62-81 - Certifications by the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission
The provisions of Sections 62-811 and 62-812, relating to certifications for waterfront public access areas, visual corridors and zoning lot subdivisions, shall apply to all zoning lots within waterfront blocks and any other blocks included within a Waterfront Access Plan, except that the following shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 62-811:

- airports, heliports and seaplane bases;
- in any district, existing zoning lots of less than 10,000 square feet developed predominantly with single- or two-family residences within detached, semi-detached or zero lot line buildings, provided such zoning lots are not included within an area subject to a Waterfront Access Plan pursuant to Section 62-90;
- zoning lots in R1 and R2 Districts; and
- zoning lots in C8 and Manufacturing Districts, containing predominantly Use Group 16, 17 or 18 uses, except for docking facilities serving passenger ocean vessels or sightseeing, excursion or sport fishing vessels.

No excavation or building permit shall be issued for any development on a waterfront block, or any other block included within a Waterfront Access Plan, until the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies to the Department of Buildings or Department of Business Services, as applicable, that:

(a) there is no waterfront public access area or visual corridor requirement for the zoning lot containing such development due to the following:
   (1) the development is exempt pursuant to Sections 62-52 (Applicability of Waterfront Public Access Area Requirements) or 62-51 (Applicability of Visual Corridor Requirements); or
   (2) the waterfront public access area or visual corridor requirement has been waived pursuant to Section 62-90 (WATERFRONT ACCESS PLANS);

(b) a site plan and all other applicable documents have been submitted showing compliance with the provisions of Sections 62-332 (Rear yards and waterfront yards), 62-50 (GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VISUAL CORRIDORS AND WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS), and 62-60 (DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS);

(c) a site plan has been submitted showing compliance with the provisions of Section 62-90;

(d) for developments listed in Section 62-52, paragraph (b), on a zoning lot containing a public access area established prior to October 25, 1993, meeting the terms of Section 62-58 (Requirements for Water-Dependent Uses and Other Developments), by restrictive declaration, lease agreement, maintenance and operation agreement or other agreement with a public entity, which public access area is required to be provided for the life of the development subject to such agreement, a copy of such restrictive declaration or agreement and a site plan indicating the location, area and design of the required public access area and showing substantial compliance with the provisions of Section 62-58 have been submitted; or
For any parcel identified in Waterfront Access Plan BK-1, the Chairperson shall allow for the phased implementation of all required waterfront public access areas upon certification to the Commissioner of Buildings that a plan has been submitted that provides for an amount of waterfront public access area proportionate to the amount of floor area being developed in each phase. Additionally, for any development located within 240 feet of a shoreline, the initial phase and each subsequent phase shall provide a minimum of 200 linear feet of shore public walkway and any adjacent supplemental public access area located between such development and such shore public walkway, one upland connection through or adjacent to the entire parcel leading to the shore public walkway, and at least one other connection from the shore public walkway to an adjacent shore public walkway, street or other upland connection. For any development located entirely beyond 240 feet of a shoreline, the initial phase and each subsequent phase shall also provide a minimum of 100 linear feet of shore public walkway and one upland connection through or adjacent to the entire parcel leading to the shore public walkway. However, no waterfront public access area need be provided for a phase consisting of a development in which all residences in such phase are affordable residences for lower income households as defined in Section 23-93, or moderate income households as defined in Section 62-352, provided that such exemption shall only apply where 25 percent or less of the total residential floor area, including any applicable floor area bonuses, on the parcel has been developed.

A certification pursuant to paragraphs (b) or (c) of this Section shall be granted on condition that an acceptable restrictive declaration is executed and filed pursuant to Section 62-74 (Requirements for Recordation).

Within 45 days of receipt of a complete application, the Chairperson shall either certify that the proposed development complies with the requirements of this Section or disapprove such application, citing the nature of any failure to comply. Failure to certify or disapprove such application within the 45 day period will release the Department of Buildings or the Department of Business Services from any obligation to withhold the excavation or building permit and authorize such agency to determine compliance with the provisions of this Section.

