



Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Bill de Blasio, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Marisa Lago, Chair

87-415 - Special streetscape provisions for certain blank walls

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 8/13/2020

87-415 - Special streetscape provisions for certain blank walls

LAST AMENDED
12/11/2017

The provisions of this Section shall apply to a #ground floor level building# frontage, or any portion thereof, facing a #street#, #shore public walkway#, #upland connection#, or fire apparatus access road provided pursuant to the provisions of Section 87-61 (Special Provisions for Certain Fire Apparatus Access Roads), where no transparent materials or entrances or exits are provided on the #ground floor level# below a height of four feet above the level of the adjoining sidewalk, or grade, as applicable, for a continuous width of at least 25 feet. For the purpose of this Section, such a #building# wall, or portion thereof, shall be referred to as a “blank wall” and visual mitigation elements shall be provided in accordance with this Section.

At least 50 percent of the linear footage of any blank wall on a #ground floor level building# frontage shall be treated by one or more of the visual mitigation elements specified in this Section. Where a #building# wall fronts upon a #street#, such visual mitigation elements shall be provided on the #zoning lot#, except that the depth of an area containing such elements within the #zoning lot# need not be greater than three feet, when measured perpendicular to the #street line#. Where a blank wall exceeds a #street wall# width of 50 feet, at least 25 percent of such #street wall# width shall be planted in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section, and where a blank wall exceeds a height of 10 feet, as measured from the level of the adjoining grade, for a width of more than 25 feet, at least 50 percent of such #street wall# width shall provide wall treatments in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (e) of this Section.

The maximum width of a portion of the #ground floor level# blank wall without visual mitigation elements shall not exceed 10 feet. However, such blank wall limitation shall not include portions of #street walls# occupied by entrances or exits to #accessory# off-street parking facilities and #public parking garages#, where permitted, entryways to required loading berths, where permitted, or doors accessing emergency egress stairwells and passageways.

Visual mitigation elements:

(a) Planting

Any combination of perennials, annuals, decorative grasses or shrubs shall be provided in planting beds, raised planting beds or planter boxes in front of the #street wall#. Each foot in width of a planting bed, raised planting bed or planter box, as measured parallel to the #street wall#, shall satisfy one linear foot of frontage mitigation requirement. Such planting bed shall extend to a depth of at least three feet, inclusive of any structure containing the planted material. Any individual planted area shall have a width of at least five feet, and the height of such planting, inclusive of any structure containing the planted materials, shall be at least three feet.

(b) Benches

Fixed benches with or without seatbacks shall be provided in front of the #street wall#. Unobstructed access shall be provided between such benches and an adjoining sidewalk or required circulation paths. Each linear foot of bench, as measured parallel to the #street wall#, shall satisfy one linear foot of frontage mitigation requirement. Any individual bench shall have a width of at least five feet, and no more than 20 feet of benches may be used to fulfill such requirement per 50 feet of frontage.

(c) Bicycle racks

Bicycle racks, sufficient to accommodate at least two bicycles, shall be provided in front of the #street wall#, and oriented so that the bicycles are placed parallel to the #street wall#. Each bicycle rack so provided shall satisfy five linear feet of frontage mitigation requirement. No more than three bicycle racks may be used to fulfill such requirement per 50

feet of frontage.

(d) Tables and chairs

Fixed tables and chairs shall be provided in front of the #street wall#. Each table shall have a minimum diameter of two feet, and have a minimum of two chairs associated with it. Each table and chair set so provided shall satisfy five linear feet of frontage mitigation requirement.

(e) Wall treatment

Wall treatment, in the form of permitted #signs#, graphic or sculptural art, rustication, decorative screening or latticework, or living plant material, shall be provided along the #street wall#. Each linear foot of wall treatment shall constitute one linear foot of frontage mitigation requirement. Such wall treatment shall extend to a height of at least 10 feet, as measured from the level of the adjoining sidewalk or grade, and have a minimum width of 10 feet, as measured parallel to the #street wall#.