



## Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Eric Adams, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Daniel R. Garodnick, Chair

# **81-74 - Special Incentives and Controls in the Theater Subdistrict**

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## 81-74 - Special Incentives and Controls in the Theater Subdistrict

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LAST AMENDED  
5/13/1982

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### 81-741 - General provisions

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LAST AMENDED  
12/5/2024

#### (a) Certifications

- (1) The transfer of development rights from any “granting site” in accordance with the provisions of Section [81-744](#) (Transfer of development rights from listed theaters) shall be permitted upon certification by the City Planning Commission.
- (2) In the Theater Subdistrict, modifications of the provisions of Article VII, Chapter 7 (Special Provisions for Zoning Lots Divided by District Boundaries), in accordance with the provisions of Section [81-746](#) (Additional provisions for zoning lots divided by district or subdistrict core boundaries), shall be permitted upon certification of the Chairperson of the Commission.

#### (b) Authorizations by the City Planning Commission

The transfer of development rights from any “granting site” in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of Section [81-744](#) shall be permitted by authorization by the Commission.

#### (c) Special permit by the City Planning Commission

In the Theater Subdistrict, the Commission may allow, by special permit:

- (1) demolition of a theater where permissible under the provisions of Section [81-742](#) (Listed theaters);
- (2) a #floor area# bonus for rehabilitation of an existing theater in accordance with the provisions of Section [81-745](#) (Floor area bonus for rehabilitation of existing listed theaters); and
- (3) transfer of development rights from a #zoning lot# occupied by a designated landmark in accordance with the provisions of Section [81-747](#) (Transfer of development rights from landmarks).

#### (d) Required assurances

All special permits, authorizations or certifications involving preservation of existing theaters shall be subject to the provisions of Section [81-743](#) (Required assurances for continuance of legitimate theater use).

#### (e) Limits on total additional #floor area#

Except as otherwise provided in Section [81-212](#) (Special provisions for transfer of development rights from landmark sites), the total additional #floor area# permitted on the #zoning lot# by such special permit, authorization or certification, together with all bonus #floor area# or #floor area# derived from transferred development rights under other provisions of this Chapter, shall in no event exceed the maximum amount permitted by certification, authorization or special permit as set forth in Section [81-211](#) (Maximum floor area ratio for non-residential or mixed buildings).

(f) Limitations on non-theater-related bonuses in C6-4, C6-5 or M1-6 Districts

For #zoning lots# or portions thereof in C6-4, C6-5 or M1-6 Districts, the total amount of #floor area# derived from non-theater-related bonuses or other special #floor area# allowances, pursuant to provisions of this Chapter other than those in Sections [81-744](#), [81-745](#), [81-746](#) or [81-747](#), shall not exceed a #floor area ratio# of 2.0.

(g) Theater-related bonus #floor area# for #residences# in C6-4 and C6-5 Districts

For #zoning lots# or portions thereof in C6-4 or C6-5 Districts, some or all of the bonus #floor area# or other special #floor area# allowances permitted pursuant to the provisions of Sections [81-744](#), [81-745](#), [81-746](#) or [81-747](#), relating to the preservation or rehabilitation of existing theaters, may be allocated to a #residential building# or the #residential# portion of a #mixed building#, provided that the total #residential# #floor area ratio# with such #floor area# allowances shall not exceed 12.0.

(h) Theater Subdistrict Fund

In furtherance of the purposes of this Section, the Theater Subdistrict Council shall establish a separate interest-bearing account (the "Theater Subdistrict Fund" or "Fund") for the deposit and administration of the revenues received by the Theater Subdistrict Council generated by the transfer of development rights pursuant to Section [81-744](#). Upon receipt of any revenue generated pursuant to such Section, the Theater Subdistrict Council shall notify the Comptroller, the Speaker and the Department of City Planning, and promptly deposit such revenues into the Theater Subdistrict Fund and shall expend such revenues and any interest accumulated thereon in the following manner:

- (1) a portion of any such revenues shall be reserved, sufficient in the judgment of the Theater Subdistrict Council but in no event less than 20 percent of such revenues, to undertake the ongoing periodic inspection and maintenance report requirements pursuant to paragraph (c) of Section [81-743](#). The Theater Subdistrict Council may petition the City Planning Commission for a reduction in the percentage of such reserve and the Commission may grant such reduction if, in its judgement, a lesser percentage will be sufficient to carry out the purposes of this paragraph; and
- (2) the remainder of such revenue shall be used for activities chosen by the Theater Subdistrict Council furthering the objectives and purposes of this Section, which activities may include judicial or administrative proceedings instituted by the Theater Subdistrict Council against any property owner or lessee to enforce the obligations of such owner or lessee pursuant to any restrictive declaration entered into in connection with a transfer of development rights pursuant to Section [81-744](#). Notwithstanding the foregoing, funds shall not be used for the physical repair and preservation of theaters.