62-812 - Zoning lot subdivision

LAST AMENDED
4/22/2009

An existing zoning lot within a waterfront block, or within any other block included in a Waterfront Access Plan, may be subdivided into two or more zoning lots, or reconfigured in a manner that would reduce its area or any dimension, only in accordance with the provisions of this Section or as modified pursuant to Section 62-822 (Modification of waterfront public access area and visual corridor requirements).

Such zoning lot may be subdivided or reconfigured provided that the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies that:

(a) there are no requirements in this Chapter for a waterfront public access area or visual corridors on such zoning lot for any use permitted on such zoning lot; or

(b) a restrictive declaration shall be recorded against each subdivided or reconfigured zoning lot, binding all such zoning lots to provide waterfront public access areas or visual corridors at the time of a development, other than an exempt development, as set forth in Section 62-52. Such restrictive declaration shall include a site plan that sets forth the amount and location of the required waterfront public access areas and visual corridors on all resulting zoning lots. Such waterfront public access area or visual corridor shall be provided as required for the original zoning lot at the time of development of a non-exempt use; or

(c) there are existing publicly accessible waterfront open areas on the zoning lot constructed as part of a previously
approved site plan providing physical and visual access to and along the waterfront, and such open areas are no smaller in square footage than that required under the provisions of this Chapter for waterfront public access areas and visual corridors, and restrictions have been recorded against the property requiring such existing open area to remain accessible to the public for the life of the development.

62-813 - Docking facilities for ferries or water taxis in certain waterfront areas

LAST AMENDED 3/26/2014

In Community District 1 in the Borough of Brooklyn, docking facilities for ferries or water taxis set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section shall be permitted, provided that the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission certifies to the Commissioner of the Department of Buildings that such docking facilities comply with the standards for required amenities set forth in paragraph (b) of this Section and, where provided, the standards for permitted amenities set forth in paragraph (c) of this Section. In conjunction with such certification, parking and drop-off and pick-up area requirements for docking facilities with a vessel capacity of up to 399 passengers shall be waived, as applicable. Where such docking facilities are proposed within a waterfront public access area, such docking facilities shall also comply with the provisions of paragraph (d) of this Section. Where modifications to a docking facility certified pursuant this Section are made, including the amount or configuration of docking facility amenities, establishment of, or modification to, waterfront public access areas on the same waterfront zoning lot, or the cessation of ferry or water taxi service to such docking facility, the provisions of paragraph (e) of this Section shall apply.

The amount of amenities permitted or required pursuant to paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Section shall be calculated for each docking facility on the waterfront zoning lot and not according to the number of vessels a single docking facility can accommodate.

(a) Docking facilities

The following docking facilities are subject to the certification provisions of this Section:

(1) docks for water taxis, with a vessel capacity of up to 99 passengers, as listed in Use Group 6C, when located within R6 through R10 Districts, or C1, C2, C4, C5, C6 or C8 Districts, and as listed in Use Group 14A, when located in C2, C3, C7 or C8 Districts and Manufacturing Districts;

(2) docks for ferries, other than gambling vessels, with a vessel capacity of up to 399 passengers, as listed in Use Group 6C, when located within R6 through R10 Districts or C1, C2, C4, C5, C6 or C8 Districts, and as listed in Use Group 14A, when located in C2, C3, C7 or C8 Districts and Manufacturing Districts; and

(3) docks for ferries with an unlimited capacity, as listed in Use Group 10A, in C4, C5, C6, C8 Districts and Manufacturing Districts.

(b) Required amenities

Passenger queuing space, bicycle parking and a trash receptacle shall be provided in accordance with the applicable provisions of this paragraph (b), inclusive. All applications shall include a site plan denoting the location of each required amenity, dimensioned plans and elevations of individual amenities, as applicable, as well as any other material required to demonstrate compliance with such provisions.

