Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Sideya Sherman, Chair

32-60 - SIGN REGULATIONS

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32-60 - SIGN REGULATIONS

LAST AMENDED
12/15/1961

32-61 - Definitions

LAST AMENDED
11/19/1987

Words in italics are defined in Section 12-10 or, if applicable exclusively to this Chapter, in this Section.

32-62 - Permitted Signs

LAST AMENDED
2/2/2011

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8

In all districts, as indicated, #signs# other than #advertising signs# are permitted subject to the provisions of the following Sections:

Section 32-64 (Surface Area and Illumination Provisions)

Section 32-65 (Permitted Projection or Height of Signs)

Section 32-66 (Additional Regulations for Signs Near Certain Parks and Designated Arterial Highways)

Section 32-67 (Special Provisions Applying along District Boundaries)

Section 32-68 (Permitted Signs on Residential or Mixed Buildings)

Section 32-69 (Additional Sign Regulations for Adult Establishments)

However, notwithstanding any provision of this Section, flags, banners or pennants other than those that are #advertising signs#, located on any #zoning lot# used primarily for #community facility# #uses# of a civic, philanthropic, educational or religious nature, are permitted in all districts, as indicated, without limitation.

32-63 - Permitted Advertising Signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

C6-5 C6-7 C8

In the districts indicated, #advertising signs# are permitted subject to the applicable provisions of the following Sections:

Section 32-64 (Surface Area and Illumination Provisions)

Section 32-65 (Permitted Projection or Height of Signs)

Section 32-66 (Additional Regulations for Signs Near Certain Parks and Designated Arterial Highways)

Section 32-67 (Special Provisions Applying along District Boundaries)

Section 32-68 (Permitted Signs on Residential or Mixed Buildings).

32-64 - Surface Area and Illumination Provisions

LAST AMENDED
2/27/2001

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8

In all districts, as indicated, all permitted #signs# shall be subject to the restrictions on #surface area# and illumination as set forth in this Section, provided that the following #signs# shall be exempted from such restrictions on #surface area#:

> #Illuminated# non-#flashing signs# other than #advertising signs# located in a window within a #building#, with a total #surface area# not exceeding eight square feet on any #zoning lot# and limited to not more than three such #signs# in any window.

For the purpose of determining permitted #surface area# of #signs# for #zoning lots# occupied by more than one establishment, any portion of such #zoning lot# occupied by a #building# or part of a #building# accommodating one or more establishments on the ground floor may be considered as a separate #zoning lot#.

No #illuminated sign# shall have a degree or method of illumination which exceeds standards established by the Department of Buildings by rule pursuant to the City Administrative Procedure Act. Such standards shall ensure that illumination on any #illuminated sign# does not project or reflect on #residences#, #loft dwellings# or #joint living-work quarters for artists# so as to interfere

with the reasonable use and enjoyment thereof. Nothing herein shall be construed to authorize a #sign with indirect illumination# to arrange an external artificial source of illumination so that direct rays of light are projected from such artificial source into #residences#, #loft dwellings# or #joint living-work quarters for artists#.

32-641 - Total surface area of signs

LAST AMENDED
12/15/1961

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8

In all districts, as indicated, the total #surface area# of all permitted #signs#, including non-#illuminated# or #illuminated signs#, shall not exceed the limitation established for non-#illuminated signs#, as set forth in Section 32-642.

