



Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Bill de Blasio, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Marisa Lago, Chair

98-42 - Special Height and Setback Regulations

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 4/17/2021

98-42 - Special Height and Setback Regulations

LAST AMENDED

6/23/2005

The height and setback regulations of the underlying district shall not apply, except as set forth in this Section, inclusive. Furthermore, for any #zoning lot# located adjacent to the #High Line#, the provisions of Section 98-50, inclusive, shall also apply. All heights shall be measured from the #base plane#, unless otherwise specified.

98-421 - Obstruction over the High Line

LAST AMENDED

11/13/2012

Within the #Special West Chelsea District#, the #High Line# shall remain open and unobstructed from the #High Line bed# to the sky, except for improvements constructed on the #High Line# in connection with the use of the #High Line# as a public open space, and except where the #High Line# passes through and is covered by a #building# existing on November 13, 2012.

98-422 - Special rooftop regulations

LAST AMENDED

4/30/2012

The provisions of Section 33-42 (Permitted Obstructions) shall apply to all #buildings or other structures# within the #Special West Chelsea District#, except that dormers may penetrate a maximum base height in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (c)(1) of Section 23-621 (Permitted obstructions in certain districts). However, dormers may not exceed the maximum #building# height in Subareas C, F and G where the maximum base height and maximum #building# height are the same.

All mechanical equipment located within 15 feet of the level of the #High Line bed# that is within 25 feet of the #High Line#, measured horizontally, or within the #High Line frontage#, as applicable, shall be screened and buffered with no intake or exhaust fans or vents facing directly onto the #High Line#.

98-423 - Street wall location, minimum and maximum base heights and maximum building heights

LAST AMENDED

4/25/2017

The provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall apply to all #buildings or other structures#. Such provisions are modified for certain subareas as set forth in paragraphs (b) through (g) of this Section.

(a) For all #buildings#

(1) #Street wall# location provisions

On #wide streets#, and on #narrow streets# within 50 feet of their intersection with a #wide street#, the #street wall# shall be located on the #street line# and extend along such entire #street# frontage of the #zoning lot# up to at least the minimum base height specified in the table in this Section. On #narrow street# frontages, beyond 50 feet of their intersection with a #wide street#, the #street wall# shall be located on the #street line# and

extend along at least 70 percent of the #narrow street# frontage of the #zoning lot# up to at least the minimum base height specified in the table in this Section.

Where #street walls# are required to be located on the #street line#, recesses, not to exceed three feet in depth from the #street line#, shall be permitted on the ground floor where required to provide access to the #building#. Above a height of 12 feet, up to 30 percent of the #aggregate width of street walls# may be recessed beyond the #street line#, provided any such recesses deeper than 10 feet along a #wide street#, or 15 feet along a #narrow street#, are located within an #outer court#. Furthermore, no recesses shall be permitted within 30 feet of the intersection of two #street lines# except that, to allow articulation of #street walls# at the intersection of two #street lines#, the #street wall# may be located anywhere within an area bounded by the two #street lines# and a line connecting such #street lines# at points 15 feet from their intersection.

For #developments# that occupy the entire #block# frontage of a #street# and provide a continuous sidewalk widening along such #street line#, the boundary of the sidewalk widening shall be considered to be the #street line# for the purposes of this Section.

The #street wall# location provisions of this Section shall not apply along that portion of any #street# frontage:

- (i) over which the #High Line# passes;
 - (ii) occupied by existing #buildings# to remain, unless such #buildings# are vertically #enlarged#; or
 - (iii) between the #High Line# and a #side lot line#, where such frontage measures less than 20 feet.
- (2) Maximum #building# heights
- (i) For C6-2A and C6-3A Districts

In C6-2A and C6-3A Districts, the maximum base height, maximum #building# height and the maximum number of #stories# shall be as set forth in Section 23-662 (Maximum height of buildings and setback regulations) for the residential equivalent of an R8A and R9A District, respectively. For #buildings# meeting the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of Section 23-664 (Modified height and setback regulations for certain Inclusionary Housing buildings or affordable independent residences for seniors), such maximum heights and number of #stories# may be modified in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of Section 23-664 for such districts' applicable residential equivalent. Separate maximum #building# heights are set forth within such Sections for #Quality Housing buildings# with #qualifying ground floors# and for those with #non-qualifying ground floors#.

