

**Zoning Compliance Improvements** 

Robert D. LiMandri Commissioner www.nyc.gov/buildings Issuance: July 13, 2009

# Zoning Diagram Guide

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## Objective

To further increase transparency and compliance with zoning regulations, a new Zoning Diagram (ZD1) is required prior to approval with all initial filings for New Building and Alteration enlargement applications. All applicable Post Approval Amendments (PAAs) also require the ZD1. The ZD1 graphically summarizes the proposed zoning bulk, yards, and street plantings with detailed drawings, including site plans and projections describing vertical dimensions. Information regarding Variances and Special Permits, Use, and FAR is also required.

## Site Plan Diagram Requirements

The items listed below must be included and notated as 'existing' or 'proposed.' Additionally, a citation of the appropriate Section of the New York City Zoning Resolution (ZR) is required for the **bold faced terms** (#1-4).

- 1. Dimensioned Zoning Lot (demonstrate residential lot width compliance as per ZR 23-32)
- 2. Lot Coverage
- 3. Lot Area (demonstrate residential lot area compliance as per ZR 23-32)
- 4. Street Trees
- 5. Yards

Front / Side / Rear (notate Rear Yard of adjoining property if applicable)

- 6. Wide and Narrow Street
- 7. Zoning District(s), Overlays and Special Districts
- 8. Open Space / Plaza / Arcades
- 9. Curb Cuts / Splays / Curbs
- 10. Designated Parking Area (Driveway, Parking Areas, etc.)
- 11. Garages / Sheds
- 12. Decks
- 13. Building Footprint and/or Building Segments
- 14. Distance to Nearest Corner
- 15. Swimming Pools
- 16. Retaining Walls
- 17. Fences

## Axonometric Diagram Requirements

Where applicable, the items listed below must be included, notated as 'existing' or 'proposed,' and represent the entire building bulk as an Axonometric Diagram. Additionally, a citation of the appropriate ZR Section is required for the following:

- 1. Dimensioned Building Height
- 2. Dimensioned Street Wall Heights and Setbacks
  - Dimensions required to maximum permissible limit
- 3. Permitted Obstructions
  - Maximum Building Envelope must be shown if the Permitted Obstruction affects the bulk of the building
- 4. Sky Exposure Plane

Note: Additionally, a Section Diagram may be included to more clearly depict the above requirements.

# Title Block Requirements

Applicants must accurately answer the question regarding the reason for the ZD1 submission. The Title Block asks if the applicant is submitting the ZD1 to resolve objections stated in a Notice of Intent to Revoke issued under Rule 101-15. In addition, applicants must accurately and completely fill in the Location Information section and provide their signature and seal.

# Format Requirements

The diagram must be submitted on the 11X17 ZD1 form provided on the Department's website. The items listed below are required. All content must be graphically clear and legible enabling the Department's document scanning function. No individual diagram (plan, axonometric, or section) may exceed one page.

- 1. North Arrow
- 2. Scale
- 3. Legend
- 4. 8 point (1/16") typeface, minimum

## 1 Applicant of Record

Complete and accurate information is required for all applications.

## 2 Additional Zoning Characteristics

Complete and accurate information is required for all applications. If any of the additional characteristics are not applicable, indicate a zero (0) on the appropriate line.

## 3 BSA and/or CPC Approvals for Subject Application

If a Board of Standards & Appeals (BSA) Variance or Special Permit has been granted for the application, include the Calendar Number (Cal. No.) and Authorizing Zoning Section. If a General City Law Waiver has been granted, include the Cal. No. and General City Law Section. If any other BSA approval has been granted, include the Cal. No.

If a City Planning Commission (CPC) Special Permit has been granted for the application, include the ULURP Number and Authorizing Zoning Section. If an Authorization or Certification has been granted, include the Application Number (App. No.) and Authorizing Zoning Section. If any other CPC approval has been granted, include the App. No.

## 4 Proposed Use and Floor Area

Complete and accurate information is required for all applications. Supplementary sheets may be included to accommodate additional floors. A sample is shown below.

- Floor Number may be a single floor or a group of floors with identical characteristics.
- Building Code Gross Floor Area must be included per line to accurately reflect other information.
- List only one Use Group per line.
- Zoning Floor Area must be included in the appropriate subsection: Residential, Community Facility, Commercial, or Manufacturing.
- FAR must be listed per floor or group of floors.

