb length of the West 32nd Street Extension between Eleventh Avenue and the Connector. Fractions equal to or greater than one-half resulting from this calculation shall be considered to be one tree.

Such trees shall be planted at approximately equal intervals along the entire curb length of the West 32nd Street Extension.

Along the southern sidewalk, trees shall be planted within five feet of the curb and the southern edge of the sidewalk. One row of trees shall be planted within five feet of the curb and a second row of trees shall be planted within five feet of the southern edge of the sidewalk. This double row of tree planting along the southern sidewalk of the West 32nd Street Extension between Eleventh Avenue and the Connector shall henceforth be referred to as the Allee, as shown on Map 3 in Appendix B. No #building or other structure# shall be permitted within 15 feet of the southern edge of the Allee.

The Allee shall provide a minimum of one linear foot of seating for every 75 square feet of the Allee. A minimum of 50 percent of the required seating shall provide seatbacks.

(3) Planting requirements for the northern sidewalk

One tree shall be planted for every 25 feet of curb length of the West 32nd Street Extension along its northern curb between Eleventh Avenue and the Connector. Fractions equal to or greater than one-half resulting from this calculation shall be considered to be one tree. Such trees shall be planted at approximately equal intervals along the entire curb length of the West 32nd Street Extension between Eleventh Avenue and the Connector. Along the northern sidewalk, trees shall be planted within five feet of the curb.

(4) Curb cuts

No curb cuts shall be permitted along the West 32nd Street Extension, except for

access to the Connector if required by the Fire Department.

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## **93-762 - General requirements for the West 31st Street Extension**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A private street, (henceforth referred to as the “West 31st Street Extension”), shall be provided north of and parallel to West 30th Street.

**(a) General purpose**

The West 31st Street Extension is intended to serve the following purposes:

- (1) to serve as a publicly accessible pedestrian and vehicular connection to the Western Rail Yard from Eleventh Avenue;
- (2) to provide an experience substantially similar to active public #streets# in other high-density, mixed use districts; and
- (3) to provide a private street with core elements that are substantially similar to the surrounding public #streets#.

**(b) Location and dimensions**

The West 31st Street Extension shall have its southerly edge located a minimum of 180 feet and a maximum of 200 feet north of the West 30th Street #street line#, as shown on Map 3

(Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B, except that a terminus to the West 31st Street Extension, located west of the Connector, shall be permitted to expand beyond the maximum dimensions, provided that such terminus extends to provide a #building# entrance drive along Site 5, and complies with the provisions set forth in paragraph (d) of Section [93-753](#) (General requirements for the Southwest Open Space), and/or paragraph (f) of Section [93-752](#) (General requirements for the Central Open Space), as applicable.

(c) Core Elements

The West 31st Street Extension shall provide the following core elements:

(1) Street and sidewalk requirements

The West 31st Street Extension shall be a private street constructed to minimum Department of Transportation and Fire Department standards for public #streets#.

Such private street shall consist of:

(i) a road bed, paved with asphalt, with a minimum width pursuant to requirements set forth by the Fire Department;

(ii) a 15 foot minimum sidewalk along its entire northern curb; and

(iii) a 20 foot minimum sidewalk along its entire southern curb.

(2) Planting requirements for sidewalks

One tree shall be planted for every 25 feet of curb length of the West 31st Street

Extension between Eleventh Avenue and the Connector. Fractions equal to or greater than one-half resulting from this calculation shall be considered to be one tree. Such trees shall be planted at approximately equal intervals along the entire length of the curb of the private street between Eleventh Avenue and the Connector.

(3) Curb cuts

One curb cut shall be permitted along each side of the West 31st Street Extension. The maximum width of such curb cut shall be 30 feet. A third curb cut accessing the Connector shall be permitted if required by the Fire Department.

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## **93-763 - General requirements for the West 30th Street Corridor**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A pedestrian way (henceforth referred to as the “West 30th Street Corridor”), shall be provided along the northerly sidewalk of West 30th Street adjacent to the area below the #High Line#.

