



## Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Eric Adams, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Daniel R. Garodnick, Chair

# 139-00 - GENERAL PURPOSES

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 9/15/2025

---

## 139-00 - GENERAL PURPOSES

---

LAST AMENDED

11/23/2021

The “Special Gowanus Mixed Use District” established in this Resolution is designed to promote and protect the public health, safety and general welfare of the Gowanus neighborhood and the greater community. These general goals include, among others, the following specific purposes:

- (a) to recognize and enhance the vitality and character of an existing mixed use neighborhood;
- (b) to encourage stability and growth in the Gowanus neighborhood by permitting compatible light manufacturing and residential uses to coexist;
- (c) to encourage investment in a mixed use neighborhood by permitting the expansion and new development of a wide variety of uses in a manner that ensures the health and safety of residents and employees;
- (d) to improve the physical appearance of the streetscape by providing and coordinating harmonious open space, sidewalk amenities and landscaping within a consistent urban design;
- (e) to promote and enhance visual and physical access to and around the Gowanus Canal;
- (f) to enhance neighborhood economic diversity by broadening the range of housing choices for residents at varied incomes;
- (g) to expand local employment opportunities and to promote the opportunity for workers to live in the vicinity of their work; and
- (h) to promote the most desirable use of land and thus conserve the value of land and buildings and thereby protect the City’s tax revenues.

---

## 139-01 - Definitions

---

LAST AMENDED

6/6/2024

Definitions specifically applicable to this Chapter are set forth in this Section. Other defined terms are set forth in Sections [12-10](#), [32-301](#), [37-311](#), [62-11](#) and [66-11](#). The definition of #development# shall be as set forth in Section [12-10](#), except where otherwise specified.

Gowanus mix uses

“Gowanus mix uses” are #community facility#, #commercial#, and #manufacturing uses# set forth in Section [139-12](#) (Gowanus Mix Uses).

Gowanus retail and entertainment uses

“Gowanus retail and entertainment uses” are #community facility# and #commercial uses# set forth in Section [139-13](#) (Gowanus Retail and Entertainment Uses).

Mixed use district

In the #Special Gowanus Mixed Use District#, a “mixed use district” shall be any M1 District paired with a #Residence District#, as indicated on the #zoning maps#. For the purposes of applying provisions of districts adjacent to a #mixed use district#, a #mixed use district# shall be considered a #Manufacturing District#.

Select community facility uses

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following #community facility uses# shall also be considered “select community facility uses”:

Houses of worship, rectories or parish houses; and

Health facilities requiring approval under Article 28 of the Public Health Law of the State of New York that, prior to July 10, 1974, have received approval of Part I of the required application from the Commissioner of Health.

---

## 139-02 - General Provisions

---

LAST AMENDED  
11/23/2021

In harmony with the general purposes and content of this Resolution and the general purposes of the #Special Gowanus Mixed Use District#, the regulations of this Chapter shall apply within the #Special Gowanus Mixed Use District#. The regulations of all other Chapters of this Resolution are applicable, except as modified, supplemented or superseded by the provisions of this Chapter. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Chapter and other regulations of this Resolution, the provisions of this Chapter shall control.

---

## 139-021 - Applicability of regulations to the Gowanus Canal

---

■

LAST AMENDED  
11/23/2021

In the #Special Gowanus Mixed Use District#, all #blocks# bounding the Gowanus Canal shall be considered #waterfront blocks# within the #waterfront area#, and the provisions of Article VI, Chapter 2 (Special Regulations Applying in the Waterfront Area), as modified by the provisions of this Chapter, shall apply.

All portions of #zoning lots# having a boundary within or coincident with the boundaries of the Gowanus Canal shall be included as part of the #upland lot# and deemed to be #lot area#, regardless of the location of the #shoreline#.

For the purposes of this Chapter, the boundaries of the Gowanus Canal shall be as shown on the City Map, and shall include the First Street Basin.

---

## 139-022 - Applicability of the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Program

---

LAST AMENDED  
12/5/2024

For the purposes of applying the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Program provisions set forth in Section [27-10](#) (ADMINISTRATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING), inclusive, #Mandatory Inclusionary Housing areas# within the #Special Gowanus Mixed Use District# are shown on the maps in APPENDIX F (Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Areas and former Inclusionary Housing Designated Areas) of this Resolution. Such provisions are modified by the provisions of this Chapter.

---

**139-023 - Applicability of Article VI, Chapter 4**

---

LAST AMENDED  
12/5/2024

In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Chapter and the provisions of Article VI, Chapter 4 (Special Regulations Applying in Flood Hazard Areas), the provisions of Article VI, Chapter 4, shall control.

---

**139-024 - Applicability of Article VI, Chapter 6**

---

LAST AMENDED  
12/5/2024

For #transit-adjacent sites#, as defined in Section [66-11](#) (Definitions), in the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Chapter and the provisions of Article VI, Chapter 6 (Special Regulations Applying Around Mass Transit Stations), the provisions of Article VI, Chapter 6 shall control.

---

**139-025 - Applicability of Article XII, Chapter 3**

---

LAST AMENDED  
12/5/2024

In #Mixed Use Districts#, the special #use#, #bulk#, and parking and loading provisions of Article XII, Chapter 3 (Special Mixed Use Districts) shall apply, except where modified by the provisions of this Chapter, and shall supplement or supersede the provisions of the designated #Residence# or M1 District, as applicable.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section [123-10](#), in the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Chapter and the provisions of Article XII, Chapter 3, the provisions of this Chapter shall control.

---

**139-03 - District Plan and Maps**

---

LAST AMENDED  
11/23/2021

The regulations of this Chapter are designed to implement the #Special Gowanus Mixed Use District# Plan. The district plan includes the following maps in the Appendices to this Chapter:

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Appendix A – #Special Gowanus Mixed Use District# Plan |                               |
| Map 1  | Subdistricts                  |
| Map 2  | Subareas                      |
| Map 3  | Ground Floor Use Requirements |

Map 4 Sidewalk Widening Lines

## Appendix B – Gowanus Canal Waterfront Access Plan

Map 1 Parcel Designation

Map 2 Public Access Elements

Map 3 Designated Visual Corridors

The maps are hereby incorporated and made part of this Resolution for the purpose of specifying locations where the special regulations and requirements set forth in the text of this Chapter apply.

---

## 139-04 - Subdistricts

---

LAST AMENDED

11/23/2021

In order to carry out the purposes and provisions of this Chapter, five subdistricts are established within the #Special Gowanus Mixed Use District#. In addition, subareas are established within Subdistricts B and D.

Subdistrict A – Fourth Avenue Subdistrict

Subdistrict B – Upland Blocks Subdistrict

Subarea B1

Subarea B2

Subdistrict C – North Canal Corridor Subdistrict

Subdistrict D – South Canal Corridor Subdistrict

Subarea D1

Subarea D2

Subarea D3

Subarea D4

Subarea D5

Subarea D6

Subdistrict E – First Street Subdistrict

The boundaries of the subdistricts are shown on Map 1 and the boundaries of the subareas are shown on Map 2 in Appendix A of this Chapter.