32-642 - Non-illuminated signs

LAST AMENDED
12/5/2024

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8

In all districts, as indicated, non-#illuminated signs# with total #surface areas# not exceeding those shown in the following table are permitted:

District	Maximum Surface Area

C3	50 square feet
C1 C2	Three times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# (in feet), but in no event more than 150 sq. ft. for #interior# or #through lots# or 150 sq. ft. on each frontage for #corner lots#.
C5-1 C5-2 C5-3 C5-5	Three times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# (in feet), but in no event more than 200 sq. ft. for #interior# or #through lots# or 200 sq. ft. on each frontage for #corner lots#.
C4 C5-4 C6-1 C6-2 C6-3 C6-4 C6-6 C6-8 C6-9 C6-11 C6-12 C7	Five times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# (in feet), but in no event more than 500 sq. ft. for #interior# or #through lots# or 500 sq. ft. on each frontage for #corner lots#.
C8	Six times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# (in feet), but in no event more than 750 sq. ft. for each #sign#.
C6-5 C6-7	No restrictions as to size

32-643 - Illuminated non-flashing signs

LAST AMENDED
12/15/1961

C1 C2

In the districts indicated, #illuminated# non-#flashing signs# are permitted with a total #surface area# (in square feet) not exceeding three times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# in feet, but in no event shall the total #surface area# exceed 50 square feet for #interior# or #through lots# or 50 square feet on each frontage for #corner lots#.

32-644 - Illuminated or flashing signs in C4, C5-4, C6 or C7 Districts

LAST AMENDED
12/5/2024

C4 C5-4 C6 C7

In the districts indicated, #illuminated# or #flashing signs# with total #surface areas# not exceeding those shown in the following table are permitted:

District	Maximum Surface Area (in square feet)

C4 C5-4	Five times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# (in feet), but in no event more than 500 square feet for #interior# or #through lots# or 500 square feet on each frontage for #corner lots#.
C6-1 C6-2 C6-3 C6-4	
C6-6 C6-8 C6-9 C6-11 C6-12 C7	
C6-5 C6-7	No restrictions as to size

However, in a C6-1A District, #flashing signs# are not permitted.

32-645 - Illuminated or flashing signs in C8 Districts

LAST AMENDED
4/8/1998

C8

In the district indicated, #illuminated# or #flashing signs#, other than #advertising signs#, and #advertising signs# with indirect illumination, are permitted, provided that the total #surface area# of all such #signs# (in square feet) shall not exceed five times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# (in feet) and that the #surface area# of each #sign# shall not exceed 500 square feet.

32-65 - Permitted Projection or Height of Signs

LAST AMENDED
12/15/1961

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8

In all districts, as indicated, all permitted #signs# are subject to the applicable regulations of this Section.

32-651 - Permitted projection in C6-5 or C6-7 Districts

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

C6-5 C6-7

In the districts indicated, except as otherwise provided in Section 32-653 (Additional regulations for projecting signs), no permitted #sign# shall project across a #street line# more than eight feet.

32-652 - Permitted projection in all other Commercial Districts

LAST AMENDED
12/5/2024

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6-1 C6-2 C6-3 C6-4 C6-6 C6-8 C6-9 C6-11 C6-12 C7 C8

In the districts indicated, except as otherwise provided in Section 32-653 (Additional regulations for projecting signs), no permitted #sign# shall project across a #street line# more than 18 inches for double- or multi-faceted #signs# or 12 inches for all other #signs#.

32-653 - Additional regulations for projecting signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8

In all districts, as indicated, permitted #signs# other than #advertising signs# may be displayed as follows:

(a) Non-#illuminated signs# may be displayed on awnings or canopies permitted by the Administrative Code, with a #surface area# not exceeding 12 square feet and with the height of letters not exceeding 12 inches. Any commercial copy on such #signs# shall be limited to identification of the name or address of the #building# or an establishment contained therein.

(b) #Signs# may be displayed on marquees permitted by the Administrative Code, provided that no such #sign# in a district other than a C6-5 or C6-7 District shall project more than 48 inches above nor more than 12 inches below such marquee.

32-654 - Height of signs in C8 Districts

LAST AMENDED
12/15/1961

C8

In the district indicated, permitted #signs# shall not extend to a height greater than 40 feet above #curb level#, provided that non-#illuminated signs# or #signs with indirect illumination# may extend to a maximum height of 58 feet.

