62-91 - General Provisions
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LAST AMENDED
4/22/2009

62-911 - Establishment of Waterfront Access Plans

LAST AMENDED
4/22/2009

The City Planning Commission and City Council may adopt a Waterfront Access Plan as an amendment to this Resolution pursuant to Section 200 or 201 of the City Charter and in accordance with the provisions of Sections 62-912 (Elements of a Waterfront Access Plan), 62-913 (Conditions for adoption of a Waterfront Access Plan) and this Section in order to adjust the #waterfront public access area# and #visual corridor# requirements of Sections 62-50 and 62-60, inclusive, retain the #waterfront block bulk# regulations of Section 62-30 on newly-created non-#waterfront blocks# within a specifically defined portion of the #waterfront area#, or establish #waterfront yard# requirements for #developments# otherwise exempt from the requirements of Section 62-33 (Special Yard Regulations on Waterfront Blocks).

To be considered for a Waterfront Access Plan, an area shall:

(a) be entirely in the #waterfront area#;

(b) not include any portions within R1 or R2 Districts;

(c) comprise either entire #blocks# or a minimum of four acres, all portions of which are contiguous tracts of land except for intervening #streets#; and

(d) have at least 600 feet of #shoreline#.

62-912 - Elements of a Waterfront Access Plan

LAST AMENDED
4/22/2009

A Waterfront Access Plan may:

(a) on #zoning lots# where a #waterfront public access area# or #visual corridors# are required pursuant to the provisions of Sections 62-50 (GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VISUAL CORRIDORS AND WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS) and 62-60 (DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS), inclusive, modify the size, configuration, location or design of required #waterfront public access area# or #visual corridors# within certain designated areas in order to address local conditions, provided such plan does not impose a #waterfront public access area# or #visual corridor# requirement on any #zoning lot# greater than would otherwise be required pursuant to the provisions of Sections 62-50 or 62-60. For the purpose of determining the amount of public access, the highest standard applicable to a #zoning lot# may be applied regardless of any specific #use# permitted or proposed for such #zoning lot#. Within Waterfront Access Plan BK-1, the #waterfront public access area# and #visual corridor# requirements for any parcel located within the Waterfront Access Plan may be determined by aggregating the #waterfront public access area# and #visual corridor# requirements of each #zoning lot# within the parcel and such aggregated requirements may be modified within such parcel without regard to #zoning lot lines#;

(b) on #zoning lots# where #waterfront public access area# or #visual corridors# are not required pursuant to the provisions of Sections 62-50 and 62-60, inclusive, establish requirements for a #waterfront public access area# or #visual corridors#,
except for those #zoning lots# #predominantly# #developed# for airports, heliports, seaplane bases or, in C8 or #Manufacturing Districts#, #uses# in Use Groups 16, 17 or 18, provided that such #zoning lots#, when improved would result in a community need for such physical or visual access to the waterfront or a waterfront linkage of #public parks# or other public areas. The plan may incorporate one or more of the #waterfront public access areas# or #visual corridors# listed in Section 62-50, inclusive, consistent with the standards of Sections 62-50 and 62-60, inclusive. Such standards may be modified as necessary to address local conditions provided such plan does not impose a requirement for any component greater than would otherwise be required pursuant to the provisions of Sections 62-50 or 62-60;

(c) modify or waive specific requirements for a #waterfront public access area# or #visual corridors# in certain designated areas where such requirements would not be compatible with local conditions and therefore not serve to further public enjoyment of the waterfront;

(d) identify shore terminations of mapped #streets# or #existing piers# or #platforms# within seaward prolongations of such #streets# and establish public access treatments for such areas after referral to the Department of Transportation or other City agency having jurisdiction over such property for its review and concurrence;

(e) apply the #bulk# regulations of Section 62-30 to a non-#waterfront block# when such #block# results from a subdivision of a #waterfront block# as the result of a #street# mapping; and

(f) for #developments# where a #waterfront yard# is not otherwise required by Section 62-33, establish requirements for a #waterfront yard# provided such plan does not impose a requirement greater than would be required by the provisions of Sections 62-331 (Front yards and side yards) or 62-332 (Rear yards and waterfront yards), as modified by the further provisions of this paragraph, (f), for such other #developments#. #Enlargements# of #buildings# or other structures# existing on the effective date of the Waterfront Access Plan shall be permitted within such #waterfront yard# provided that the #enlargement# is for WD #uses# or Use Group 16, 17 or 18 #uses# and no portion of the #enlargement#, other than permitted obstructions, is within 20 feet of the seaward edge of the #waterfront yard#. In addition, obstructions shall be permitted within such #waterfront yard# pursuant to applicable district #yard# regulations, except that no #building# or portion of a #building# shall be permitted within 10 feet of the seaward edge of such #waterfront yard#.

A Waterfront Access Plan shall include the following elements:

(1) identification of the plan by Borough and plan number or area name;

(2) a #zoning map#, or portion thereof, showing the boundaries of the geographical area included within the plan, which shall constitute the plan map;

(3) delineation on the plan map of any physical or visual waterfront access features mandated by the plan to be at specific locations; and

(4) a description in the plan text of all features established or modified by the plan, with reference to affected #blocks# and lots.

62-913 - Conditions for adoption of a Waterfront Access Plan

LAST AMENDED
4/22/2009

As a condition precedent to its approval of a Waterfront Access Plan, the City Planning Commission shall find, in its report to the City Council for adoption, that such plan:

(a) would improve public use and enjoyment of the waterfront, thereby serving to implement the goals set forth in Section 62-00; and
(b) meets any of the following:

(1) is necessary to link public parks or other public areas along the waterfront or to the waterfront, and such linkage would not necessarily be achieved solely by the provisions of Sections 62-34 (Height and Setback Regulations on Waterfront Blocks), 62-50 (GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VISUAL CORRIDORS AND WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS) and 62-60 (DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS);

(2) is necessary to accommodate unique shore conditions or the retention of existing buildings or other structures, including bridges, viaducts or railways that would not be adequately accommodated by the provisions of Sections 62-50 and 62-60;

(3) is necessary to accommodate unique topography or natural features, such as wetlands conditions, significant grade changes, geologic formations, natural vegetation or wildlife habitats, which natural features or topography would not be adequately accommodated by the provisions of Sections 62-34, 62-50 and 62-60;

(4) is necessary to create a better physical or visual relationship of the waterfront to significant upland streets or preserves significant views of the water or historic structures from such streets, which would not necessarily be achieved by the provisions of Sections 62-34, 62-50 and 62-60;

(5) is necessary to achieve public access to the waterfront in an area characterized by large undeveloped tracts of land with a limited number of public streets leading to the shore;

(6) is necessary to maintain visual corridors that would be extinguished by a street de-mapping after October 25, 1993, or maintains visual corridors from certain upland streets that would be exempted from such requirements as the result of an intervening street mapping after October 25, 1993; or

(7) is necessary to retain the bulk regulations of Section 62-30 on certain blocks that would be exempted from such requirements as the result of an intervening street mapping after October 25, 1993.