

New 2017 Zoning By Law Changes: Articles 24 through 30

Definitions:

The terms used in the Table of Regulations in Sections 4.2.1, 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 below are as defined in Section 1.3 of the By-law except as otherwise noted below.

The symbol “NR” means no requirements.

The symbol “1/2” as to maximum stories means Half-story under Story as defined in Section 1.3 of the By-Law.

The term “New Construction” means any one or any combination of the following: (a) Any construction of a structure on a vacant lot; (b) Any construction which involves demolition of more than 50% (fifty percent) of the building shell exclusive of demolition of a single story attached garage. For purposes of calculating the percentages of any demolition under this definition, all demolition shall be taken into account which commenced, or could have commenced, pursuant to an issued permit within two (2) years prior to the date of any request for any permit to construct, re-construct, alter, add, extend or otherwise structurally change any structure.

Front Yard Setback - the minimum horizontal distance from a front lot line of a lot to the nearest portion of the exterior wall sheathing of a building or structure. The following elements are permitted in the front yard setback: (i) uncovered steps; (ii) roof overhangs projecting not more than 2 feet from the wall of a building; (iii) siding and trim projecting not more than 6 inches from the wall of a building; (iv) first floor bay windows that do not have a foundation nor create any floor area nor project more than 2 feet from the wall of a building, provided that the width of a single bay window is limited to 8 feet, total overall area of a bay or bays is limited to 25% of the first floor wall area where the bay or bays are installed, and roofs on bay windows may project an additional 6 inches into the setback; and (v) unenclosed, covered or uncovered landings or entrance porches located on the first floor and having no habitable space directly above, provided that no more than a maximum of 50 square feet of said landing or porch is allowed in the front setback and the maximum porch or landing projection into the front setback is limited to 5 feet.

Side Yard Setback - the minimum horizontal distance from a side line of a lot to the nearest portion of the exterior wall sheathing of a building or structure. The following elements are permitted in the side yard setback: (i) uncovered steps; (ii) roof overhangs projecting not more than 2 feet from the wall of a building; (iii) siding and trim projecting not more than 6 inches from the wall of a building; (iv) unenclosed, covered or uncovered landings which neither exceed a total area of 25 square feet nor project more than 4 feet from the face of a building; (v) first floor bay windows that do not have a foundation nor create any floor area nor project more than 2 feet from the wall of a building, provided that the width of a single bay window is limited to 8 feet, total overall area of a bay or bays is limited to 25% of the first floor wall area where the bay or bays are installed, and roofs on bay windows may project an additional 6 inches into the setback; (vi) attached chimneys and fireplace enclosures projecting not more than 2 feet from the wall of a building; and (vii) covered basement entrances (bulkheads) which neither exceed a total area of 40 square feet nor a maximum height of 3.5 feet nor project more than 7.5 feet from the wall of a building.

Rear Yard Setback - the minimum horizontal distance from the rear line of a lot to the nearest portion of the exterior wall sheathing of a building or structure. The following elements are permitted in the rear yard setback: (i) uncovered steps; (ii) roof overhangs projecting not more than 2 feet from the wall of a building; (iii) siding and trim projecting not more than 6 inches from the wall of a building; (iv) unenclosed, covered and uncovered landings which neither exceed a total area of 25 square feet nor project more than 4 feet from the face of a building; (v) first floor bay windows that do not have a foundation nor create any floor area nor project more than 2 feet from the wall of a building, provided that the width of a single bay window is limited to 8 feet, total overall area of a bay or bays is limited to 25% of the first floor wall area where the bay or bays are installed, and roofs on bay windows may project an additional 6 inches into the setback; (vi) attached chimneys and fireplace enclosures projecting not more than 2 feet from the wall of a building; and (vii) covered basement entrances (bulkheads) which neither exceed a total area of 40 square feet nor a maximum height of 3.5 feet nor project more than 7.5 feet from the wall of a building.

The term "Floor Area Ratio" means the floor area divided by the lot area. Floor area shall be the sum of the horizontal areas of the several floors of each building on a lot, as measured from the exterior faces of the exterior walls, but excluding basements, attics, half-stories located directly above the second floor, unenclosed porches, and up to 600 square feet of floor area intended and designed for the parking of automobiles whether in accessory buildings or structures, or in main buildings or structures.

Height - Height shall be measured using one of the following two alternative methods, the method to be determined at the discretion of the applicant: (1) the vertical distance from average original grade or finished grade, whichever is lower, of the land surrounding the footprint of the structure to the highest point of a structure or roof of a building. The average height shall be measured starting at one corner of the structure measuring the height of the structure to the highest point above grade, and measurements shall be taken every 10 linear feet. The height limit under this method is 35 feet. For purposes of this alternative, original grade shall be defined as the grade of the lot before any regrading, demolition or development begins. If an existing structure is to be demolished, the original grade shall be the grade determined prior to demolition of the structure. If there is no existing structure on the property, the natural grade of the property, prior to any modification, shall be considered the original grade; except in new subdivisions where the original grade shall mean the approved and recorded grade; or (2) the height of the structure measured from a single point in the street centerline which is the average elevation of the highest 1/3 of the property's street frontage. The height limit under this method is 32 feet.

Lot Coverage - that portion of a lot that is covered or occupied by any building or structure, but excluding unenclosed, covered or uncovered landings or porches (unless such covered landings or porches have habitable space directly above), steps, roof overhangs, bay windows, chimneys and bulkheads as permitted in required setbacks as provided above, as well as outdoor fireplaces, decks, patios and pools.