32-655 - Height of signs in all other Commercial Districts

LAST AMENDED
12/5/2024

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7

In the districts indicated, no permitted #sign# shall extend above #curb level# at a height greater than the following:

Districts	Maximum Height (in feet)
C1 C2 C3 C5-1 C5-2 C5-3 C5-5	25
C4 C5-4 C6-1 C6-2 C6-3 C6-4 C6-6 C6-8 C6-9 C6-11 C6-12 C7	40
C6-5 C6-7	No restriction as to height

32-656 - Height of signs above roof

LAST AMENDED
12/5/2024

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6-1 C6-2 C6-3 C6-4 C6-6 C6-8 C6-9 C6-11 C6-12 C7

In the districts indicated, no #sign# displayed from the wall of a #building or other structure# shall extend above the parapet wall or roof of such #building or other structure#, except that a vertical #sign#, the horizontal width of which, parallel to the wall, does not exceed 28 inches, may extend no higher than 15 feet above the roof level.

32-657 - Roof signs

LAST AMENDED
12/5/2024

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6-1 C6-2 C6-3 C6-4 C6-6 C6-8 C6-9 C6-11 C6-12 C7

In the districts indicated, no #signs# shall be permitted on the roof of any #building#.

32-66 - Additional Regulations for Signs Near Certain Parks and Designated Arterial Highways

LAST AMENDED
2/27/2001

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8

In all districts, as indicated, all permitted #signs# are subject to the applicable regulations of this Section.

For the purposes of this Section, arterial highways shall include all highways that are shown on the Master Plan of Arterial Highways and Major Streets as "principal routes," "parkways" or "toll crossings," and that have been designated by the City Planning Commission as arterial highways to which the provisions of this Section shall apply.

32-661 - Additional regulations for signs other than advertising signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

C6-5 C6-7 C8

In the districts indicated, and within 200 feet of an arterial highway or a #public park# with an area of one-half acre or more, no permitted #sign# that is within view of such arterial highway or #public park# shall exceed 500 square feet of #surface area#.

Beyond 200 feet from such arterial highway or #public park#, the surface area of such #signs# may be increased one square foot for each linear foot such #sign# is located from the arterial highway or #public park#.

Upon application, these requirements shall be waived, provided that the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies that:

(a) such waiver is limited to a single, non-#flashing sign# that is located on a #zoning lot# not less than one and one-half acres; and

(b) all other permitted #signs# located on such #zoning lot# that are subject to the provisions of this Section conform with all the #sign# regulations applicable in C1 Districts.

32-662 - Additional regulations for advertising signs

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

C6-5 C6-7 C8

In all districts, as indicated, no #advertising sign# shall be located, nor shall an existing #advertising sign# be structurally altered, relocated or reconstructed within 200 feet of an arterial highway or of a #public park# with an area of one half acre or more, if such #advertising sign# is within view of such arterial highway or #public park#. For the purposes of this Section, arterial highways shall include all highways which are shown on the Master Plan of Arterial Highways and Major Streets, as "principal routes," "parkways" or "toll crossings," and that have been designated by the City Planning Commission as arterial highways to which the provisions of this Section shall apply. Beyond 200 feet from such arterial highway or #public park#, an #advertising sign# shall be located at a distance of at least as many linear feet therefrom as there are square feet of #surface area# on the face of such #sign#. However, in all districts as indicated, the more restrictive of the following shall apply:

(1) Any #advertising sign# erected, structurally altered, relocated or reconstructed prior to June 1, 1968, within 660 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of an arterial highway, whose message is visible from such arterial highway, shall have legal #non-conforming use# status pursuant to Section 52-83, to the extent of its size existing on May 31, 1968.

(2) Any #advertising sign# erected, structurally altered, relocated or reconstructed between June 1, 1968 and November 1, 1979, within 660 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of an arterial highway, whose message is visible from such arterial highway, and whose size does not exceed 1,200 square feet in #surface area# on its face, 30 feet in height, and 60 feet in length, shall have legal #non-conforming use# status pursuant to Section 52-83, to the extent of its size existing on November 1, 1979. All #advertising signs# not in conformance with the standards set forth herein shall terminate.