The Theater Subdistrict Council shall provide an annual report to the Department of City Planning, the Comptroller, the Speaker and the City Planning Commission indicating the amounts and dates of any deposits to the Theater Subdistrict Fund in the immediately preceding calendar year, the balance of the Theater Subdistrict Fund at the close of the calendar year, the amounts expended on activities within the Theater Subdistrict and the nature of those activities. The Theater Subdistrict Council shall maintain complete, accurate and detailed records, with supporting documentation, in respect to all deposits to and withdrawals from the Theater Subdistrict Fund, and shall make such

records available to the City of New York, the Department of City Planning, the Comptroller, the Speaker and the City Planning Commission upon reasonable notice and during business hours for inspection and copying.

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## 81-742 - Listed theaters

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LAST AMENDED

6/6/2024

(a) Designation of listed theaters

“Listed theaters” are theaters to which special provisions of this and other Sections as set forth in [81-741](#) (General provisions) apply, and are predominantly free-standing theaters with full stage and wings. The theaters as identified on August 6, 1998, in the table in this Section, are designated as “listed theaters.”

### LISTED THEATERS

Theater Name	Address	Block Number	Lot Number
Ambassador	215 West 49th St.	1021	15
Barrymore	243 West 47th St.	1019	12
Belasco	111 West 44th St.	997	23
Biltmore	261 West 47th St.	1019	5
Booth	222 West 45th St.	1016	15
Broadhurst	235 West 44th St.	1016	11
Broadway	1681 Broadway	1024	46
Brooks Atkinson	256 West 47th St.	1018	57
City Center	131 West 55th St.	1008	15
Cort	138 West 48th St.	1000	49
Ed Sullivan	1697 Broadway	1025	43
*Empire	236 West 42nd St.	1013	50

Eugene O'Neill	230 West 49th St.	1020	53
Forty-Sixth St.	226 West 46th St.	1017	48
Golden	252 West 45th St.	1016	58
*Harris	226 West 42nd St.	1013	45
Helen Hayes	240 West 44th St.	1015	51
Henry W. Miller	124 West 43rd St.	995	45
Hudson	139 West 44th St.	997	15
Imperial	249 West 45th St.	1017	10
*Liberty	234 West 42nd St.	1013	49
Longacre	220 West 48th St.	1019	50
Lunt-Fontanne	205 West 46th St.	1018	20
Lyceum	149 West 45th St.	998	8
*Lyric	213 West 42nd St.	1014	39
Majestic	245 West 44th St.	1016	5
Mark Hellinger	237 West 51st St.	1023	11
Martin Beck	302 West 45 <sup>th</sup> St.	1035	37
Music Box	239 West 45th St.	1017	11
Nederlander	208 West 41st St.	1012	30
Neil Simon	250 West 52nd St.	1023	54

*New Amsterdam	214 West 42nd St.	1013	39
*New Amsterdam-Roof Garden	214 West 42nd St.	1013	39
*New Apollo	234 West 43rd St.	1014	20
Palace	1564 Broadway	999	63
Plymouth	236 West 45th St.	1016	51
Ritz	225 West 48th St.	1020	14
Royale	242 West 45th St.	1016	55
St. James	246 West 44th St.	1015	54
*Selwyn	229 West 42nd St.	1014	17
Shubert	225 West 44th St.	1016	15
Studio 54	254 West 54th St.	1025	58
*Times Square	219 West 42nd St.	1014	20
*Victory	209 West 42nd St.	1014	25
Virginia	245 West 52nd St.	1024	7
Winter Garden	1634 Broadway	1022	2

\* Indicates theaters which do not qualify as a “granting site” pursuant to Section [81-744](#)

In the case of an existing legitimate theater that received a #floor area# bonus pursuant to regulations in effect prior to May 13, 1982, no provisions of this amendment shall be construed as changing any previously existing responsibility of the owner or lessee of such theater for continuance of its #use# as a legitimate theater.

