Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Sideya Sherman, Chair

81-67 - Special Mandatory District Plan Element Requirements

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81-67 - Special Mandatory District Plan Element Requirements

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

For #buildings# which are #developed# or #enlarged# within the East Midtown Subdistrict, the applicable provisions of Section 81-40 (MANDATORY DISTRICT PLAN ELEMENTS) shall be modified in accordance with the provisions of this Section, inclusive.

81-671 - Special street wall requirements

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

The requirements of Section 81-43 (Street Wall Continuity Along Designated Streets) shall be applicable within the Subdistrict, except as modified in this Section.

#Buildings# with frontage on Park, Lexington, Madison and Vanderbilt Avenues, or Depew Place in the Grand Central Core Area, as shown on Map 2 (East Midtown Subdistrict and Subareas) in Appendix A of this Chapter, shall have a #street wall# within 10 feet of the #street line# of such #streets#. On 42nd Street, the #street wall# shall be at the #street line#. The width of the required #street wall# shall be at least 80 percent of the length of the #front lot line#.

The minimum height of such #street walls# without any setback shall be 120 feet above #curb level# or the height of the #building#, whichever is less, and the maximum height shall not exceed 150 feet above #curb level#. Where a #zoning lot# is bounded by the intersection of Park Avenue, Lexington Avenue, Madison Avenue, Vanderbilt Avenue, 42nd Street or Depew Place and any other #street#,

these #street wall# height regulations shall apply along the full length of the #zoning lot# along the other #street# or to a distance of 125 feet from the intersection, whichever is less.

However, for #developments# or, where permitted, #enlargements# on #qualifying sites# within an area bounded by East 43rd Street, Second Avenue, East 42nd Street and a line 200 feet east of Third Avenue, such #street wall# location requirements shall not apply to the portion of the frontage where an open publicly accessible space is provided in accordance with paragraph (b) of Section 81-681 (Mandatory requirements for qualifying sites).

Beyond 125 feet of the intersection, the maximum height of the #street wall# above #curb level# shall not exceed 120 feet. For such #buildings#, the provisions of Section 81-262 (Maximum height of front wall at the street line) shall not be applicable.

However, the ten-foot setback requirement of paragraph (a) of Section 81-263 (Standard setback requirements) shall apply only to those portions of the #building# above 120 feet.

81-672 - Sidewalk widenings

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

All sidewalk widenings provided pursuant to the provisions of this Section shall be improved as sidewalks to Department of Transportation standards, shall be at the same level as the adjoining public sidewalks, and shall be accessible to the public at all times. The design provisions set forth in paragraph (f) of Section 37-53 (Design Standards for Pedestrian Circulation Spaces) shall apply, except as modified in this Section. All sidewalk widenings provided in accordance with the provisions of this Section shall constitute pedestrian circulation space, as required pursuant to Section 81-45 (Pedestrian Circulation Space).

(a) Mandatory sidewalk widenings along Madison and Lexington Avenues

#Developments# or, where permitted, #enlargements# on #qualifying sites# with frontage along Madison and Lexington Avenues, shall provide mandatory sidewalk widenings as follows:

(1) where such #zoning lot# occupies the entire #block# frontage, a sidewalk widening shall be provided to the extent necessary so that a minimum sidewalk width of 20 feet is achieved, including portions within and beyond the #zoning lot#. However, no sidewalk widening need exceed 10 feet, as measured perpendicular to the #street line#;

(2) where such #zoning lot# does not occupy the entire #block# frontage, a sidewalk widening shall be provided where all existing #buildings# on the #block# frontage have provided such a widening. Such required widening shall match the amount of widened sidewalk provided on adjacent #zoning lots#, provided that no sidewalk widening need exceed 10 feet, as measured perpendicular to the #street line#.