32-663 - Advertising signs on waterways

LAST AMENDED
2/27/2001

No moving or stationary #advertising sign# shall be displayed on a vessel plying waterways adjacent to #Commercial Districts# and within view from an arterial highway. For the purposes of this Section, arterial highways shall include all highways that are shown on the Master Plan of Arterial Highways and Major Streets as "principal routes," "parkways" or "toll crossings" and that have been designated by the City Planning Commission as arterial highways to which the provisions of this Section shall apply.

For the purposes of this Section, #advertising sign# is a #sign# that directs attention to a profession, business, commodity, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered elsewhere than upon the premises of the vessel and is not #accessory# to a #use# on such vessel.

32-67 - Special Provisions for Certain Areas

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

32-671 - Special provisions applying along district boundaries

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7 C8

In the districts indicated, and within 100 feet of the #street line# of any #street# or portion thereof in which the boundary of an adjoining #Residence District# is located, or which adjoins a #public park# of one-half acre or more, no #advertising sign# that faces at an angle of less than 165 degrees away from such #Residence District# or park boundary shall be permitted and all other #signs# facing at less than such an angle shall conform with all the #sign# regulations applicable in C1 Districts as set forth in Sections 32-62 through 32-68, inclusive, relating to Sign Regulations.

32-672 - Special provisions for high density areas

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

In addition to the applicable district regulations in C1 or C2 Districts mapped within, or with a #residential equivalent# of, R9 through R12 Districts, and C4-6, C4-9, C4-11 and C4-12 Districts, all #signs#, other than #advertising signs# and window #signs#, shall be located in a horizontal band not higher than three feet, the base of which is located not higher than 17 feet above #curb level#. Where there is a grade change of at least 1.5 feet in 100 along the portion of the #street# upon which the #development# fronts, such signage band may be staggered along such #street#.

When a #building# on a #contiguous lot# or #contiguous block# contains #accessory# business #signs# within a coordinated horizontal band along its #street# frontage, the signage strip along the #development# shall be located at the same elevation as the adjacent band, but in no event higher than 17 feet above #curb level#. Where coordinated horizontal bands exist on two #contiguous lots# or #contiguous blocks# on both sides of the #development#, the signage strip shall be located at the same elevation as one adjacent band, or between the elevations of the two. For the purpose of this Section, the elevation is measured from the #curb level# to the base of the signage strip.

32-68 - Permitted Signs on Residential or Mixed Buildings

LAST AMENDED
6/6/2024

C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6

In the districts indicated, any #use# listed in Use Group II shall conform to the #sign# regulations for #Residence Districts# set forth in Sections 22-52 through 22-54. In #residential# or #mixed buildings#, #residential sign# regulations shall apply to the #residential# portion.

Where non-#residential# #uses# are permitted to occupy two floors of the #building#, all #signs# #accessory# to non-#residential# #uses# located on the second floor shall be non-#illuminated signs#, and shall be located below the level of the finished floor of the third #story#.

32-69 - Additional Sign Regulations for Adult Establishments

LAST AMENDED
4/8/1998

C6-4 C6-5 C6-6 C6-7 C6-8 C6-9 C7 C8

#Signs#, other than #advertising signs#, for #adult establishments# are permitted only as set forth in this Section and are limited to locations in the districts indicated.

All permitted #signs#, other than #advertising signs#, for #adult establishments# shall conform with all the #sign# regulations applicable in C1 Districts as set forth in this Chapter, except that the provisions of Section 32-64 (Surface Area and Illumination Provisions) shall not apply. In lieu thereof, the maximum #surface area# of all #signs#, other than #advertising signs#, for #adult establishments#

shall not exceed, in the aggregate, three times the #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#, but in no event more than 150 square feet per establishment, of which no more than 50 square feet may be #illuminated# non-#flashing signs#.