



## Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Eric Adams, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Daniel R. Garodnick, Chair

# 131-10 - SPECIAL USE REGULATIONS

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 1/27/2023

---

## **131-10 - SPECIAL USE REGULATIONS**

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

The special #use# regulations set forth in this Section, inclusive, shall modify the underlying #Commercial Districts#, as applicable.

For the purposes of this Chapter, “ground floor level” shall mean the finished floor level within five feet of an adjacent public sidewalk or any other publicly accessible open space.

---

## **131-11 - Use Group 5**

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

For the purposes of this Chapter, the definition of #transient hotel# shall be modified to allow only such hotels used exclusively for transient occupancy. Such #transient hotels# used exclusively for transient occupancy shall be permitted only in specified locations as set forth in this Chapter, where permitted pursuant to Section [32-02](#) (Special Provisions for Hotels).

---

## **131-12 - Use Groups A, B and C**

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

Special Use Groups are established as set forth in this Section, to promote and strengthen the commercial and entertainment character of the Special District.

---

## **131-121 - Use Group A: Amusements**

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

Use Group A consists of a group of #uses#, selected from Use Groups 12, 13 and 15, as modified in this Section, and may be open or enclosed:

### Use Group A1

Amusement arcades

Amusement parks, with no limitation on floor area per establishment

Animal exhibits, circuses, carnivals or fairs of a temporary nature

Camps, overnight or day, #commercial# beaches or swimming pools

Dark rides, electronic or computer-supported games, including interactive entertainment facilities, laser tag and motion simulators

Ferris wheels, flume rides, roller coasters, whips, parachute jumps, dodgem scooters, merry-go-rounds or similar midway attractions

Fortune tellers, freak shows, haunted houses, wax museums, or similar midway attractions

Miniature golf courses and model car hobby centers, including racing

Open booths with games of skill or chance, including shooting galleries

Water parks

#### Use Group A2

Arenas or auditoriums, with capacity limited to 2,000 seats

Billiard parlors or pool halls, table tennis halls or bowling alleys, with no limitation on number of bowling lanes per establishment

Gymnasiums or recreational sports facilities including, but not limited to, indoor golf driving ranges, batting cages, basketball, volleyball, squash and other courts, without membership requirements

Skateboard parks, roller or ice skating rinks

Theaters, including movie theaters, provided such #use# does not occupy the ground floor level of a #building#, except for lobbies limited to a maximum #street# frontage of 30 feet, except that on #corner lots# one #street# frontage may extend up to 100 feet.

#Accessory# #uses# to the amusements listed in this Section, including the display and sale of goods or services, provided:

- (a) such #accessory# #uses# are limited to not more than 25 percent of the #floor area# of the amusement establishment or, for open #uses#, not more than 25 percent of the #lot area#;
- (b) such #accessory# #uses# shall be entered only through the principal amusement establishment;
- (c) such #accessory# #uses# shall share common cash registers with the principal amusement #use#;
- (d) such #accessory# #uses# shall have the same hours of operation as the principal amusement #use#; and
- (e) the principal amusement #use# shall occupy the entire #street# frontage of the ground floor level of the establishment and shall extend to a depth of at least 30 feet from the #street wall# of the #building# or, for open #uses#, at least 30 feet from the #street line#.

---

### **131-122 - Use Group B: Amusement and entertainment-enhancing uses**

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

Use Group B consists of a group of #uses#, selected from Use Groups 6, 9, 12, 13 and 18, as modified in this Section:

Art gallery, commercial

Banquet halls

Breweries

Eating or drinking establishments of any size, including those with entertainment or dancing

Historical exhibits

Spas and bathhouses

Studios, art, music, dancing or theatrical

Tattoo parlors

Radio or television studios

Wedding chapels

---

## **131-123 - Use Group C: Retail and service uses**

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

Use Group C consists of a group of retail and service #uses#, selected from Use Groups 6, 7, 12 and 14, as modified in this Section:

Arts and crafts production and sales, including but not limited to ceramics, art needlework, hand weaving or tapestries, book binding, fabric painting, glass blowing, jewelry or art metal craft and wood carving