- (ii) For all other districts

All portions of #buildings or other structures# that exceed the applicable maximum base height specified in the table in this Section shall provide a setback at a height not lower than the applicable minimum base height. A setback with a depth of at least 10 feet shall be provided from any #street wall# fronting on a #wide street#, and a setback with a depth of at least 15 feet shall be provided from any #street wall# fronting on a #narrow street#, except such dimensions may include the depth of permitted recesses in the #street wall#.

No #building or other structure# shall exceed the maximum #building# height specified in the table in this Section.

- (b) Subareas A and D

(1) #Street wall# location

In Subarea D, on #corner lots# between the north side of West 18th Street and the south side of West 22nd Street, a #street wall# with a minimum height of 15 feet shall be located on the #narrow street line# between 50 and 150 feet of its intersection with Eleventh Avenue.

In Subarea D, for #buildings# that do not include towers as set forth in paragraph (b)(3) of this Section, the #street wall# location provisions set forth in paragraph (a) shall not apply to any #zoning lot# that occupies the entire Eleventh Avenue #block# front. In lieu thereof, #street walls# with a minimum base height of 60 feet shall be located within 10 feet of all #street lines# bounding such #zoning lot# and extend along at least 70 percent of each #street# frontage of the #zoning lot#.

(2) Setback provisions

The setback provisions for portions of #buildings# above the maximum base height set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply. In lieu thereof, no portion of a #building or other structure# that exceeds the applicable maximum base height shall penetrate a #sky exposure plane# that begins above the #street line# at the maximum base height and rises over the #zoning lot# at a ratio of 2.7 feet of vertical distance to one foot of horizontal distance on a #narrow street#, and 5.6 feet of vertical distance to one foot of horizontal distance on a #wide street#.

(3) Tower provisions

Any #building#, or portion thereof, which in the aggregate occupies not more than 40 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot# and penetrates the #sky exposure planes# set forth in paragraph (b)(2) of this Section, is hereinafter referred to as a “tower.” Such towers are permitted provided they are set back at least 10 feet from a #wide street line# and at least 15 feet from a #narrow street line#, and provided no other portion of the #building# exceeds the applicable maximum base height. In addition, the following rules shall apply:

- (i) For #zoning lots# with less than 20,000 square feet of #lot area#, such tower may occupy more than 40 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot# in accordance with the provisions of Section 33-454 (Towers on small lots).
- (ii) Any #story# within the highest 40 feet of such tower (the “penthouse portion”), shall not exceed 85 percent of the gross area of the highest #story# directly below such penthouse portion.
- (iii) In Subarea A, such tower shall occupy at least 30 percent of the #lot area# of the #zoning lot#, except that such minimum #lot coverage# requirement shall be reduced to 25 percent above a height of 220 feet. However, no minimum #lot area# requirement shall apply to the highest four #stories# or 40 feet of such #building#, whichever is less.
- (iv) In Subarea A, the maximum length of any #story# located above a height of 220 feet shall not exceed 150 feet. Such length shall be measured by inscribing within a rectangle the outermost walls at the level of each #story# entirely above a height of 220 feet. Any side of such rectangle shall not exceed 150 feet.
- (v) In Subarea A, for any #zoning lot# with more than 75 feet of #narrow street# frontage in which a #side lot line# is located within an area bounded by a line 200 feet east of and parallel to Eleventh Avenue and a line 410 feet east of and parallel to Eleventh Avenue, no tower portion of a #building# shall be located closer than 25 feet to such #side lot lines#.
- (vi) In Subarea D, the maximum #building# height shall be 250 feet, and the maximum length of any #story#

located above the maximum base height shall not exceed 150 feet. Such length shall be measured by inscribing within a rectangle the outermost walls at the level of each #story# wholly or partially above the maximum base height. Any side of such rectangle shall not exceed 150 feet. However, for #zoning lots# that occupy the entire Eleventh Avenue #block# front, a portion of the #street wall# may rise above the maximum base height without setback from Eleventh Avenue, provided the #aggregate width of the street wall# for Eleventh Avenue does not exceed 100 feet.

