



Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Eric Adams, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Daniel R. Garodnick, Chair

81-66 - Special Height and Setback Requirements

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 8/1/2025

81-66 - Special Height and Setback Requirements

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

For #buildings# which are #developed# or #enlarged# within the East Midtown Subdistrict, the applicable height and setback regulations of Sections [81-26](#) (Height and Setback Regulations – Daylight Compensation), inclusive, and [81-27](#) (Alternate Height and Setback Regulations – Daylight Evaluation), inclusive, are modified by the provisions of this Section, inclusive.

81-661 - Height and setback modifications for buildings in the Grand Central Core Area

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

For #buildings# on #non-qualifying sites# within the Grand Central Core Area, as shown on Map 2 (East Midtown Subdistrict and Subareas) in Appendix A of this Chapter, the provisions of Sections [81-26](#) (Height and Setback Regulations – Daylight Compensation), inclusive, or [81-27](#) (Alternate Height and Setback Regulations – Daylight Evaluation), inclusive, are modified as follows:

- (a) where such #buildings# are governed by Section [81-26](#), no #compensating recess# shall be required for the #encroachment# of that portion of the #building# below a height of 150 feet, as measured from #curb level#; or
- (b) where such #buildings# are governed by Section [81-27](#), the computation of daylight evaluation shall not include any daylight blockage, daylight credit, profile daylight blockage or available daylight for that portion of the #building# below 150 feet above #curb level#. However, the passing score required pursuant to paragraph (i) of Section [81-274](#) shall apply.

81-662 - Daylight compensation modifications for qualifying sites

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

For #buildings# on #qualifying sites# in the East Midtown Subdistrict using the daylight compensation method of height and setback regulations, the provisions of Section [81-26](#) (Height and Setback Regulations – Daylight Compensation) are modified as follows:

- (a) for the purposes of determining permitted #encroachments# and #compensating recesses# pursuant to Section [81-264](#) (Encroachments and compensating recesses):
 - (1) no #compensating recess# shall be required for the #encroachment# of that portion of the #building# below a height of 150 feet, as measured from #curb level#;
 - (2) #compensating recesses# provided for #encroachments#, or portions thereof, above a height of 400 feet, as measured from #curb level#, need not comply with the provisions of paragraph (c)(1) of Section [81-264](#). In lieu thereof, for any portion of the #building# located above a height of 400 feet, the amount of #compensating recess# required for any particular level of the #building# shall be equal to the amount of #encroachment# provided at such level. The remaining provisions of paragraph (c) of Section [81-264](#) shall continue to apply to such #compensating recess#; and
 - (3) for #buildings# on #qualifying sites# with frontage along the easterly side of Vanderbilt Avenue, the full width of Vanderbilt Avenue may be considered part of the #zoning lot# for the purposes of determining permitted

#encroachments# and #compensating recesses#. Such modified #zoning lot# shall be constructed by shifting the westerly boundary of the #zoning lot# to the westerly #street line# of Vanderbilt Avenue, and by prolonging the #street lines# of #narrow streets# to such new westerly boundary. The Vanderbilt Avenue portion of such modified #zoning lot# may be considered a #compensating recess# for encroachments along such #building's# #narrow street# #street frontage zone#, provided that any portion of the #building# fronting along Vanderbilt Avenue above a height of 100 feet, as measured from #curb level#, is set back a minimum 15 feet from the Vanderbilt Avenue #street line#, and further provided that the #street frontage zone# calculation along Park Avenue shall not include Vanderbilt Avenue;

- (b) for the purposes of determining the permitted length of #encroachments# pursuant to Section [81-265](#) (Encroachment limitations by length and height rules) the minimum length of recess required by Formula 2 in paragraph (c) of Section [81-265](#) shall be modified to 20 percent of the length of the #front lot line#; and
- (c) for #buildings# on #qualifying sites# with frontage along Park Avenue, as an alternative to the setback requirements of Table A, B or C in paragraph (b) of Section [81-263](#) (Standard setback requirements), the Park Avenue wall of such #building# shall be set back behind the applicable #setback line# to the depth of the #setback line# required at that particular height, in accordance with the applicable requirements of the table in this Section.

SETBACK REQUIREMENTS ON STREETS AT LEAST 140 FEET WIDE

Depth of #Setback Line# from #Street Line# at Stated Heights above #Curb Level#.