Bicycle sales, rental or repair shops

Bookstores

Candy or ice cream stores

Clothing or clothing accessory

Clothing, custom manufacturing or altering for retail, including costume production and hair product manufacturing

Delicatessen stores

Fishing tackle or equipment, rental or sales

Gift shops

#Health and fitness establishments# limited to 10,000 square feet of #floor area# per establishment

Jewelry manufacturing from precious metals

Musical instrument stores

Music stores

Newsstands

Patio or beach furniture or equipment

Photographic equipment stores and studios

Sporting goods or equipment, sale or rental, including instruction in skiing, sailing or skin diving

---

## 131-13 - Special Use Regulations in Subdistricts

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

---

### 131-131 - Coney East Subdistrict

---

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

The #use# regulations of the underlying C7 District are modified as set forth in this Section. The provisions of Section [32-02](#) (Special Provisions for Hotels) are modified to apply in a C7 District. The locations of the mandatory ground floor #use# regulations of paragraphs (b), (c), (d) and (f) of this Section are shown on the #streets#, or portions of #streets#, specified on Map 2 in the Appendix to this Chapter. #Transient hotels# and Use Groups A, B and C, as set forth in Sections [131-11](#) through [131-123](#), inclusive, and #public parking garages#, shall be the only #uses# allowed in the Coney East Subdistrict, and shall comply with the following regulations:

(a) Use Group C

Use Group C #uses# shall be limited to 2,500 square feet of #floor area# and 30 feet of #street# frontage, except that on #corner lots# one #street# frontage may extend up to 100 feet.

(b) Bowery and Wonder Wheel Way

At least 50 percent of Bowery and Wonder Wheel Way #street# frontage of any #zoning lot# shall be occupied by open #uses# listed in Use Group A1 or, if enclosed, by Use Group A1 #uses# at the ground floor level, and not more than 50 percent of the Bowery and Wonder Wheel Way #street# frontage of any #zoning lot# shall be occupied by Use Group C #uses# at the ground floor level.

(c) Surf Avenue

At least 15 percent of the #street# frontage of each #block# front bounding the south side of Surf Avenue between West 16th Street and West 10th Street shall be occupied by open #uses# listed in Use Group A1 or, if enclosed, by Use Group A1 #uses# at the ground floor level.

There shall be separate open establishments or enclosed ground floor establishments fronting upon each #block# front bounding Surf Avenue, as follows:

- (1) on the #block# front bounding the southerly #street line# of Surf Avenue between Stillwell Avenue and West 12th Street there shall be at least six establishments;
- (2) on the #block# front bounding the southerly #street line# of Surf Avenue between West 12th Street and West 10th Street there shall be at least six establishments;
- (3) on all other #block# fronts there shall be at least four establishments;
- (4) the provisions of this paragraph (c) shall not apply along the southerly #street line# of Surf Avenue east of West 10th Street.

There may be fewer establishments fronting upon such #block# fronts than required pursuant to this paragraph (c), where the Chairperson of the Department of City Planning certifies to the Department of Buildings that such modification is necessary to accommodate an amusement #use# listed in Use Group A1.

(d) Stillwell Avenue and West 10th Street

At least 15 percent of the Stillwell Avenue and West 10th Street #street# frontage of any #zoning lot# shall be occupied by open #uses# listed in Use Group A1 or, if enclosed, by Use Group A1 #uses# at the ground floor level.

(e) #Transient hotels#

- (1) Where permitted pursuant to Section [32-02](#), #transient hotels# shall be permitted only on #blocks# with Surf Avenue frontage, except that no #transient hotels# shall be permitted on that portion of the #block# bounded by West 15th and West 16th Streets south of the prolongation of the centerline of Bowery.
- (2) #Transient hotel# #use# shall not be permitted within 50 feet of Bowery on the ground floor level of a #building#, except that where a #zoning lot# has frontage only on Bowery, a #transient hotel# lobby may occupy up to 30 feet of such frontage.
- (3) For #transient hotels# located on #zoning lots# with at least 20,000 square feet of #lot area#, an amount of #floor area# or #lot area# of Use Group A1 #uses# equal to at least 20 percent of the total #floor area# permitted on such #zoning lot# shall be provided either onsite or anywhere within the Coney East Subdistrict.
- (4) The #street wall# of the ground floor level of a #transient hotel# shall be occupied by active #accessory# #uses# including, but not limited to, lobbies, retail establishments, eating and drinking establishments and amusements.
- (5) #Accessory# retail establishments within a #transient hotel# shall be limited to 2,500 square feet of #floor area#.

