



Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Sideya Sherman, Chair

102-00 - GENERAL PURPOSES

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 6/10/2026

102-00 - GENERAL PURPOSES

LAST AMENDED

10/24/1974

The "Special Scenic View District" (hereinafter also referred to as the "Special District"), established in this Resolution, is designed to promote and protect public health, safety, and general welfare.

These general goals include, among others, the following specific purposes:

- (a) to preserve, protect and prevent obstruction of outstanding scenic views as seen from a mapped public park or an esplanade or a mapped public place directly accessible to the public; and
- (b) to promote the most desirable use of land and direction of building development, to assure the maintenance and enhancement of the aesthetic aspects of scenic views, to conserve the value of land and buildings and to protect the City's tax revenues.

102-01 - Definitions

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

Definitions specially applicable to this Chapter are set forth in this Section. The definitions of other defined terms are as set forth in Section [12-10](#) (DEFINITIONS).

Scenic view

A "scenic view" is an outstanding or unique view from a mapped #public park# or an esplanade or a mapped public place which is protected by the regulations of this Chapter. #Scenic views# shall be limited to:

- (a) distant landscapes of scenic grandeur which contain natural features such as hills, palisades or similar features;
- (b) outstanding views of large bodies of water such as rivers, streams, lakes, harbors, waterfalls or similar aquatic features; or
- (c) panoramic views of the waterfront profile of the skyline formed by built and natural elements.

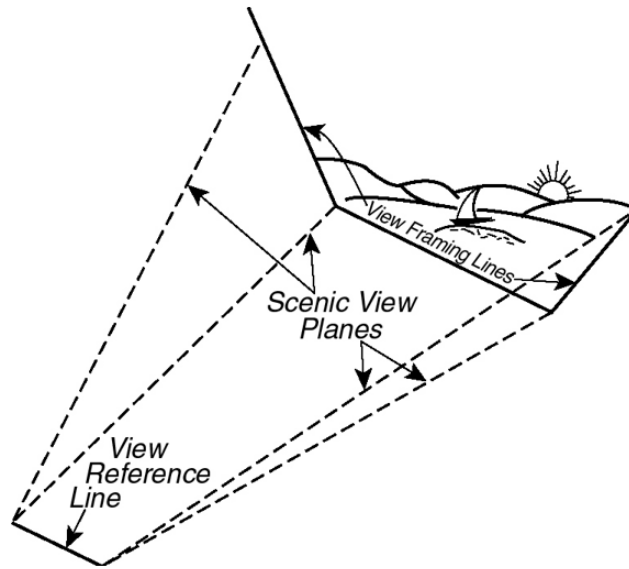
The minimum horizontal distance between the #scenic view# and a #view reference line# shall be at least 1,500 feet and shall not contain distractions which reduce the quality of such view. The specific view to be preserved under the regulation of this #Special Scenic View District# shall be described and made part of this Chapter.

View framing line

The "view framing line" is a line or lines which establish the outer edge of the #scenic view# to be protected. For each #scenic view#, the #view framing line# or #lines# and their elevation are to be located and identified and made part of this Chapter.

View plane

A "view plane" is an imaginary plane above which no obstruction shall be permitted within a #Special Scenic View District# unless authorized by the City Planning Commission. Position of the #view plane# may be conical surfaces. Such #view plane# or #planes# are established by joining the #view reference line# with the #view framing lines# as illustrated below:



#View planes# and their elevation, length and slopes applicable to each #Special Scenic View District# are to be located and identified and made part of this Chapter.

View reference line

The "view reference line" is a line within a mapped #public park# or an esplanade or a mapped public place from which at any point an outstanding #scenic view# may be observed. A #view reference line# and its elevation applicable to each #Special Scenic View District# are to be located and identified and made part of this Chapter.

The mapped #public park# or an esplanade or a mapped public place in which such #view reference line# is located shall be directly accessible from a #street#.

102-02 - General Provisions

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

In harmony with the general purpose and intent of this Resolution and the general purposes of the #Special Scenic View District#, the regulations of the districts upon which this Special District is superimposed are supplemented or modified in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. Except as so modified, all the applicable regulations of the underlying districts shall be in effect.

#Special Scenic View Districts# may be mapped only in areas where the control of the height of a #building or other structure#, including #signs#, is necessary to preserve outstanding #scenic views# from a mapped #public park# or an esplanade or a mapped public place.

102-021 - Requirement for application

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

An application to the City Planning Commission for a special permit pursuant to Section [102-30](#), shall include maps, plans or other documents showing topography, elevations, and site plans showing arrangement and spacing of #buildings or other structures#, and other information necessary to determine the impact of the proposal on the #scenic view# to be protected.

102-023 - Relationship to public improvement projects

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

In all cases, the City Planning Commission shall deny a special permit application whenever the proposal will interfere with a public improvement project (including highways, public #buildings# and facilities), redevelopment or renewal projects, or rights-of-way for sewers, transit, or other public

facilities) which is approved by or pending before the Board of Estimate, the City Planning Commission, or the Site Selection Board as determined from the calendar of each such agency issued prior to the date of the public hearing on the application for a special permit.