(1) Passenger queuing space

Passenger queuing space shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph (b)(1), inclusive.
(i) Amount

A minimum of four square feet of queuing space per passenger shall be provided on the waterfront zoning lot for 40 percent of the U. S. Coast Guard certified passenger capacity of the largest vessel proposed to dock at such facility. Queuing space may be either standing space or seating space, and may be either open to the sky or provided within a sheltered space for passengers in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (c)(1), inclusive, of this Section.

(ii) Standing space

All standing queuing space shall be contiguous and clear of obstructions, except for any interruption by circulation paths required for access to docking facilities through a gangway, or pier access thereto. However, such standing queuing space may be non-contiguous and temporary dividers may be permitted as obstructions within such queuing space where the applicant signs an affidavit, or provides materials demonstrating in a manner that is satisfactory to the Chairperson, that an attendant will manage queues whenever such measures are implemented.

(iii) Seating space

A minimum of 10 percent of required queuing space shall be provided as seating, and up to 50 percent of required queuing space may be provided as seating. However, no seating shall be required within a previously approved waterfront public access area. For the purpose of applying seating towards the queuing requirement, one linear foot of seating shall equal one square foot of queuing space.

All seating provided for queuing space shall comply with the applicable dimensional criteria of Section 62-652 (Seating), but need not comply with the percentage requirements for different types of seating required pursuant to such Section. However, moveable chairs shall not constitute seating for queuing.

Any seating space provided pursuant to this Section within an existing or proposed waterfront public access area shall not count towards the maximum amount of seating permitted to be located seaward of the shore public walkway pursuant to paragraph (b) of Section 62-62 (Design Requirements for Shore Public Walkways and Supplemental Public Access Areas).

(iv) Location

Queuing space shall be provided on the waterfront zoning lot within 150 feet of the landward terminus of the gangway leading to the docking facility.

(2) Bicycle parking

Bicycle racks sufficient to provide at least four bicycle parking spaces shall be provided on the waterfront zoning lot. Such bicycle racks shall comply with the standards of Section 62-657.

(3) Trash receptacle

One trash receptacle shall be provided on the waterfront zoning lot within 25 feet of the landward terminus of the gangway leading to the docking facility. Such trash receptacle shall comply with the standards of Section 62-658.

(c) Permitted amenities
Passenger queuing shelters and ticketing machines may be provided only in accordance with the applicable standards of this paragraph (c), or, where applicable, the authorization provisions set forth in Section 62-824 (Modifications to passenger queuing shelters for ferry or water taxi docking facilities).

All applications shall include a site plan denoting the location of such amenities, dimensioned plans and elevations of individual amenities, as well as any other material required to demonstrate compliance with the following standards:

(1) Passenger queueing shelter

Where provided, passenger queueing shelters shall comply with the provisions of this paragraph (c)(1), inclusive. All heights are measured from adjoining grade.

(i) Maximum dimensions and permitted enclosing walls

The maximum height of a shelter shall be 10 feet. Below a height of seven feet, the maximum width shall be four feet, and above a height of seven feet, the maximum width shall be eight feet. The maximum length of a shelter shall not exceed 16 feet, except that where a ticketing machine provided pursuant to paragraph (c)(2) of this Section is located within such shelter, such maximum length may be increased to 20 feet.

Shelters shall be permitted a total of three enclosing walls, one along the long dimension of the shelter, and one along each narrow end.

(ii) Support structures below the roof

A maximum of two vertical columns may support the enclosing walls and the roof of a shelter, except that where a ticketing machine provided pursuant to paragraph (c)(2) of this Section is located within such shelter, an additional column shall be permitted. The maximum width and depth of such columns shall not exceed 12 inches. All such columns shall be aligned so that when viewed in elevation view along the narrow end of the shelter, only one column shall be visible.