(f) Depth of ground floor #uses#

All ground floor #uses# within #buildings# shall have a depth of at least 15 feet measured from the #street wall# of a #building#, located on #streets#, or portions of #streets#, shown on Map 2. However, such minimum depth requirement may be reduced where necessary in order to accommodate vertical circulation cores or structural columns associated with upper #stories# of the #building#.

(g) Parcel 2

On Parcel 2, as shown on Map 2, only #uses# listed in Use Group A, and #public parking garages# of any size, shall be permitted, provided such garages comply with the provisions of Section [131-52](#) (Use and Location of Parking Facilities).

(h) Parcel 3

On Parcel 3, as shown on Map 2, the provisions of the underlying C7 District shall apply, except as modified in this paragraph, (h). Only open amusement #uses# listed in Use Groups 13A and 15, as set forth in Sections [32-22](#) and [32-24](#), respectively, shall be permitted.

---

## 131-132 - Coney North and Coney West Subdistricts

---

In the Coney North and Coney West Subdistricts, #uses# allowed by the underlying district regulations shall apply, except as modified in this Section for #uses# fronting upon #streets# specified on Map 2 (Mandatory Ground Floor Use Requirements) in the Appendix to this Chapter. For the purposes of this Section, the “building line” shown on Parcel F on Map 2 shall be considered a #street line# of Ocean Way or Parachute Way, as applicable. Furthermore, an open or enclosed ice skating rink shall be a permitted #use# anywhere within Parcel F in the Coney West Subdistrict.

(a) Mandatory ground floor level #uses# along certain #streets#

Any #use# listed in Use Groups A, B and C, as set forth in Section [131-12](#), inclusive, not otherwise allowed by the underlying district regulations, shall be permitted within 70 feet of Riegelmann Boardwalk and within 100 feet of all other designated #streets#, as shown on Map 2.

(1) Riegelmann Boardwalk

Only #uses# listed in Use Groups A, B and C and, where permitted pursuant to Section [32-02](#) (Special Provisions for Hotels), #transient hotels# located above the ground floor level are permitted within 70 feet of Riegelmann Boardwalk, except that a #transient hotel# lobby may occupy up to 30 feet of such ground floor frontage along Riegelmann Boardwalk. Use Group C #uses# shall be limited to 2,500 square feet of #floor area# and 30 feet of #street# frontage for each establishment. All other establishments shall be limited to 60 feet of #street# frontage, except that for any establishment on a corner, one #street# frontage may extend up to 100 feet. All ground floor #uses# within #buildings# shall have a depth of at least 15 feet measured from the #street wall# of the #building#. However, such minimum depth requirement may be reduced where necessary in order to accommodate vertical circulation cores or structural columns associated with upper #stories# of the #building#.

(2) #Streets# other than Riegelmann Boardwalk

At least 20 percent of the frontage of a #building# or of an open #use#, on a #street# specified on Map 2, shall be allocated exclusively to #uses# listed in Use Groups A, B or C. The remaining frontage of such #building# or open #use#, on a specified #street#, shall be allocated to #commercial# #uses# permitted by the underlying district regulations or, where permitted pursuant to Section [32-02](#), a #transient hotel#. In addition, a #residential# lobby may occupy up to 40 feet of frontage along a specified #street# frontage.

There shall be at least four separate ground floor or open #commercial# establishments fronting upon each #block# fronting on Surf Avenue.

All ground floor #commercial# #uses# within #buildings# shall have a depth of at least 50 feet measured from the #street wall# of the #building#. Such minimum 50 foot depth requirement may be reduced where necessary in order to accommodate a #residential# lobby, vertical circulation cores or structural columns associated with upper #stories# of the #building#.