(a) General purpose

The West 30th Street Corridor is intended to serve the following purposes:

- (1) to serve as a transition space between the #High Line# and the West 30th Street sidewalk;

- (2) to allow for active frontages with publicly accessible spaces for establishments below the #High Line#; and
- (3) to provide an overall streetscape design that complements and provides views of the #High Line# along West 30th Street.

(b) Location and dimensions

The West 30th Street Corridor shall be located in the area bounded by the #High Line#, Eleventh Avenue, West 30th Street and the eastern edge of the Southwest Open Space, as shown on Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B.

In the north-south direction, the West 30th Street Corridor shall extend from the #street wall# of #buildings# beneath the #High Line# facing West 30th Street (which shall coincide with the northerly edge of the southern row of structural columns of the #High Line#) to the northerly #street line# of West 30th Street.

(c) Core elements

The West 30th Street Corridor shall have the following provisions for its core elements:

- (1) a pedestrian access area at least 10 feet in width shall be provided along the entire length of the West 30th Street Corridor, linking Eleventh Avenue with the sidewalk adjacent to the Southwest Open Space. Such area shall be located a minimum of five feet beyond the northerly curb line of West 30th Street, and shall be free of obstructions;

- (2) portions between the required pedestrian access area and the #High Line# may be paved or landscaped; and
  
- (3) street trees shall be planted within five feet of the northern curb of West 30th Street. One tree shall be planted for every 25 feet of curb length. Fractions equal to or greater than one-half resulting from this calculation shall be considered to be one tree. Such trees shall be planted at approximately equal intervals along the entire curb length of West 30th Street.

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## **93-764 - General requirements for the Connector**

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### LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

A publicly accessible connection (henceforth referred to as the “Connector”), shall be provided between the West 32nd Street Extension and the West 31st Street Extension.

**(a) General purpose**

The Connector is intended to serve the following purposes:

- (1) to serve as a connection between the West 32nd Street Extension and the West 31st Street Extension;
  
- (2) to provide a space that complements the surrounding publicly accessible open spaces; and

- (3) to provide an emergency egress connector pursuant to Fire Department standards.

(b) Location and dimensions

The western #street line# of the Connector shall be located a minimum of 225 feet east of the easterly #street line# of Twelfth Avenue, as shown on Map 3 (Subdistrict F: Public Access Area Plan) in Appendix B.

(c) Core elements

The Connector shall provide the following core elements:

- (1) the Connector shall be constructed to minimum Fire Department standards for an emergency egress connection between the West 32nd Street Extension and the West 31st Street Extension, including, but not limited to, the width and materials of paved area, and permitted obstructions within such area; and
- (2) the Connector shall not be located within 15 feet of a #building#.

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## **93-77 - Design Criteria for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F**

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LAST AMENDED

6/6/2024

Public access areas in Subdistrict F shall be comprised of publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways.

(a) Design criteria

Where private streets, pedestrian ways and publicly accessible open spaces, with the exception of the #High Line#, provide elements listed in this Section, such elements shall comply with the applicable minimum design standards, set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section, as a minimum design standard.

(1) Seating

Seating shall meet the minimum and maximum dimensional standards set forth in paragraphs (1) through (7) of Section [37-741](#), inclusive.

(2) Planting and trees

Where planting areas are provided, they shall meet the planting bed requirements and irrigation requirements of Section [37-742](#) (Planting and trees).

Where trees are provided, they shall meet the applicable minimum tree caliper standards, soil requirements and irrigation standards set forth in Section [37-742](#), except that within the Western Open Space, the Central Open Space and the Southwest Open Space, the soil requirements for tree planting shall not apply. In lieu thereof, all trees in the Central and Western Open Spaces shall be planted in areas with soil depth of at least five feet. In the Southwest Open Space, all trees shall be planted in continuous planted areas that have a minimum depth of five feet and a minimum area of 500 square feet of soil.