	Building Code Gross		Zoning Floor Area (sq.ft.)				
Floor Number	Floor Area (sq.ft.)	Use Group	Residential	Community Facility	Commercial	Manufacturing	FAF
1	10,450	6	0	0	10,000	0	1
2	5225	4	0	5,000	0	0	.5
2	5225	6	0	0	5,000	0	.5
3-11	94,050	2	90,000	0	0	0	9
12	10,450	6	0	0	10,000	0	1
Totals	125,400		90,000	10,000	20,000	0	12

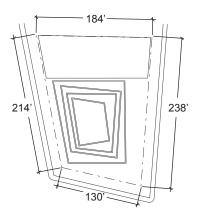
## Glossary

The following italicized terms are defined per Section 12-10 of the ZR, and illustrated as examples for this guide.

## Site Plan Diagram

## 1. Dimensioned Zoning Lot

Lot or Zoning Lot: A Lot or a Zoning Lot is a tract of land comprising a single tax lot or two or more adjacent tax lots within a block.

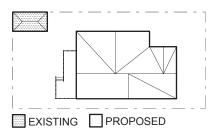


Dimensions are to be taken perpendicular to the lot line and notated. Demonstrate residential lot width compliance as per ZR 23-32.

## 2. Building Footprint and/or Building Segments

*Building*: A building is a structure that has one or more floors and a roof, is permanently affixed to the land and is bounded by either open areas or the lot lines of a zoning lot.

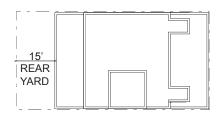
*Building Segment*: A building segment is a portion of a building where such building consists of two or more contiguous portions, each comprised of one or more dwelling units having a separate residential entrance or entrances serving only those dwelling units with such portion.



Building Footprints and Segments are to be easily identifiable and labeled as either existing or proposed in the Legend.

#### 3. Yards

*Yard*: A yard is a required open area along the lot lines of a zoning lot which must be unobstructed from the lowest level to the sky, except for certain permitted obstructions.

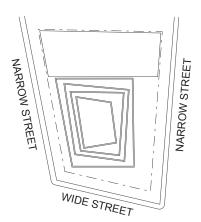


Yards are to be easily identifiable, either by dimensions or hatch, and cited with the appropriate ZR Section.

#### 4. Wide and Narrow Streets

*Wide Street*: A street that is 75 feet or more in width. Certain bulk regulations applicable to wide streets are also applicable to developments on intersecting streets within 100 feet of a wide street.

Narrow Street: A street that is less than 75 feet wide.



Street Widths are to be labeled.

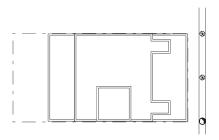
#### 5. Zoning District(s), Overlays and Special Districts

Zoning Districts: A zoning district is a mapped residential, commercial or manufacturing district with similar use, bulk and density regulations.

## C1-6A

RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT EQUIVALENT R7A QUALITY HOUSING PROGRAM Zoning Districts are to be labeled, including any Overlays and Special Districts.

#### 6. Street Trees



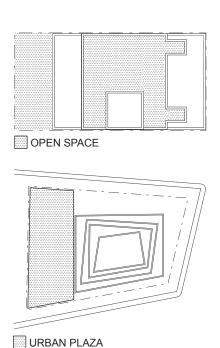
Street Trees are to be illustrated in the Plan Diagram, with the appropriate ZR Section citation.

#### 7. Open Space / Plaza / Arcades

Open Space: Open Space is the part of a residential zoning lot (which may include courts and yards) that is open and unobstructed from its lowest level to the sky, except for specific permitted obstructions, and accessible to and usable by all persons occupying dwelling units on the zoning lot. Depending upon the district, the amount of required open space is determined by the open space ratio, minimum yard regulations or by maximum lot coverage.

*Plaza*: A plaza is an open area adjacent to a building and accessible to the public. It must generally be at the level of the sidewalk it adjoins and be unobstructed to the sky except for seating and other permitted obstructions. In certain high-density zoning districts, a floor area bonus is available for provision of a residential or urban plaza.

