Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Sideya Sherman, Chair

117-364 - Special design standards

File generated by https://zr.planning.nyc.gov on 10/14/2026

117-364 - Special design standards

LAST AMENDED
11/12/2025

The design requirements of Section 62-60 (DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS), inclusive, are modified by the provisions of this Section.

(a) Special design standards for seating

(1) Seating depth

The minimum seating depth requirements of paragraph (b) of Section 62-652 shall be modified to 16 inches.

(2) Armrests

At least 50 percent of all required seating shall include armrests.

(3) Design feature seating

Along Anable Basin, planter ledges, seating walls, and seating steps may qualify towards required seating provided that they constitute no more than 40 percent of the required seating. Walls and planter ledges shall be flat and smooth with at least one inch radius rounded edges.

(b) Special design standards for lighting

Along Anable Basin, the lighting requirements of Section 62-653 (Lighting) shall be modified such that an average maintained level of illumination not less than 0.5 horizontal foot candle (lumens per foot) shall be provided throughout all walkable areas, and the average illumination to minimum foot candle uniformity ratio shall be no greater than 6:1 within any #waterfront public access area#.

(c) Special design standards for planting

Reduction in planting requirement

(1) #Shore public walkway# and #supplemental public access areas#

An area equal to at least 35 percent of the area of the #shore public walkway# and #supplemental public access area# shall be planted. Such planting area may be reduced to 30 percent if an amenity is provided in accordance with the following tables:

TABLE 1

Amenity	Reduction per feature (in square feet)
Historic interpretation elements	20
Public art pieces	100

TABLE 2

Amenity	Ratio of reduction to size of feature
#Active recreation space#	1.1
Dog runs	1.1
Comfort stations	1.1
Kiosks	1.1

Such planting requirements may be further reduced to 20 percent along Anable Basin.

(2) #Upland connection#

For Type 1 #upland connections#, at least 30 percent of the area of the #upland connection# may be planted in accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 62-655 (Planting and trees).

(d) Special design standards for paving

The maximum area for unit pavers and concrete slabs specified in paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(3) of Section 62-656 shall not apply.

(e) Special design standards for kiosks and boathouses

The standards of this Section shall be applicable for sites providing greater than 20,000 square feet of #waterfront public access areas#.

(1) Maximum size

Kiosks permitted under this Section shall have an area no greater than 400 square feet. Boathouses permitted under this Section shall have an area no greater than 800 square feet.

(2) Location

A kiosk or boathouse may be located within a #shore public walkway#, provided that any portion of a kiosk or boathouse located within the area comprising an upper level of such #shore public walkway# shall be located below the walking surface of such upper level. Kiosks and boathouses shall not reduce compliance with other requirements, including planting or circulation, except as modified by the provisions of paragraph (c) of this Section.

(3) Minimum design requirements

A minimum of 25 percent of any wall facing a circulation path, as measured from the level of the adjoining circulation path to the roof of the kiosk or boathouse, shall be provided as transparent material.

Blank walls on kiosks and boathouses that exceed five feet in height and 10 feet in width shall be treated with one or more of the following visual mitigation elements:

(i) additional transparency consisting of an additional 25 percent of the wall facing a circulation path, as measured from the level of the adjoining circulation path to the roof of the kiosk or boathouse;

(ii) plantings in planting beds or planter boxes at least two feet in height, at least six feet in width and at least two feet in depth when measured perpendicular to the wall of the kiosk or boathouse;

(iii) fixed benches with or without backs of at least six linear feet; or

(iv) wall treatments in the form of permitted #signs#, graphic or sculptural art or decorative screening. Such wall treatments must be at least six feet in height and have a minimum width of six feet.

(f) Special design modifications for #upland connections#

The Chairperson of the City Planning Commission may modify the design requirements for #upland connections# where the Chairperson certifies to the Commissioner of the Department of Buildings that such a change is the minimum necessary to accommodate subsurface sewer infrastructure. Any application for such change shall include a site plan from a licensed architect or engineer that conveys the extent of the needs and required modifications, as well as a letter from the Department of Environmental Protection describing the needs for such modifications.