(b) Permitted sidewalk widenings

Sidewalk widenings may be provided, in accordance with the applicable size and design standards established in Section 37-50 (REQUIREMENTS FOR PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION SPACE), inclusive:

(1) along #narrow streets# in the Grand Central Subarea, as shown on Map 2 (East Midtown Subdistrict and Subareas) in Appendix A of this Chapter, for #developments# or #enlargements# on #zoning lots# with a #lot width# of 100 feet or more, as measured along the #street line# of such #narrow street#; and

(2) where a #street wall#, or portions thereof, is permitted to be located beyond the #street line# pursuant to the applicable provisions of Section 81-671 (Special street wall requirements).

(c) Permitted obstructions

In the Grand Central Subarea, as shown on Map 2, awnings and canopies shall be permitted obstructions within a sidewalk widening provided that no structural posts or supports are located within any portion of the sidewalk or such widening.

81-673 - Mass transit access

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

(a) On #qualifying sites#

Where a #zoning lot# contains an easement volume for pedestrian access to a subway station or rail mass transit facility and such #zoning lot# is proposed to be #developed# or, where permitted, #enlarged# in accordance with the provisions for #qualifying sites#, such existing easement volume shall be preserved, or reconfigured in accordance with standards and terms approved by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), as part of such #development# or #enlargement#. Any reconfiguration shall be constructed by the owner of the #development# or #enlargement#.

For such #developments# or, where permitted, #enlargements#, the owner shall submit a site plan showing a proposed location and size of the transit easement volume that would provide

access between the #street# and the below-grade subway station or rail mass transit facility and be compatible with the proposed #development# or #enlargement# on the #zoning lot# for joint approval and final certification by the MTA and the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission. The MTA and the Chairperson shall comment on such site plan within 45 days of its receipt and may, within such 45-day period or following its expiration, permit the granting of an excavation permit while the location and size of the transit easement volume is being finalized. Upon joint approval of a site plan by the MTA and the Chairperson, copies of such certification shall be forwarded by the Chairperson to the Department of Buildings.

Legal instruments creating a transit easement volume shall be executed and recorded in a form acceptable to the City. The execution and recording of such instruments shall be a precondition to the issuance of any foundation permit, new building permit, or alteration permit by the Department of Buildings allowing such #development# or #enlargement#.

(b) On #qualifying sites# in the Grand Central Transit Improvement Zone Subarea or in the Other Transit Improvement Zone Subarea

For #developments# or, where permitted, #enlargements# involving ground floor level construction on #qualifying sites# in the Grand Central Transit Improvement Zone Subarea, or in the Other Transit Improvement Zone Subarea, as shown on Map 2 (East Midtown Subdistrict and Subareas) in Appendix A of this Chapter, in addition to the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section, as applicable, a transit easement volume may be required on such #zoning lot# for public access between the #street# and a below-grade subway station or rail mass transit facility.

Prior to filing any applications with the Department of Buildings for an excavation permit, foundation permit, new building permit or alteration permit for a #development# or #enlargement#, the owner of the #zoning lot# shall file an application with the MTA and the Chairperson requesting a certification as to whether or not a transit easement volume is

required on the #zoning lot#.

Within 60 days of receipt of such application, the MTA and the Chairperson shall jointly certify whether or not a transit easement volume is required on the #zoning lot#. Failure to certify within the 60-day period will release the owner from any obligation to provide a transit easement volume on such #zoning lot#.

When the MTA and the Chairperson indicate that a transit easement volume is required, the owner shall submit a site plan showing a proposed location and size of the transit easement volume that would provide access between the #street# and the below-grade subway station or rail mass transit facility and be compatible with the proposed #development# or #enlargement# on the #zoning lot# for joint approval and final certification by the MTA and the Chairperson. The MTA and the Chairperson shall comment on such site plan within 45 days of its receipt and may, within such 45-day period or following its expiration, permit the granting of an excavation permit while the location and size of the transit easement volume is being finalized. Upon joint approval of a site plan by the MTA and the Chairperson, copies of such certification shall be forwarded by the Chairperson to the Department of Buildings.