(c) Subareas C, F and G

In Subareas C, F and G, for #zoning lots# with #wide# and #narrow street# frontage, no #street wall# is required beyond 50 feet of a #wide street#. Furthermore, for any #development# or #enlargement# that occupies at least one corner of the Tenth Avenue #block# front and extends along the Tenth Avenue frontage of the #zoning lot# for at least 170 feet, exclusive of existing #buildings# to remain, a lowered #street wall# shall be provided for any #building# that exceeds 45 feet in height. Such lowered #street wall# shall have a maximum height of 45 feet and a minimum height of 35 feet and extend along the Tenth Avenue frontage for a width not less than 25 percent and not more than 30 percent of the #aggregate width of street walls# facing Tenth Avenue. Such lowered #street wall# portion of the Tenth Avenue frontage shall be located at the intersection of Tenth Avenue and a #narrow street#. Such lowered #street wall# shall extend along such #narrow street line# for a distance of at least 50 feet from Tenth Avenue. Beyond 50 feet of Tenth Avenue, excluding the #High Line frontage# of a #building#, such portion of the #building# shall not exceed a height of 45 feet.

The provisions of this Section, relating to the location and height of the lowered #street wall# portion of the Tenth Avenue frontage of a #building# are illustrated in Diagram 1 (Street Wall and High Line Frontage Regulations in Subareas C, F and G) in Appendix C of this Chapter.

In Subarea C, for #zoning lots# with Tenth Avenue frontage between West 24th Street and West 28th Street, the maximum #building# height shall be 125 feet.

(d) Subarea E

The #street wall# location provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply on a #zoning lot# fronting on West 18th Street and located partially in Subareas D, E and G, where #floor area# has been transferred pursuant to Section 98-241. A maximum of 60 percent of the West 18th Street frontage within Subarea E may rise without setback to a maximum #building# height of 250 feet, and a minimum of 20 percent of the West 18th Street frontage within Subarea E shall rise without setback to a minimum height of 60 feet and a maximum height of 85 feet and be located within 10 feet of the #street line#.

(e) Subarea H

No #building or other structure# shall be located east of the #High Line#, unless otherwise specified in agreements and other instruments that provide for City construction of some or all of the At-Grade Plaza Work and some or all of the Stairway and Elevator Work, executed in accordance with Appendix D.

No portion of a #building or other structure# shall exceed a height of 85 feet except for two #buildings#, or portions of #buildings#, hereinafter referred to as "Tower East" and "Tower West." At or above the base height, both such towers shall be set back at least 10 feet from any #street wall# facing a #wide street# and at least 15 feet from any #street wall# facing a #narrow street#. Such setbacks shall be provided at a height not lower than 60 feet, except that such setbacks may be provided at a height not lower than 40 feet, provided at least 65 percent of the #aggregate width of street walls# facing #narrow streets# and at least 60 percent of the #aggregate width of street walls# facing #wide streets# have a

minimum base height of 60 feet.

Tower East shall be located in its entirety within 240 feet of the Tenth Avenue #street line#, and Tower West shall be located in its entirety within 200 feet of the Eleventh Avenue #street line#. Tower East shall not exceed a height of 290 feet and Tower West shall not exceed a height of 390 feet. No portion of Tower East shall be located closer than 25 feet to any portion of Tower West.

A maximum of 50 percent of the #street wall# of Tower West may rise without setback from a #narrow street line#. Such portion of the #street wall# shall be located a minimum of 15 feet and a maximum of 20 feet from the #narrow street line#.

(f) Subarea I

In that portion of Subarea I located within 300 feet of Tenth Avenue between West 16th Street and West 17th Street, the #street wall# location provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply along Tenth Avenue, as shown in Diagram 5 of Appendix C of this Chapter, but shall apply along a minimum of 85 percent of the West 16th Street and West 17th Street frontages. No portion of a #building# or other structure# located within 300 feet of Tenth Avenue shall exceed a height of 120 feet, except for one #building# which may have a height not to exceed 250 feet provided such #building# is located in its entirety between 10 feet and 90 feet of West 17th Street and has a length that does not exceed 175 feet when measured parallel to the West 17th Street #street line#.

In all other portions of Subarea I, the provisions of paragraph (a) shall apply.

(g) Subarea J

The provisions set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall not apply to any #development# or #enlargement# that utilizes the provisions of Section 98-25. In lieu thereof, the provisions of this paragraph (g) shall apply.