(3) Paving

Paving, exclusive of the required asphalt paving of the West 31st and West 32nd Street Extension roadbeds, shall meet the minimum standards set forth in Section 37-

(4) Steps

Steps shall meet the minimum dimensional standards set forth in Section 37-725.

(5) Kiosks and open air cafes

Kiosks or open air cafes shall meet the operational and service requirements listed in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Section [37-73](#) (Kiosks and Open Air Cafes). Seating provided as part of an open air cafe shall not count towards meeting the seating requirements of a public access area listed in Section [93-75](#) (Publicly Accessible Open Spaces in Subdistrict F).

(6) Standards of accessibility for persons with disabilities

All publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways shall be designed pursuant to the standards of accessibility for persons with disabilities set forth in Section 37-728.

(7) Lighting and electrical power

All publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways shall provide lighting and electrical power pursuant to the standards set forth in Section 37-743.

(8) Litter receptacles

All publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways shall provide litter receptacles pursuant to the standards set forth in Section 37-744.

(9) Bicycle parking

Bicycle racks sufficient to accommodate at least 25 bicycle parking spaces shall be provided in the Southwest Open Space, bicycle racks sufficient to accommodate at least 30 bicycle parking spaces shall be provided in the Central Open Space and bicycle racks sufficient to accommodate at least 33 bicycle parking spaces shall be provided in the Western Open Space. Such racks shall be located adjacent to a paved circulation path within the open space or in public sidewalks adjacent to the open space.

(10) Playgrounds and additional amenities

Where playgrounds and additional amenities are provided in publicly accessible open spaces, such amenities shall be designed pursuant to the standards set forth in Section 37-748.

(11) Signs

All open spaces within the publicly accessible open spaces shall provide open space signage pursuant to the standards set forth in Section 37-751.

(12) Canopies, awnings, marquees and sun control devices

Where #buildings# front onto publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways, canopies, awnings, marquees and sun control devices shall be permitted pursuant to the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of Section 37-726 (Permitted obstructions).

(13) Gates and fences

Gates, fences or other barriers shall be permitted at the perimeter of any playgrounds, tot lots or dog runs provided as part of a publicly accessible open space or pedestrian way. Additional gates, fences or other barriers shall be permitted in the Midblock Connection, the Southwest Open Space and the #High Line# only as approved as part

of the site and landscape plans submitted pursuant to Section [93-78](#) (Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F).

Such gates, fences or other barriers shall have a maximum height of 48 inches, as measured from the adjoining grade level, and shall be at least 70 percent open. However, where gates, fences or other barriers are mounted on a solid curb, such minimum transparency shall not include the surface area of the curb, provided that the height of such curb does not exceed six inches.

Chain link fencing or barbed or razor wire shall not be permitted.

(14) Public restrooms

At least one public restroom shall be provided to serve either the Central Open Space or the Western Open Space, whichever is developed first pursuant to the provisions of Section [93-78](#). Such public restroom shall provide separate restroom spaces for each gender, and may be located in either the publicly accessible open space or within the ground floor of any adjacent #building#.

(b) Maintenance

The owner of each of Sites 1 through 6 in Subdistrict F shall be responsible for the maintenance of all publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways, including, but not limited to, litter control, management of pigeons and rodents, maintenance of required lighting levels, and the care and replacement of furnishings and vegetation within the portion of the Subdistrict associated with such site in the phased development provided in the site and landscape plans required pursuant to Section [93-78](#). Notwithstanding the foregoing, maintenance of the #High Line# shall be governed by such agreements as are entered into with respect thereto.

(c) Interim #use#

Open #uses# listed under Use Group I, with the exception of cemeteries and golf courses, shall be permitted as interim #uses# within the designated boundary of any public access area described in Sections [93-75](#) or [93-76](#) (Publicly Accessible Private Streets and Pedestrian Ways in Subdistrict F) with the exception of the #High Line# open space, or within the designated boundary of any development site described in Section [93-56](#) (Special Height and Setback Regulations in Subdistrict F). Such interim #uses# may be #developed# prior to the approval of the site and landscape plans for the public access area in which it is located, and may continue until such time as development commences on such public access area pursuant to the approved site and landscape plans. Any such interim #uses# shall be open to and usable by the public, and may include temporary structures, provided that all associated #floor area# is appurtenant to the interim #use#.