(b) Prohibited ground floor level #uses# along #streets# other than Riegelmann Boardwalk

No #use# listed in this paragraph, (b), shall be permitted within 50 feet of a #street# specified on Map 2. Lobbies or entryways to non-ground floor level #uses# are permitted, provided the length of #street# frontage occupied by such lobbies or entryways does not exceed, in total, 60 feet.

From Use Group 2:

All #uses#

From Use Groups 3A and 3B:

All #uses#, except for libraries, museums or non-commercial art galleries

From Use Groups 4A and 4B:

All #uses#, except for houses of worship or playgrounds

From Use Group 5A:

All #uses#, except that #transient hotels# shall be permitted within 200 feet of Surf Avenue between Stillwell Avenue and West 16th Street, where permitted pursuant to Section [32-02](#)

From Use Groups 6B, and 6E:

Offices, veterinary medicine offices or non-commercial clubs

From Use Group 6C:

Banks (except for automated teller machines, provided the length of #street# frontage allocated for automated teller machines shall be no more than 25 feet or 40 percent of the frontage of the #zoning lot#, whichever is less, except such frontage need not be less than 20 feet), except that this prohibition shall not apply along Stillwell Avenue

Electrolysis studios, frozen food lockers and loan offices

From Use Group 6D:

All #uses#

From Use Group 7:

All #uses#, except for bicycle rental or repair shops

From Use Groups 8A and 8B:

Automobile driving schools, ice vending machines, lumber stores or pawn shops

From Use Groups 8C, 8D and 8E:

All #uses#

From Use Groups 9A, 9B and 9C:

All #uses#, except for #health and fitness establishments#, public auction rooms, photographic developing or printing establishments for the consumer, or art, music, dancing or theatrical studios

From Use Groups 10A, 10B and 10C:

Depositories for storage, and wholesale offices or showrooms

Use Group 11:

All #uses#



Use Groups 12A and 12B:

Trade expositions

Use Groups 12C and 12D:

All #uses#

Use Group 14A and 14B:

All #uses#, except for bicycle sales, rental or repair shops.

---

## 131-14 - Location of Uses Within Buildings

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

The provisions of Section [32-42](#) are modified to permit:

- (a) #residential uses# on the same #story# as a #commercial# #use# or directly below a #commercial# #use#, provided no access exists between such #uses# at any level containing #residences#, and separate elevators and entrances from the #street# are provided; and
- (b) in the Coney North and Coney West Subdistricts, any #commercial# #use# permitted by this Chapter shall be permitted on the second #story# of a #mixed building#. Furthermore, a #public parking garage# may occupy any #story# of a #mixed building# provided such garage complies with the provisions of Section [131-52](#) (Use and Location of Parking Facilities).

---

## 131-15 - Transparency

---

LAST AMENDED

7/29/2009

Each ground floor level #street wall# of a #commercial# or #community facility use# other than a #use# listed in Use Group A, as set forth in Section [131-121](#), shall be glazed in accordance with the provisions of Section [37-34](#) (Minimum Transparency Requirements).

However, in the Coney East Subdistrict and along Riegelmann Boardwalk and boundary of KeySpan Park in the Coney West Subdistrict, in lieu of the transparency requirements of this Section, at least 50 percent of the area of the ground floor level #street wall# of a #commercial# #use#, measured to a height of 12 feet above the level of the adjoining sidewalk, public access area or #base plane#, whichever is higher, may be designed to be at least 50 percent open during seasonal business hours.

---

## 131-16 - Authorization for Use Modifications

---

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

Along #streets# specified on Map 2 (Mandatory Ground Floor Use Requirements) in the Appendix to this Chapter, other than Riegelmann Boardwalk, the City Planning Commission may authorize establishments containing Use Group A, B or C #uses# within #buildings# with a ground floor depth of less than 50 feet upon a finding that the design and operation of such establishments result in an effective and compelling amusement, entertainment or retail space that furthers the goals of the

Special District.