Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Sideya Sherman, Chair

117-553 - Mandatory sidewalk widening design requirements

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LAST AMENDED
12/5/2024

(a) Access

All mandatory sidewalk widenings shall be accessible directly from an adjoining public sidewalk and unobstructed along at least 50 percent of the total #street# frontage. Driveways and vehicular accessways included as part of the total #street# frontage may not be counted as providing access. All mandatory sidewalk widenings shall be accessible to the public at all times.

There shall be at least one unobstructed pedestrian path of travel providing access to each of the following:

(1) at least 70 percent of the mandatory sidewalk widening's total area;

(2) any #building# lobby accessible to the mandatory sidewalk widening; and

(3) any #use# that may be present on, or adjacent to and having an entrance on, the mandatory sidewalk widening.

(b) Access for persons with disabilities

The mandatory sidewalk widening shall be accessible to persons with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) design standards.

(c) Elevation

All mandatory sidewalk widenings shall be located at an elevation not more than three feet above or below the #curb level# of the nearest adjoining sidewalk.

A mandatory sidewalk widening shall be at the same elevation as the adjoining public sidewalk along the #street# frontage providing access, pursuant to paragraph (a) of this Section, for a minimum depth of 10 feet measured perpendicular to the #street line#.

When the size of a mandatory sidewalk widening is 8,000 square feet or more, a maximum of 25 percent of its area may be located at an elevation more than three feet above or below the nearest adjoining sidewalk, which area, however, may not be located within a depth of 10 feet from the sidewalk measured perpendicular to the #street line#.

Where an existing subway station entry is located on the sidewalk area adjacent to a mandatory sidewalk widening, the mandatory sidewalk widening shall be provided at the same elevation as the adjoining sidewalk for a distance of at least 15 feet in all directions from the entry except as required for drainage. No obstruction shall be permitted within such portion of the mandatory sidewalk widening.

(d) Permitted obstructions

The provisions of Sections 37-726 and 37-73 shall apply, except that in the case of kiosks, the provisions of Section 37-73 shall be modified as follows: the aggregate area occupied by such kiosks shall not exceed 60 square feet or 1.5 percent of the area occupied by the sidewalk widening.

(e) Driveways, parking spaces, loading berths, exhaust vents and #building# trash storage facilities

The provisions of Section 37-726, paragraph (d), shall apply.

(f) Trees

One tree per 500 square feet of sidewalk widening is required. Each tree shall measure at least 2.5 inches in caliper at the time of planting. Each tree shall be planted in at least 200 cubic feet of soil with a depth of at least 3 feet, 6 inches.

(g) Paving

The provisions of Section 37-718 shall apply.

(h) Seating

One linear foot of seating for every 150 square feet of mandatory sidewalk widening shall be provided. In addition, the provisions of Section 62-672 shall apply.

(i) Bicycle parking facilities

The provisions of Section 37-745 shall apply.

(j) Drinking fountains

The provisions of Section 37-746 shall apply.

(k) Aesthetic amenities

One of the following amenities shall be provided:

(1) prominent lighting that enhances the architectural features of the upper #stories# of the #building#;

(2) an ornamental water feature within the mandatory sidewalk widening; or

(3) artwork, such as sculpture, within the mandatory sidewalk widening.

(l) Lighting

The provisions of Section 37-743 shall apply, except that the minimum level of illumination shall be not less than two horizontal foot candles throughout the entire mandatory sidewalk widening.

(m) Sidewalk widening signs

The provisions of Section 37-751, paragraph (b) shall apply.

(n) Maintenance

The provisions of Sections 37-744 and 37-77 shall apply.