



Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW
YORK
Bill de Blasio, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Marisa Lago, Chair

23-12 - Permitted Obstructions in Open Space

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LAST AMENDED
4/30/2012

R1 R2 R3 R4 R5 R6 R7 R8 R9 R10

In the districts indicated, the following obstructions shall be permitted in any #open space# required on a #zoning lot# :

- (a) Air conditioning condensation units, #accessory#, for #single-# or #two-family residences#, provided that such units, if located between a #street wall#, or prolongation thereof, and a #street line#, are not more than 18 inches from a #street wall#, and fully screened from the #street# by vegetation;
- (b) Awnings and other sun control devices. However, when located at a level higher than the first #story#, excluding a #basement#, all such devices:
 - (1) shall be limited to a maximum projection from a #building# wall of 2 feet, 6 inches; and
 - (2) shall have solid surfaces that, in aggregate, cover an area no more than 30 percent of the area of the #building# wall (as viewed in elevation) from which they project;
- (c) Balconies, unenclosed, subject to the provisions of Section 23-13;
- (d) Breezeways;
- (e) Driveways, private streets, open #accessory# off-street parking spaces, unenclosed #accessory# bicycle parking spaces or open #accessory# off-street loading berths, provided that the total area occupied by all these items does not exceed the percentages set forth in Section 25-64 (Restrictions on Use of Open Space for Parking);
- (f) Eaves, gutters or downspouts, projecting into such #open space# not more than 16 inches or 20 percent of the width of such #open space#, whichever is the lesser distance;
- (g) Exterior wall thickness, where such wall thickness is added to the exterior face of a #building# wall existing on April 30, 2012, provided the added wall thickness has a thermal resistance (R-value) of at least 1.5 per inch, and is limited to one inch of thickness for every foot of existing #open space# width, up to a maximum thickness of eight inches;
- (h) Parking spaces, off-street, enclosed, #accessory#, not to exceed one space per #dwelling unit#, when #accessory# to a #single-family#, #two-family# or three-#family residence#, provided that the total area occupied by a #building# used for such purposes does not exceed 20 percent of the total required #open space# on the #zoning lot#. However, two such spaces for a #single-family residence# may be permitted in #lower density growth management areas# and in R1-2A Districts;
- (i) Solar energy systems:
 - (1) on the roof of an #accessory building#, limited to 18 inches in height as measured perpendicular to the roof surface; or
 - (2) on walls existing on April 30, 2012, projecting no more than 10 inches and occupying no more than 20 percent of the surface area of the #building# wall (as viewed in elevation) from which it projects;
- (j) Swimming pools, #accessory#, above-grade structures limited to a height not exceeding eight feet above the level of the #rear yard# or #rear yard equivalent# ;
- (k) Terraces, unenclosed, fire escapes or planting boxes, provided that no such items project more than six feet into or over such #open space#.

However, any such #open space# that is part of a required #yard#, #rear yard equivalent# or #court# may contain an obstruction listed in this Section only where such obstruction is permitted, pursuant to Sections 23-44 (Permitted Obstructions in Required Yards or Rear Yard Equivalents) or 23-87 (Permitted Obstructions in Courts), as applicable.