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## **93-78 - Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F**

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LAST AMENDED

4/29/2014

Public access areas in Subdistrict F shall be comprised of publicly accessible open spaces, private streets and pedestrian ways.

All publicly accessible open spaces, or portions thereof, listed in Section [93-75](#) (Publicly Accessible Open Spaces in Subdistrict F), and private streets and pedestrian ways, or portions thereof, listed in Section [93-76](#) (Publicly Accessible Private Streets and Pedestrian Ways in Subdistrict F), shall comply with the following provisions:

- (a) No building permit shall be issued for any #development# or #enlargement# within Subdistrict F unless the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission has certified to the Commissioner of Buildings that the site and landscape plans for the Subdistrict F public access area have been

approved by the Chairperson pursuant to the provisions of this Section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chairperson shall allow for the phased development of public access areas, or portions thereof, upon certification to the Commissioner of Buildings that site and landscape plans have been submitted that provide for the completion of public access areas in association with the #development# or #enlargement# of a #building# or #buildings# within each phase.

- (b) An application under this Section shall be filed with the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission and such application shall include:
  - (1) a site plan indicating the area and dimensions of the public access area, or portions thereof, and the location of all proposed #buildings# in the phase subject to the application;
  - (2) a landscape plan, prepared by a registered landscape architect, for the public access area, or portions thereof, in the phase subject to the application; and
  - (3) a report to the Chairperson demonstrating:
    - (i) that the site and landscape plans have been presented by the applicant to the affected Community Board, City Council Member and Borough President and the Community Board, City Council Member and Borough President have had at least 60 days to review; and
    - (ii) that any comments and recommendations of the affected Community Board, City Council Member and Borough President have been considered by the applicant, as set forth in a written response to such comments or recommendations. Where design modifications have been made in response to such recommendations, the report shall identify how the design has been

modified.

- (c) The Chairperson of the City Planning Commission shall approve the site and landscape plans within 45 days following filing, provided that the following provisions are met:
  - (1) the site and landscape plans provide for the improvement of the public access area, or portions thereof, which, taking into account relevant considerations relating to platform construction and engineering, are:
    - (i) of sufficient size to provide a valuable public amenity and promote site access for the benefit of residents and workers in the #buildings# in the phase to which they relate, as well as for the general public; and
    - (ii) appropriately sited and located in suitable proximity to the #building# locations in the phase to which they relate.
  - (2) the site and landscape plans are consistent with the general purposes and contain the core elements listed in Sections [93-75](#) and [93-76](#), inclusive;
  - (3) all elements in the site and landscape plans comply with the design criteria as set forth in Section [93-77](#) (Design Criteria for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F), or, in the case of the #High Line#, that the elements in the landscape plan comply with the criteria set forth in paragraph (c) of Section [93-756](#) (General requirements for the High Line);
  - (4) the site and landscape plans are consistent and appropriate in relation to any previously approved landscape plan for other phases and in relation to conceptual plans for future phases, as applicable;

- (5) the level of public amenity provided in the landscape plan is equal to or better than the level of public amenity required in #public plazas# that are provided in accordance with the standards of Section [37-70](#) or, in the case of the #High Line#, than the level of public amenity provided on developed portions of the #High Line# south of West 30th Street. All public amenities that are provided in the landscape plan shall take into account the nature and character of the Subdistrict F public access areas; and
- (6) a maintenance plan, including any necessary maintenance facilities for the public access area, or portions thereof, in the phase, has been established that will ensure compliance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of Section [93-77](#).