(b) Restrictions on demolition of listed theaters

No demolition permit shall be issued by the Department of Buildings for any theater listed in this Section as a “listed theater,” unless:

- (1) it is an unsafe #building# and demolition is required pursuant to the provisions of Title 28, Article 216 of the New York City Administrative Code;
- (2) it has been designated a landmark by the Landmarks Preservation Commission and a notice to proceed has been issued to the owner pursuant to Section [25-309](#) of Title 25, Chapter 3, of the New York City Administrative Code permitting demolition that contemplates removal of the theater from theater #use#; or
- (3) the City Planning Commission, by special permit, allows its demolition in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (c) of this Section.

(c) Special permit for demolition of listed theaters

The City Planning Commission may allow, by special permit, the demolition of a theater designated as a “listed theater” pursuant to this Section, provided the Commission finds that the demolition of the theater structure will not unduly diminish the character of the Theater Subdistrict as a cultural, entertainment and theatrical showcase. In making this determination, the Commission may consider any or all of the following:

- (1) the current physical characteristics of the theater that affect its suitability as a legitimate theater, including but not limited to seating capacity, configuration and location;
- (2) the history of the theater’s #use# as a legitimate theater, presenting legitimate attractions to the general public;
- (3) the likelihood of its future #use# for legitimate theater production under reasonable terms and conditions prevailing in the theater industry; and/or
- (4) that the applicant’s plans, if any, for replacement of the theater structure with a #development# or #enlargement# contain replacement #uses# supportive of the character of the Theater Subdistrict.

As a condition of the special permit, there shall exist a legal commitment binding upon all parties in interest of the #zoning lot# containing the theater that any #development# or #enlargement# on a #zoning lot# containing a portion or all of the former site of the “listed theater”, that floor space at least equivalent in amount to the total #floor area# of the theater shall be reserved or devoted exclusively to #uses# described in Section [81-723](#) (Entertainment-related uses) and meeting the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) of Section [81-722](#) (Requirements for entertainment-related uses) for the life of such #development# or #enlargement#. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the area of the #zoning lot# containing the theater is less than 20,000 square feet and the Commission finds that the allocation of floor space at least equivalent in amount to the total #floor area# of the theater to #uses# described in Section [81-723](#) is impractical or unreasonable, the Commission may permit a reduction in the amount of area allocated to such #uses#.

Any #development# or #enlargement# on a #zoning lot# containing a portion or all of the former site of a “listed theater” must, however, meet the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) of Section [81-722](#) whether or not the #zoning lot# is located within the area described in that Section.

## 81-743 - Required assurances for continuance of legitimate theater use

LAST AMENDED

10/7/2021

Prior to the issuance of any special permit under the provisions of Sections [81-745](#) (Floor area bonus for rehabilitation of existing listed theaters) or [81-747](#) (Transfer of development rights from landmarks), or the issuance of a certification, authorization or special permit under the provisions of Sections [66-51](#) (Additional Floor Area for Mass Transit Station Improvements), [81-744](#) (Transfer of development rights from listed theaters), or [81-746](#) (Additional provisions for zoning lots divided by district or subdistrict core boundaries) the following conditions shall exist:

- (a) a signed lease from a prospective theater operator, or a written commitment from the owner of the theater if such owner is also the operator, for occupancy of the theater and its operation as a legitimate theater for a period of not less than five years;
- (b) a licensed engineer's and/or architect's report certifying either that the theater is physically and operationally sound so as to permit its use as a legitimate theater or, if it is determined that the theater is not physically or operationally sound, a plan and program for the upgrade of the theater to put it in condition of physical and operational soundness. For the purposes of this Section, physical and operational soundness shall include the structural integrity of the exterior and interior elements of the #building# to the extent that they relate to the theater, compliance with applicable electrical and fire safety codes, and compliance with applicable building code standards.