Legal instruments creating a transit easement volume shall be executed and recorded in a form acceptable to the City. The execution and recording of such instruments shall be a precondition to the issuance of any foundation permit, new building permit, or alteration permit by the Department of Buildings allowing such #development# or #enlargement#.

If a transit easement volume is required on the #zoning lot#, pursuant to the provisions of this Section, an off-street subway or rail mass transit access improvement may be constructed and maintained by either the owner of the #development# or #enlargement#, or the MTA, as follows:

(1) where such mass transit access improvement is constructed and maintained by the owner of the #development# or #enlargement#:

(i) such mass transit access shall be improved to the standards set forth in Section 81-48 and shall be approved by the MTA, and shall comply with the following:

(a) where the lobby of the #building# adjoins such mass transit access, in addition to mass transit access to the #street#, such mass transit access shall provide a direct connection to the lobby of the #building# that is open during normal business hours; and

(b) such mass transit access shall provide directional #signs# in accordance with the provisions of Section 81-412 (Directional signs). Such #signs# shall be exempt from the maximum #surface area# of non-#illuminated signs# permitted by Section 32-642 (Non-illuminated signs); and

(ii) no temporary certificate of occupancy shall be granted by the Department of Buildings for the #building# until the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission, acting in consultation with the MTA, has certified that the improvements are substantially complete and usable by the public.

(2) where such mass transit access improvement is constructed and maintained by the MTA:

(i) where construction of the transit easement volume by the MTA is not contemporaneous with the construction of the #development#:

(a) any underground walls constructed along the #front lot line# of a #zoning lot# shall contain a knockout panel, not less than 12 feet wide, below #curb level# down to the bottom of the easement. The actual location and size of such knockout panel shall be determined through consultation with the MTA; and

(b) temporary construction access shall be granted to the MTA on portions of the #zoning lot# outside of the transit easement volume, as necessary, to enable construction within and connection to the transit easement volume; and

(ii) in the event that the MTA has approved of obstructions associated with the #development# or #enlargement# within the transit easement volume, such as building columns or footings, such construction and maintenance shall exclude any such obstructions within the transit easement volume.

(c) In other locations

For portions of the #Special Midtown District# within the #Special Transit Land Use District#, where, as part of a #development# or #enlargement# involving ground floor level construction, a transit easement volume is required by the MTA to accommodate, whether singly or in any combination, light wells, stairs, ramps, escalators, elevators, passageways, or ancillary facilities required to support the functioning of subway station or rail mass transit facilities, including, but not limited to, emergency egress or ventilation structures, the MTA shall, in consultation with the owner of the #zoning lot# and the City Planning Commission, determine the appropriate type of transit easement and reasonable dimensions for such transit easement volume.

The floor space occupied by any transit easement volume required pursuant to this Section shall not count as #floor area#. Where access improvements are constructed by the owner of the #zoning lot#, each square foot of mass transit access may constitute three square feet of pedestrian circulation space required pursuant to Section 81-45 (Pedestrian Circulation Space), not to exceed 3,000 square feet.

81-674 - Ground floor use provisions

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

(a) Within the Vanderbilt Corridor Subarea

For #buildings# #developed# or #enlarged# on the ground floor on #zoning lots# located within the Vanderbilt Corridor Subarea, as shown on Map 2 (East Midtown Subdistrict and Subareas) in Appendix A of this Chapter, where a #building# fronts upon a designated retail #street#, as shown on Map 3 (Retail and Street Wall Continuity), any portion of such #building's# ground floor level frontage along such designated retail #street# allocated to above- or below-grade public realm improvements provided in accordance with a special permit pursuant to Section 81-632 (Special permit for transfer of development rights from landmarks to the Vanderbilt Corridor Subarea) or Section 81-633 (Special permit for Grand Central public realm improvements) shall be excluded from the retail continuity requirements of Section 81-42 (Retail Continuity Along Designated Streets).