Below a height of 30 inches, one horizontal structural element shall be permitted along the long dimension of the shelter. The maximum depth and height of such structural element shall not exceed 12 inches. Between a height of 30 inches and seven feet no horizontal structural elements shall be permitted, and above a height of seven feet, horizontal structural elements shall be considered part of the roof structure.

Additional support structures needed to support glazing in the enclosing walls are permitted, provided that such structures are to the minimum amount necessary.

(iii) Roof structure

The roof of the shelter, including all associated structural elements and materials, shall be located above a height of seven feet.

The maximum depth of the roof, including all associated structural elements and materials, shall not exceed 12 inches, as measured perpendicular to the roof surface. In addition, within six inches of the edge of any portion of the roof that cantilevers over passenger queuing space, as viewed in elevation along the narrow end of the shelter, the depth of the roof shall be limited to three inches.
No slopes or curves shall be permitted in the roof along the long dimension of the shelter. Along the narrow end of the shelter, slopes not to exceed 15 degrees and curves with a radius of at least 10 feet shall be permitted. Where two slopes are provided, in no event shall both portions of the roof angle downward from the same point.

(iv) Materials, lighting and permitted signage

On each narrow end of the shelter, the enclosing wall or associated vertical support column may accommodate up to six square feet of way-finding ferry signs, with a width not to exceed 12 inches. In addition, the enclosing wall on the long end of the shelter or a face of a ticketing machine provided in accordance with paragraph (c)(2) of this Section may accommodate up to six square feet of materials related to ferry operations, including maps and schedules of ferry service. No advertising signs shall be permitted.

All structural elements shall be composed of unpainted, metallic materials. The entire surface area of all enclosing walls shall be composed of untinted, transparent materials, except for transparency distraction markers and any support structures or signage permitted pursuant to this paragraph (c)(1). A minimum of 50 percent of the surface area of the roof shall be composed of translucent materials, except that any portion occupied by solar panels shall be excluded from such calculation. Benches provided within a shelter shall either match or complement such shelter materials.

Where lighting is provided within a shelter, the luminaire shall be shielded so the light source is not visible.

(v) Location and orientation

Shelters shall be provided on the waterfront zoning lot within 100 feet of the landward terminus of the gangway leading to the docking facility.

The long dimension of the shelter shall be oriented so as to be within 15 degrees of being perpendicular to the shoreline or, where located on a pier, within 15 degrees of being parallel to such pier.

Where a shelter is provided within a previously approved waterfront public access area, the Chairperson may modify the location and orientation provisions of this Section, to the minimum extent necessary, where site limitations would make compliance with such provisions infeasible.

(2) Ticketing machines

Ticketing machines provided in conjunction with a docking facility shall comply with the provisions of this paragraph (c)(2).

(i) Maximum square footage

The maximum area of all ticket machines, as measured in plan around the furthest extent of such machines, shall not exceed 12 square feet.

(ii) Location

Ticketing machines shall be provided on the waterfront zoning lot within 100 feet of the landward
terminus of the gangway leading to the docking facility.

Where a passenger queuing shelter is provided in conjunction with the ferry or water taxi docking facility pursuant to paragraph (c)(1) of this Section, ticketing machines shall be located either within, or immediately adjacent to the upland portion of such shelter.

Any ticketing machine not placed within a passenger queuing shelter shall be placed in a location open to the sky.

Ticketing machines shall either front directly upon a required circulation path or shall be connected thereto by a walkway with an unobstructed minimum clear width of at least five feet.

Where a ticketing machine is provided within a previously approved #waterfront public access area#, the Chairperson may modify the location provisions of this Section, to the minimum extent necessary, where site limitations would make compliance with such provisions infeasible.

(d) Provisions for adding amenities for docking facilities to a #waterfront public access area#

Docking facilities proposed within a previously approved #waterfront public access area# or in conjunction with a certification for such approval, pursuant to Section 62-811 (Waterfront public access areas and visual corridors), shall comply with the applicable provisions of this paragraph (d).