In the event that the theater has been designated as a landmark or an interior landmark by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, physical and operational soundness shall include preserving the integrity of existing significant architectural features identified in the Landmarks Preservation Commission designation report. In such case, a licensed engineer and/or architect with knowledge of historic preservation and credentials acceptable to the Landmarks Preservation Commission shall prepare a report documenting the condition of such significant architectural features and, if determined to be necessary, a plan and program to preserve such significant features in a state of good physical repair and sound proper condition. Any certification report regarding a landmark or interior landmark theater shall be submitted concurrently to the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission;

- (c) A plan and program shall be accompanied by written commitment from such owner of the financial resources available to ensure timely completion of the identified scope of work;
- (d) a legal commitment providing for inspection and ongoing maintenance of the theater to ensure its continued availability for theater use. Such inspection shall be conducted every five years by a licensed engineer and/or architect or by the Theater Subdistrict Council, and a report issued to the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission and notice of such report shall be published in the City Record. Such report shall also be issued to the Theater Subdistrict Council unless the Theater Subdistrict Council has performed such inspection, and, in the event the theater has been designated a landmark or an interior landmark, such report shall also be issued to the Landmarks Preservation Commission and notice of such report shall be published in the City Record. Such reports shall describe the condition of the theater and identify any maintenance or repair work necessary to ensure the physical and operational soundness of the theater and to maintain the condition of any landmark architectural features and establish a plan and program for such work, including providing that adequate resources be made available to ensure timely completion of such maintenance or repair work; and

- (e) a legal commitment for continuance of its #use# as a legitimate theater for the life of the related #development# or #enlargement#.

Such legal commitments shall be in the form of a declaration of restrictions, filed and duly recorded in the Borough Office of the Register of the City of New York, binding upon the owner, lessee of the theater and their successors and assigns, a certified copy of which shall be submitted to the City Planning Commission. The filing of such declaration and the posting of any bond or other security required by the declaration and receipt of such certified copy shall be preconditions to issuance of any building permit, including any foundation or alteration permit, for any #development# or #enlargement# on the receiving site.

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## **81-744 - Transfer of development rights from listed theaters**

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LAST AMENDED

12/5/2024

For the purposes of the Theater Subdistrict:

A “listed theater” shall mean a theater designated as listed pursuant to Section [81-742](#) (Listed theaters).

A “granting site” shall mean either a #zoning lot# or that portion of a #zoning lot# occupied by a “listed theater” and comprised of those block and lot numbers specified for such theater pursuant to the table in Section [81-742](#), as such block and lots existed on January 12, 1998. However, a “granting site” shall not include any #zoning lot# occupied by a “listed theater” located within the geographical area covered by the 42nd Street Development Land Use Improvement Project, adopted by the New York State Urban Development Project in 1984, as such Project has and may be subsequently amended.

A “receiving site” shall mean a #zoning lot# or the portion of a #zoning lot# located within the Theater Subdistrict to which development rights of the “granting site” are transferred. However, no portion of a “receiving site” shall be located within the 42nd Street Development Project Area. In addition, for #zoning lots# containing “listed theaters,” that portion of the #zoning lot# occupied by the “listed theater” and comprised of the block and lot numbers specified for such theater, pursuant to the table in Section [81-742](#), shall not be included in the “receiving site.”

Any “receiving site” divided by a district boundary or Theater Subdistrict Core boundary may locate #bulk# in accordance with the provisions of Section [81-746](#) (Additional provisions for zoning lots divided by district or subdistrict core boundaries).

- (a) Transfer of development rights by certification

The City Planning Commission shall allow, by certification, a transfer of development rights from a “granting site” to a “receiving site,” except that any “granting site,” or portion thereof, located outside the Theater Subdistrict, may not transfer development rights to any portion of a “receiving site” within the Special Clinton District, provided that:

- (1) the maximum amount of #floor area# transferred from a “granting site” is the basic maximum #floor area ratio# established pursuant to Sections [81-211](#) (Maximum floor area ratio for non-residential or mixed buildings) or [81-214](#) (Special provisions for transfer of development rights from listed theaters within the Special Clinton

District), as applicable, for such “granting site” as if it were undeveloped, less the total #floor area# of all existing #buildings# or portions of #buildings# on the “granting site” and #floor area# attributed to the “granting site” that has been previously used or transferred;

- (2) each transfer, once completed, irrevocably reduces the amount of #floor area# that may be #developed# or #enlarged# on the #zoning lot# containing the “granting site” by the amount of #floor area# transferred;
- (3) the maximum amount of #floor area# transferred to a “receiving site” shall not exceed the basic maximum #floor area ratio# established pursuant to Section [81-211](#) for such “receiving site” by more than 20 percent;
- (4) the provisions of Section [81-743](#) (Required assurances for continuance of legitimate theater use) are met; and
- (5) appropriate legal documents are executed ensuring that a contribution in an amount equal to 10 dollars\* per square foot of transferred #floor area# be deposited in the Theater Subdistrict Fund established pursuant to paragraph (h) of Section [81-741](#) (General provisions) at the earlier of either the time of closing on the transfer of development rights pursuant to this Section or the filing for any building permit for any #development# or #enlargement# that anticipates using such development rights.