(b) Within the Grand Central Core Area

For #buildings# #developed# or #enlarged# on the ground floor after August 26, 1992, in the Grand Central Core Area, as shown on Map 2, #building# lobby entrances shall be required

on each #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# where such #street# frontage is greater than 75 feet in length, except that if a #zoning lot# has frontage on more than two #streets#, #building# entrances shall be required only on two #street# frontages. Each required #building# entrance shall lead directly to the #building# lobby. #Buildings# #developed# from May 13, 1982, to August 25, 1992, shall be subject to the provisions of Section 81-47 (Major Building Entrances).

Required #building# entrances on opposite #street# frontages shall be connected directly to the #building# lobby by providing a through #block# connection in accordance with paragraph (h) of Section 37-53 (Design Standards for Pedestrian Circulation Spaces), except that such through #block# connection shall be located at least 50 feet from the nearest north/south #wide street#.

Each required #building# entrance shall include a #building# entrance recess area, as defined in paragraph (b) of Section 37-53, except that for #developments# or #enlargements# with frontage on Madison Avenue, Lexington Avenue or 42nd Street, the width of a #building# entrance recess area shall not be greater than 40 feet parallel to the #street line# and there may be only one #building# entrance recess area on each such #street# frontage.

81-675 - Curb cut restrictions and loading berth requirements

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

For #developments# or #enlargements# within the Grand Central Core Area, as shown on Map 2 (East Midtown Subdistrict and Subareas) in Appendix A of this Chapter, in addition to the provisions of Sections 81-30 (OFF-STREET PARKING AND OFF-STREET LOADING REGULATIONS), inclusive, and 81-44 (Curb Cut Restrictions), the following

shall apply:

(a) Loading berth provisions

For #through lots#, the required loading berth shall be arranged so as to permit head-in and head-out truck movements to and from the #zoning lot#.

However, the Commissioner of Buildings may waive such head-in and head-out requirements, provided that:

(1) the #zoning lot# has frontage along a #street# where curb cuts accessing a loading berth are permitted, but there is no access to such #zoning lot# from the #street# due to the presence of:

(i) a #building# existing on August 9, 2017, containing #residences#;

(ii) a #non-residential building# existing on August 9, 2017, that is three or more #stories# in height; or

(iii) a #building# designated as a landmark or considered a contributing #building# in an Historic District designated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission; or

(2) there are subsurface conditions, ventilation requirements from below-grade infrastructure or other site planning constraints that would make accommodating such loading berths infeasible.

(b) Curb cut provisions

The maximum width of any curb cut (including splays) shall be 15 feet for one-way traffic and 25 feet for two-way traffic. Curb cuts shall not be permitted on 47th Street between Park and Madison Avenues or on 45th Street between Depew Place and Madison Avenue.

81-676 - Pedestrian circulation space requirements

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

Any #development# or #enlargement# within the Grand Central Core Area, as shown on Map 2 (East Midtown Subdistrict and Subareas) in Appendix A of this Chapter, shall be subject to the provisions of Sections 81-45 (Pedestrian Circulation Space), 81-46 (Off-street Relocation or Renovation of a Subway Stair) and 81-48 (Off-street Improvement of Access to Rail Mass Transit Facility), except that:

(a) no arcade shall be allowed;

(b) a sidewalk widening may be provided only for a #building# occupying an Avenue frontage, provided that such sidewalk widening extends for the length of the full #block# front; and

(c) for #developments# or #enlargements# on #zoning lots# located within the Vanderbilt Corridor Subarea, as shown on Map 2, up to a maximum of 3,000 square feet of on-site improvements to the public realm provided in accordance with a special permit pursuant to Section 81-632 (Special permit for transfer of developments rights from landmarks to the Vanderbilt Corridor Subarea) or Section 81-633 (Special permit for Grand Central public realm improvements) may be applied toward the pedestrian circulation space requirement.