*Arcades*: An arcade is a continuous covered space that opens onto a street or a plaza. It is unobstructed to a height of not less than 12 feet, and must be accessible to the public at all times.

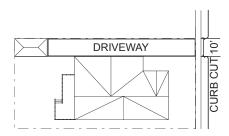


*Open Space*, *Plazas* and *Arcades* are to be easily identifiable, either by dimensions and labels or hatch, and defined in the Legend.

## 8. Curb Cuts / Splays / Curbs

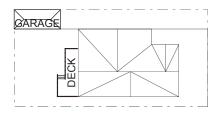
Curb Cut: A curb cut is an inclined cut in the edge of a sidewalk to permit vehicular access to a driveway, garage, parking lot or loading dock. In lower- and medium-density residential districts, the maximum width for a curb cut is 10 feet; 15 feet for paired curb cuts. There must be a minimum width of 16 feet between curb cuts to ensure adequate curbside parking. See Diagram in #9 below.

#### 9. Designated Parking Area (Driveway, Parking Areas, etc.)



Curb Cuts and Designated Parking Areas are to be illustrated and labeled in the Plan Diagram. Additionally, Parking Areas are to be notated as either attended or unattended.

#### 10. Garages / Sheds / Decks

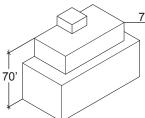


Garages and Decks are to be illustrated and labeled in the Plan Diagram.

## Axonometric Diagram Requirements

## 1. Dimensioned Building Height

Building Height: The height of a building is measured from the curb level or base plane to the roof of the building (except for permitted obstructions).



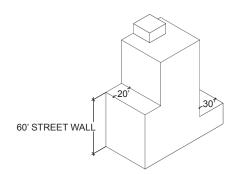
#### 70' MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT

Building Height is to be dimensioned, labeled, and cited with the appropriate ZR Section.

## 2. Dimensioned Street Wall Heights and Setbacks

Street Wall: A street wall is a wall or portion of a wall of a building facing a street.

Setback: A setback is the portion of a building that is set back above the base height (or street wall or perimeter wall) before the total height of the building is achieved. The position of a building setback in height factor districts is controlled by sky exposure planes, and in contextual districts, by specified distances from street walls.



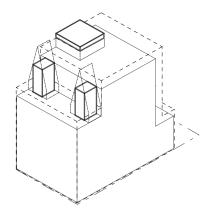
Street Walls and Setbacks are to be dimensioned, labeled, and cited with the appropriate ZR Section.

#### 3. Permitted Obstructions

Permitted Obstruction: A permitted obstruction is a structure or object, such as a balcony, trellis, air conditioner, gutter or fence, that may be located within required open space or yards on a zoning lot, as specified in the Zoning Resolution. Certain structures on a roof, such as elevator bulkheads, water towers or parapets no higher than four feet are permitted obstructions and allowed to penetrate a height limit, setback area or sky exposure plane. See Diagram in #4 below.

## 4. Maximum Building Envelope

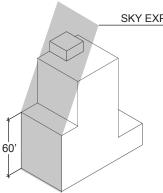
Building Envelope: A building envelope is the maximum three-dimensional space on a zoning lot within which a structure can be built, as permitted by applicable height, setback and yard controls.



Maximum Building Envelope may be shown to better illustrate the overall building bulk. It is required to be shown where a Permitted Obstruction penetrates the Maximum Building Envelope. The appropriate ZR Section is to be cited

## 5. Sky Exposure Plane

Sky Exposure Plane: A sky exposure plane is a virtual sloping plane that begins at a specified height and rises inward over the zoning lot at a ratio of vertical distance to horizontal distance set forth in district regulations. It is designed to provide light and air at street level, primarily in medium- and higher-density districts, and must not be penetrated by the building (except for permitted obstructions).



SKY EXPOSURE PLANE SLOPE: 3.7 TO 1

Sky Exposure Plane must be shown to illustrate building bulk and any Permitted Obstruction. It is to be labeled and the appropriate ZR Section is to be cited.

# Sample Diagrams

The following pages contain examples of Zoning Diagrams. They are intended for reference use only, not as mandated drawing styles and layouts.