The Commission shall review such amount no more than once every three years and no less than once every five years and shall adjust the amount to reflect any change in assessed value of all properties on #zoning lots# wholly within the Theater Subdistrict.

(b) Transfer of development rights by authorization

The City Planning Commission shall allow, by authorization, an additional transfer of development rights beyond the amount of #floor area# transfer permitted by certification in paragraph (a) of this Section from a “granting site” to any portion of a “receiving site” located within the Eighth Avenue Corridor, except that any “granting site,” or portion thereof, located outside the Theater Subdistrict may not transfer development rights to any portion of a “receiving site” within the Special Clinton District, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) the maximum amount of such additional #floor area# transfer to that portion of a “receiving site” located within such Corridor shall not exceed the maximum total #floor area ratio# with as-of-right #floor area# allowances in the Theater Subdistrict set forth in Section [81-211](#) by more than 20 percent; and
- (2) such transfer complies with the conditions and limitations set forth for the transfer of development rights in paragraph (a) of this Section.

In order to grant such authorization, the Commission shall find that such #development# or #enlargement#:

- (i) relates harmoniously to all structures and #open space# in its vicinity in terms of scale, location and access to light and air in the area; and
- (ii) serves to enhance or reinforce the general purposes of the Theater Subdistrict.

Any application pursuant to paragraphs (a) and/or (b) of this Section shall be referred to the affected Community Board, the local Council Member and the Borough President of Manhattan. The Commission shall not grant any such certification or authorization prior to sixty days after such referral and sixty days after the date any reports required to be submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission pursuant to Section [81-743](#), paragraph (b), or the Theater Subdistrict Council pursuant to Section [81-71](#) (General Provisions) have been so submitted.

(c) Requirements for Application

An application filed with the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission for the transfer of development rights by certification pursuant to paragraph (a) of this Section, or with the City Planning Commission for the transfer of development rights by authorization pursuant to paragraph (b) of this Section, shall be made jointly by the owners of the "granting site" and the "receiving site" and shall include:

- (1) a site plan and #floor area# zoning calculations for the "granting site" and the "receiving site" and, for authorizations and/or special permit applications, any such other information as may be required by the Commission;
- (2) a copy of the transfer instrument legally sufficient in both form and content to effect such a transfer, together with a notice of the restrictions limiting further #development# or #enlargement# of the "granting site" and the "receiving site." The notice of restrictions shall be filed by the owners of the respective lots in the Borough Office of the Register of the City of New York, indexed against the "granting site" and the "receiving site," a certified copy of which shall be submitted to the Chairperson. Receipt of the certified copy shall be a pre-condition to issuance of any building permit, including any foundation or alteration permit, for any #development# or #enlargement# on the "receiving site."

Both the instrument of transfer and the notice of restrictions shall specify the total amount of #floor area# transferred and shall specify, by lot and block numbers, the lots from which and the lots to which such transfer is made.

- (3) demonstrations of compliance with the requirements of Section [81-743](#) and paragraph (a)(5) of this Section, including all necessary legal documents. Issuance of any building permit, including any foundation or alteration permit, shall be conditioned upon the filing of such legal documents in the Borough Office of the Register of the City of New York and receipt by the Commission of certified copies of same as required pursuant to Section [81-743](#).

A separate application shall be filed for each transfer of development rights to an independent "receiving site."

\* The contribution of 10 dollars per square foot of transferred #floor area# was adjusted by rule on November 15, 2006, to \$14.91 per square foot; on December 10, 2011, to \$17.60 per square foot; and on July 15, 2022, to \$24.65 per square foot

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## **81-745 - Floor area bonus for rehabilitation of existing listed theaters**

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LAST AMENDED  
2/25/2021

The City Planning Commission by special permit may authorize bonus #floor area# for substantial rehabilitation or restoration of any theater listed as a "listed theater" in Section [81-742](#) (Listed theaters), in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

(a) Conditions for rehabilitation bonus

As a condition for the issuance of a special permit under the provisions of this Section, the following requirements shall be satisfied:

- (1) Location of #development#

The #development# or #enlargement# for which a theater rehabilitation bonus is granted is located on the same #zoning lot# as the "listed theater."