(1) Permitted obstructions

In no event shall amenities provided pursuant to paragraphs (b) or (c) of this Section be permitted to encroach upon the minimum circulation paths required pursuant to the applicable provisions of Sections 62-62 (Design Requirements for Shore Public Walkways and Supplemental Public Access Areas), 62-63 (Design Requirements for Public Access on Piers and Floating Structures) and 62-64 (Design Requirements for Upland Connections).

(2) Providing amenities in previously approved #waterfront public access areas#

All seating, bicycle parking and trash receptacles provided for docking facilities in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of this Section, within a previously approved #waterfront public access area#, shall be provided in addition to the amount of seating, bicycle parking, or trash receptacles required for such #waterfront public access area# pursuant to the applicable provisions of Section 62-60 (DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS). Where excess seating, bicycle parking or trash receptacles have been provided within such previously approved #waterfront public access areas#, such additional amenities may be applied towards compliance with the provisions for docking facilities of this Section, provided that such amenities comply with the applicable provisions of paragraph (b) of this Section. Where previously approved #waterfront public access areas# are #non-complying# as to the provision of required amenities, in no event shall the minimum amount of amenity provided for docking facilities pursuant to paragraph (b) reduce the degree of #non-compliance# of such #waterfront public access area#.

All seating, bicycle parking and trash receptacles provided in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of this Section in an existing #waterfront public access area# shall either match or shall be comparable with such existing amenities, with regard to quality, materials, finishes and form.

Modifications to a previously approved #waterfront public access area# in order to accommodate amenities to be provided for a docking facility in accordance with paragraphs (b) or (c) of this Section shall not constitute a
design change to such waterfront public access area#, and shall not necessitate a new certification pursuant to Section 62-811, provided that the applicant demonstrates to the Chairperson of the City Planning Commission that such modifications are to the minimum extent necessary in order to accommodate the amenities being provided for such docking facility.

(3) Providing amenities in conjunction with a new waterfront public access area#

All amenities provided for docking facilities in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of this Section shall be provided in addition to all required seating, bicycle parking, or trash receptacles for a waterfront public access area# being developed in conjunction with the provision of a docking facility. All such proposed amenities for the docking facility shall complement the proposed amenities for such waterfront public access area#.

(e) Modifications of certified docking facilities

Any modification to a docking facility certified pursuant to this Section, shall comply with the applicable provisions of this paragraph (e).

(1) Modification of amenities

Any modification of the required or permitted amenities for a docking facility certified pursuant to this Section, including the configuration of such amenities, shall be subject to a new certification pursuant to this Section.

Any ferry or water taxi service modification resulting in a reduction of passenger capacity of the largest vessel docking at such facility shall not be subject to a new certification provided that the amount of queuing space required at the time of approval, pursuant to paragraph (b) of this Section, is not diminished.

(2) Establishment of or modifications to waterfront public access areas#

Any establishment of a waterfront public access area# or modification to a previously approved waterfront public access area# where a docking facility certified pursuant to this Section is located, shall require a new certification, pursuant to this Section, in conjunction with the certification set forth in Section 62-811.

(3) Cessation of ferry or water taxi service

Where ferry or water taxi service ceases operations to a docking facility certified pursuant to this Section, and ferry docking infrastructure is removed from the waterfront zoning lot# which would preclude further service, the following shall apply:

(i) Passenger queuing shelters and ticketing machines provided pursuant to paragraph (c) of this Section shall be removed from the waterfront public access area#;

(ii) Seating, bicycle racks, and litter receptacles provided pursuant to paragraph (b) of this Section need not be removed; and

(iii) any breach in a guardrail along a pier# or along the shore public walkway# to accommodate a gangway to a docking facility shall be repaired and shall match the adjacent guardrail.