(1) Midblock Zone

The Midblock Zone shall be that portion of Subarea J located more than 150 feet west of the Ninth Avenue #street line# and more than 200 feet east of the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Within the Midblock Zone, a #building# shall have a maximum #street wall# height before setback of 110 feet, and shall have a maximum #building# height of 130 feet.

(2) Ninth Avenue Zone

The Ninth Avenue Zone shall be that portion of Subarea J within 150 feet of the Ninth Avenue #street line#. Within the Ninth Avenue Zone, any portion of a #building# shall have a maximum #street wall# height of 130 feet before setback and a maximum #building# height of 135 feet. Any #building# located above a height of 130 feet shall be set back at least five feet from the Ninth Avenue #street wall# and at least 15 feet from the West 15th Street and West 16th Street #street walls#.

(3) Tenth Avenue Zone

The Tenth Avenue Zone shall be that portion of a #zoning lot# within 200 feet of the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Within the Tenth Avenue Zone, any portion of a #building# shall have a maximum #street wall# height of 185 feet before setback and a maximum #building# height of 230 feet, provided that any portion of a #building# located above a height of 90 feet shall be set back not less than 15 feet from the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Any portion of a #building# located above a height of 185 feet shall be set back at least 10 feet from the West 15th

and West 16th Street #street lines#, and at least 25 feet from the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Any portion of a #building# above a height of 200 feet shall be set back at least 25 feet from the West 15th and West 16th Street #street lines#, and at least 35 feet from the Tenth Avenue #street lines#, and any portion of a building located above a height of 215 feet shall be set back at least 75 feet from the Tenth Avenue #street line#. Permitted obstructions allowed pursuant to Section 33-42 shall be permitted.

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM BASE HEIGHT AND MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT BY DISTRICT OR SUBAREA

District or Subarea		Minimum Base Height (in feet)	Maximum Base Height (in feet)	Maximum #Building# Height (in feet)
M1-5		50	95	135
Subarea A	within 50 feet of a #wide street#	60	85	_____ ¹
	between 50 and 100 feet of a #wide street#	15	85	_____ ¹
	for #zoning lots# with only #narrow street# frontage	40	60	_____ ¹
Subarea B		60	95	135
Subarea C	for #zoning lots# with only #narrow street# frontage	60	110	110
	for #zoning lots# with Tenth Avenue frontage	105 ²	125 ²	125 ²
	for #zoning lots# with Eleventh Avenue frontage	125 ²	145 ²	145 ²
Subarea D		60	90	250 ¹
Subarea E		60	105 ³	120 ³
Subarea F		60 ²	80 ²	80 ²

Subarea G	for #zoning lots# with only #narrow street# frontage	60	95	95
	for #zoning lots# with #wide street# frontage	105 ²	120 ²	120 ²
Subarea H		60 ⁴	85 ⁴	_____ ⁴
Subarea I	within 300 feet of Tenth Avenue between W. 16th St. & W. 17th St.	60	85	120 ⁵
	all other areas	60	105	135
Subarea J	Midblock Zone	NA	110 ⁶	130 ⁶
	Ninth Avenue Zone	NA	130 ⁶	135 ⁶
	Tenth Avenue Zone	NA	185 ⁶	230 ⁶

¹ see Section 98-423, paragraph (b)

² see Section 98-423, paragraph (c)

³ see Section 98-423, paragraph (d)

⁴ see Section 98-423, paragraph (e)

⁵ see Section 98-423, paragraph (f)

⁶ see Section 98-423, paragraph (g)

98-424 - Authorization to modify certain bulk regulations

LAST AMENDED
3/22/2006

For #zoning lots# located entirely within 75 feet of the west side of the #High Line#, the City Planning Commission may authorize the modification of height and setback regulations set forth in Sections 98-40 and 98-50, inclusive, the transparency requirements set forth in Sections 98-141 and 98-54, and the underlying #rear yard# and minimum distance between #legally required windows# and walls or #lot lines# regulations. The Commission shall find that such modification will result in a better distribution of #bulk# on the #zoning lot# and will not adversely affect access to light and air for surrounding public areas.

The Commission may prescribe appropriate conditions and safeguards to enhance the character of the surrounding area.