(2) Qualification of substantial rehabilitation

Substantial rehabilitation work qualifying for a #floor area# bonus shall consist of major structural changes for the purpose of improving a theater's design and its commercial viability for legitimate theater #use#, or historic restoration of the interior of a theater designated as an interior landmark.

Substantial rehabilitation may include, without limitations, such work as expanding stage wings, re-raking the orchestra, increasing rehearsal, dressing room or lobby and ancillary spaces, improving accessibility beyond applicable legal requirements, or historic restoration. It may also include reconversion to legitimate theater #use# of an original legitimate theater currently in other #use#. Substantial rehabilitation does not mean normal theater maintenance, painting or improvements to mechanical systems alone.

(3) Timing and commitment

- (i) there shall be a contractual commitment or commitments for the construction work involved in the substantial rehabilitation;
- (ii) the requirements of Section [81-743](#) (Required assurances for continuance of legitimate theater use) shall be satisfied; and
- (iii) a rehabilitation bonus shall not be granted for a substantial rehabilitation completed before May 13, 1982.

(b) Amount of rehabilitation bonus

The amount of bonus #floor area# granted for a qualifying theater rehabilitation shall be at the discretion of the Commission after consideration of the following findings:

- (1) how and to what extent the proposed rehabilitation will improve the theater's suitability for #use# as a legitimate theater;
- (2) how the proposed rehabilitation will contribute toward satisfying the needs of the Theater Subdistrict;
- (3) whether the bonus #floor area# will unduly increase the #bulk# of any #development# or #enlargement#, density of population or intensity of #use# on any #block# to the detriment of occupants of #buildings# on the #block# or the surrounding area; and
- (4) whether the distribution and location of such #floor area# bonus will adversely affect the surrounding area by restricting light and air or otherwise impair the essential character or future development of the surrounding area.

Such bonus #floor area# shall not exceed 20 percent of the basic maximum #floor area# permitted on the #zoning lot# containing the #development# or #enlargement# by the regulations of the underlying district, except that in the case of an underlying C6-4, C6-5 or M1-6 District, the bonus #floor area# shall not exceed 44 percent of the basic maximum #floor area# permitted in such underlying district, and except that in the case of a #zoning lot# located partially in a C6-5.5 District and partially in a C6-7T District, the Commission may allow bonus #floor area# to be utilized anywhere on the #zoning lot#.

For purposes of applying the provisions of Section [11-42](#) (Lapse of Authorization or Special Permit by the City Planning Commission Pursuant to the 1961 Zoning Resolution) to a special permit granted pursuant to this Section, "substantial construction" shall mean substantial rehabilitation, as described in paragraph (b) of this Section, of the subject theater for which a #floor area# bonus has been granted to a related #development# or #enlargement#.

The Commission may prescribe appropriate conditions and safeguards to minimize adverse effects on the character of the surrounding areas.

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## **81-746 - Additional provisions for zoning lots divided by district or subdistrict core boundaries**

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LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

- (a) For any #zoning lot# which includes a “listed theater” as set forth in Section [81-742](#) (Listed theaters) or is, or contains, a “receiving site” pursuant to Section [81-744](#) (Transfer of development rights from listed theaters), and which is divided by a boundary between districts with different basic maximum #floor area ratios# as set forth in Section [81-211](#) (Maximum floor area ratio for non-residential or mixed buildings), the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission, by certification, shall allow modifications of the provisions of Sections [77-02](#) (Zoning Lots Not Existing Prior to Effective Date or Amendment of Resolution), [77-21](#) (General Provisions), [77-22](#) (Floor Area Ratio) and [77-25](#) (Density Requirements), as follows.

For any #zoning lot#, #floor area#, #dwelling units# or #rooming units# permitted by the applicable district regulations on either side of the district boundary may be located on the other side of the district boundary, provided:

- (1) the amount of such #floor area# to be located on either side of the district boundary shall not exceed 20 percent of the basic maximum #floor area ratio# of the district in which it is to be located;
- (2) the number of such #dwelling units# or #rooming units#, if any, to be located on either side of the district boundary shall not exceed the number permitted by the applicable district regulations; and
- (3) the provisions of Section [81-743](#) (Required assurances for continuance of legitimate theater use) are met for any “listed theater” on such #zoning lot#.