Approved site and landscape plans shall be set forth in an instrument in a form acceptable to the City, including such provisions as are necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Section. Such instrument shall be filed and duly recorded in the Borough Office of the City Register of the City of New York and indexed against the property. Such filing and recording of the instrument shall be a precondition for the Chairperson's certification to the Department of Buildings under this Section. The recording information shall be included on the certificate of occupancy for any #building#, or portion thereof, on the #zoning lot# issued after the recording date.

- (d) No temporary certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of a #development# or #enlargement# within a phase until the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access area, or portions thereof associated with such phase, is substantially complete and in accordance with the site and landscape plans, and that such public access area, or portions thereof, are open to and useable by the public. No permanent certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of such #development# or

#enlargement# until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access areas, or portions thereof, are fully complete, and that all requirements of this Section have been met in accordance with the site and landscape plans for the public access area, or portions thereof associated with such phase. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that a temporary public access area plan is approved pursuant to Section [93-782](#) (Certification to temporarily modify public access areas for construction staging), no temporary certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of a #development# or #enlargement# within the phase until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access area, or portions thereof associated with such phase, is substantially complete and in accordance with such temporary public access area plan, and the public access area, or portions thereof, are open and useable by the public. No permanent certificate of occupancy from the Department of Buildings may be issued for any portion of such #development# or #enlargement# until the Chairperson certifies to the Department of Buildings that the public access area, or portions thereof associated with the phase previously improved pursuant to the temporary public access area plan, has been fully completed in accordance with the site and landscape plans therefor, and that the public access area, or portions thereof, are open to and useable by the public.

- (e) Where a phase of development results in all development sites in Subdistrict F, as shown on Map 2 (Subdistrict F: Site Plan) in Appendix B, having been #developed# in whole or in part pursuant to the provisions of Section [93-56](#) (Special Height and Setback Regulations in Subdistrict F), the Department of Buildings shall not issue a certificate of occupancy for the last #building# of such phase unless and until the Chairperson certifies to the Commissioner of Buildings that all public access areas within Subdistrict F are substantially complete, and are open to and useable by the public. However, in the event that the site and landscape plans for the #High Line# open space have not been approved, pursuant to paragraph (c) of this Section, at the time such last #building# is eligible for a certificate of occupancy, the Department of Buildings shall issue such certificate of occupancy upon certification of the Chairperson that all public access areas other than the #High Line# open space are

substantially complete.

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## **93-781 - Certification to modify general requirements of public access areas for ventilation demands**

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### LAST AMENDED

12/21/2009

The Chairperson of the City Planning Commission may modify the general requirements of the publicly accessible open spaces listed in Section [93-75](#) (Publicly Accessible Open Spaces in Subdistrict F), and private streets and pedestrian ways listed in Section [93-76](#) (Publicly Accessible Private Streets and Pedestrian Ways in Subdistrict F), provided that the Chairperson certifies to the Commissioner of Buildings that such a change is necessary to accommodate unforeseen ventilation demands within the Western Rail Yard. In addition to the site and landscape plans required pursuant to Section [93-78](#), a mechanical plan shall be provided demonstrating the need to modify such general requirements.

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## **93-782 - Certification to temporarily modify public access areas for construction staging**

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### LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

In the event that the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission that a public access area will be required for construction staging or similar activities in a future phase of #development# or #enlargement#, the application for the site and landscape plans may be accompanied by a request for approval of a temporary public access area plan

for the public access area which may include fewer than all core elements required as part of a phase of #development# or #enlargement# of such public access area pursuant to paragraph (c)(2) of Section 93-78 (Site and Landscape Plans for Public Access Areas in Subdistrict F), as necessary to accommodate such future construction staging or similar activities. Such temporary public access area plan shall be subject to review and approval in the same manner as the site and landscape plans, pursuant to Section 93-78 and, if approved pursuant thereto, shall be implemented and remain in effect only for the period necessary to accommodate the need for use of the public access area for construction staging or similar activities in a future phase of development. Following the expiration of such period, the site and landscape plans, including all core elements for such public access area, shall be implemented.