Height (ft)	Depth of #Setback Line# (ft)
210	0.00
220	1.00
230	2.50
240	4.25
250	5.50
260	7.0
270	8.75
280	10.00
290	11.25

300	12.75
310	14.25
320	15.25
330	16.25
340	17.50
350	18.75
360	19.75
370	21.00
380	21.75
390	23.00
400	23.75
410	25.00
420	25.75
430	26.75
440	27.50
450	28.50
460	29.25
470	29.75
480	30.50

490	31.50
500	32.00
510	33.00
520	33.50
530	34.50
540	35.00
550	35.50
560	36.00
570	37.00
580	37.50
590	38.00
600	38.50
610	39.00
620	39.75
630	40.25
640	41.00
650	41.50
660	41.75
670	42.25

680	43.00
690	43.50
700	43.75
710	44.25
Above 710	For every 10 feet of height above 710 feet, the depth shall increase by one foot

81-663 - Daylight evaluation modifications for qualifying sites

LAST AMENDED
8/9/2017

For #buildings# on #qualifying sites# in the East Midtown Subdistrict using the daylight evaluation method of height and setback regulations, the provisions of Section [81-27](#) (Alternate Height and Setback Regulations – Daylight Evaluation) are modified as follows:

- (a) for the purposes of calculating the daylight evaluation score pursuant to Section [81-274](#) (Rules for determining the daylight evaluation score):
 - (1) the computation of daylight evaluation shall not include any daylight blockage for that portion of the #building# above the curved line representing 70 degrees in the applicable #Daylight Evaluation Charts#, and below a height of 150 feet, as measured from #curb level#. However, such computation shall include the daylight blockage created by extending the lines representing the outermost edges of the portion of the #building# immediately above a height of 150 feet downwards to such 70 degree line;
 - (2) the computation of unblocked daylight squares which are below the curved line representing an elevation of 70 degrees, pursuant to paragraph (c) of Section [81-274](#), may apply along designated #streets# where #street wall# continuity is required;
 - (3) the profile penalty for #profile encroachment#, set forth in paragraph (a) of Section [81-274](#), shall not apply; and
 - (4) the provisions of paragraph (i) of Section [81-274](#) shall be modified to require an overall passing score of 66 percent. Notwithstanding such modifications, no single #street# frontage shall have a street score of less than 66 percent;
- (b) the reflectivity provisions of Section [81-276](#) may be utilized to raise both an individual score and the overall score by up to six percentage points;
- (c) for #buildings# on #qualifying sites# with frontage along the easterly #street line# of Vanderbilt Avenue, the full width of Vanderbilt Avenue may be considered part of the #zoning lot# for the purposes of constructing the #daylight evaluation chart# pursuant to Section [81-272](#) (Features of the Daylight Evaluation Chart). Such modified #zoning lot# shall be constructed by shifting the westerly boundary of the #zoning lot# to the westerly #street line# of Vanderbilt Avenue, and by prolonging the # street lines# of #narrow streets# to such new westerly boundary. Such modified

#zoning lot# may be utilized to create a modified pedestrian view along Vanderbilt Avenue and intersecting #narrow streets# provided that:

- (1) any portion of the #building# fronting along Vanderbilt Avenue above a height of 100 feet, as measured from #curb level#, is set back a minimum of 15 feet from the Vanderbilt Avenue #street line#;
 - (2) #vantage points# along Vanderbilt Avenue are taken 30 feet west of the westerly #street line# instead of the #center line of the street#; and
 - (3) #vantage points# along #narrow streets# are taken from the corner of the modified #zoning lot#; and
- (d) for #buildings# with frontage along Park Avenue:
- (1) for the purposes of establishing #vantage points# along Park Avenue to construct a #daylight evaluation chart# pursuant to the provisions of Section [81-272](#), the definition of #center line of the street#, as set forth in Section [81-271](#) (Definitions), shall be modified along Park Avenue to be a line 70 feet from, and parallel to, the Park Avenue #street line# of the #zoning lot#; and
 - (2) for the purpose of plotting #buildings# on the #daylight evaluation chart# pursuant to Section [81-273](#) (Rules for plotting buildings on the daylight evaluation chart), Chart 4 (Daylight Evaluation Diagram – Park Avenue) in Appendix B of this Chapter shall be utilized in lieu of the chart for #streets# 100 feet or more in width.