The Chairperson's certification approving modification of the provisions for such #zoning lots# divided by district boundaries shall state the total amount of #floor area#, including #floor area# of any existing theater, to be provided on the #zoning lot# as a whole and the portion thereof to be located in each district, and the amount authorized herein to be located across the district boundary from the district in which the theater is located.

Notice of the restrictions upon further development of each portion of the #zoning lot# shall be recorded by the owner against the #zoning lot# in the Office of the Register of the City of New York (County of New York) and a certified copy shall be submitted to the Commission.

- (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Resolution, for any #zoning lot# which is divided by a boundary of the Theater Subdistrict Core as defined in Section [81-71](#) (General Provisions) and for which the basic maximum #floor area ratio# as set forth in Section [81-211](#) is the same for both the portion within and the portion outside of the Theater Subdistrict Core, the applicable underlying #bulk# regulations shall be modified, as follows:
- (1) #floor area#, including bonus #floor area#, or #dwelling units# permitted by the applicable district regulations on that portion of the #zoning lot# within the Theater Subdistrict Core may be located on the portion of the #zoning lot# outside the Core, provided that the number of such #rooms#, if any, to be located outside of the Core shall not exceed the number permitted by the applicable district regulations; and
  - (2) #floor area#, including bonus #floor area#, or #dwelling units# permitted by the applicable district regulations on that portion of the #zoning lot# outside of the Theater Subdistrict Core shall not be located on the portion of the #zoning lot# within the Core.

- (c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Resolution, for any #zoning lot# located wholly within the Theater Subdistrict and outside of the Theater Subdistrict Core that is divided by a boundary of the Eighth Avenue Corridor as defined in Section [81-71](#) and for which the basic maximum #floor area ratio# as set forth in Section [81-211](#) is the same for both the portion within and the portion outside of the Eighth Avenue Corridor, #floor area#, including bonus #floor area#, or #dwelling units# permitted by the applicable district regulations may be located on either side of the Eighth Avenue Corridor boundary.

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## 81-747 - Transfer of development rights from landmarks

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LAST AMENDED  
12/5/2024

The City Planning Commission by special permit may authorize development rights to be transferred from a #granting lot# to a #receiving lot# proposed for #developments# or #enlargements# within the #surrounding area# in accordance with the provisions of Section [81-213](#) (Special provisions for transfer of development rights from landmark sites in certain areas).

The limitations on development rights transferred to #receiving lots# from #granting lots#, including sites of landmark theaters, are set forth in Section [81-213](#).

Where development rights are proposed to be transferred and exercised in accordance with the provisions of Section [81-213](#), as modified by this Section, the Commission shall find that:

- (a) within the #surrounding area#, the series of intervening lots in common ownership leading to the #receiving lot# includes lots, identified by the Commission, which are occupied by “listed theaters” or by #uses# which directly support neighborhood theater business, such as, but not limited to, rehearsal space, recording facilities or theater costume rental facilities and that such #uses# will be continued or replaced by other legitimate theaters or theater supportive #uses# as evidenced by covenants binding the owners of such lots, their successors and assigns to provide for such continuation or replacement; or
- (b) useful circulation improvements or other public facilities will be provided and maintained on one or more of the lots comprising the series of intervening lots to accommodate pedestrian or vehicular traffic generated by legitimate theaters.

The Commission shall require the owner of any intervening lot on which special #use# restrictions are applicable or on which circulation improvements or other public facilities are to be provided and maintained to sign a written declaration of restrictions setting forth the obligations of the owner, his successors and assigns and providing a performance bond for the completion of any required improvements. The declaration of restrictions shall be recorded in the Office of the Register of the City of New York (County of New York) and the Commission shall be provided with a certified copy.

The provision of Section [81-213](#) empowering the Commission to grant variations in the front height and setback regulations is modified by the provisions of Sections [81-266](#) or [81-277](#) (Special permit for height and setback modifications).

Compliance with the provisions of Section [81-743](#) (Required assurances for continuance of legitimate theater use) shall be a condition for issuance of a special permit under the provisions of this Section.