Article VIII: Special Purpose Districts
Chapter 3: Special Limited Commercial District

Effective date of most recently amended section of Article VIII Chapter 3: 3/22/16

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Article VIII - Special Purpose Districts

Chapter 3
Special Limited Commercial District

83-00
GENERAL PURPOSES

The "Special Limited Commercial District" established in this Resolution is designed to promote and protect public health, safety, general welfare and amenity. These general goals include, among others, the following specific purposes:

(a) to preserve, protect, and enhance the character of Historic Districts as the location of many of the city's most valued cultural assets;

(b) to improve circulation patterns in the areas in order to avoid congestion arising from the movements of large numbers of people;

(c) to help attract a useful cluster of shops, restaurants, cultural attractions and related activities which will complement and enhance the areas as presently existing; and

(d) to promote the most desirable use of land in these areas and thus to conserve the value of land and buildings, and thereby protect the City's tax revenues.

83-01
Definitions

For purposes of this Chapter, matter in italics is defined in Section 12-10 (DEFINITIONS).
General Provisions

#Special Limited Commercial Districts# may only be mapped in #Commercial Districts# within areas, or portions of areas, designated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission as "Historic Districts" pursuant to Chapters 8A or 63 of the New York City Charter and Chapter 8A of the New York City Administrative Code.

In harmony with the general purpose and intent of this Resolution and the general purpose of the #Special Limited Commercial District# and in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, certain specified #use#, #sign# and enclosure regulations of the districts on which #Special Limited Commercial Districts# are superimposed are made inapplicable, and are superseded by the #use#, #sign# and enclosure regulations of the #Special Limited Commercial District# as set forth in this Chapter.

In addition to meeting the #use#, #sign# and enclosure regulations as set forth in this Chapter, each #building# shall conform to and comply with all of the applicable district regulations of this Resolution, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Chapter.

(3/22/16)

Use Group "LC"

Use Group "LC" comprises #residential uses# listed in Use Groups 1 and 2, and a group of specially related #uses# selected from Use Groups 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 to provide for the special needs, comfort, convenience, enjoyment, education and recreation of the residents of the surrounding communities and of the many visitors who are attracted to its activities.

A. Amusements

Theaters, limited to a capacity of not more than 300 seats

B. Community Facilities

Ambulatory diagnostic or treatment health care facilities listed in Use Group 4

Clubs, except:

(a) clubs, the chief activity of which is a service
(a) predominantly carried on as a business;
(b) non-commercial outdoor swimming pool clubs; or
(c) any other non-commercial clubs with outdoor swimming pools located less than 500 feet from any lot line.

Colleges or universities, including professional schools
College or school student dormitories or fraternity or sorority student houses
Community centers or settlement houses
Houses of worship, rectories or parish houses
Libraries, museums, or non-commercial art galleries

Monasteries, convents, or novitiates used only for living purposes, provided that such use is to be part of a group of buildings accommodating house of worship activities, schools or other house of worship facilities that existed on December 15, 1961, or any applicable subsequent amendment thereto, and that such use is to be located on the same zoning lot with one or more buildings in such group of buildings or on a zoning lot which is contiguous thereto or directly across the street on which such buildings face.

Non-commercial recreation centers

Non-profit hospital staff dwellings located on the same zoning lot as a non-profit or voluntary hospital and related facilities or on a separate zoning lot which is immediately contiguous thereto or would be contiguous but for its separation by a street or a street intersection.

Non-profit or voluntary hospitals and related facilities, except animal hospitals

Philanthropic or non-profit institutions with or without sleeping accommodations, including long-term care facilities, provided that the number of persons employed in central office functions shall not exceed 50, and the amount of floor area used for central office purposes shall not exceed 25 percent of the total floor area or 25,000 square feet, whichever is greater.
Proprietary hospitals and related facilities, except animal hospitals

Schools

Seminaries

Welfare centers

C. Open Uses

Public parks or playgrounds or private parks

Outdoor ice skating rinks

D. Convenience Retail or Service Establishments

Bakeries, provided that floor area used for production shall be limited to 750 square feet per establishment

Barber shops

Beauty parlors

Drug stores

Dry cleaning or clothes pressing establishments or receiving stations dealing directly with ultimate consumers, limited to 2,000 square feet of floor area per establishment, and provided that only solvents with a flash point of not less than 138.2 degrees Fahrenheit shall be used, and total aggregate dry load capacity of machines shall not exceed 60 pounds.

Eating and drinking establishments, including those which provide music for which there is no cover charge and no specified showtime

Eating or drinking establishments with musical entertainment, but not dancing, with a capacity of 200 persons or less

Food stores, including supermarkets, grocery stores, meat markets, or delicatessen stores, limited to 10,000 square feet per establishment

Hardware stores

Laundry establishments, hand or automatic self-service
Package liquor stores
Post offices
Shoe or hat repair shops
Stationery stores
Tailor or dressmaking shops, custom
Variety stores, limited to 10,000 square feet of #floor area# per establishment

E. Offices
Offices, business, professional or governmental

F. Public Service Establishments
Court houses
Electric or gas utility substations, limited in each case to a site of not more than 10,000 square feet

G. Retail or Service Establishments
Antique stores
Art galleries, commercial
Artists' supply stores
Automobile supply stores, with no installation or repair services
Banks, including drive-in banks
Bicycle sales
*Blueprinting or photostatting establishments
Book stores
*Business schools or colleges
Candy or ice cream stores
Carpet, rug, linoleum, or other floor covering stores, limited to 10,000 square feet of #floor area# per establishment
*Catering establishments

Cigar or tobacco stores

Clothing or clothing accessory stores, limited to 10,000 square feet of #floor area# per establishment

*Clothing or costume rental establishments

Dry goods or fabrics stores, limited to 10,000 square feet of #floor area# per establishment

Electrolysis studios

Fishing tackle or equipment, rental or sales

Florist shops

Frozen food lockers

Furniture stores, limited to 10,000 square feet of #floor area# per establishment

Furrier shops, custom

Gift shops

*Gymnasiums, used exclusively for basketball, handball, squash and tennis

Interior decorating establishments, provided that #floor area# used for processing, servicing, or repairs shall be limited to 750 square feet per establishment

Jewelry or art metal craft shops

Leather goods or luggage stores

Loan offices

Locksmith shops

*Medical or dental laboratories for research or testing, or the custom manufacture or artificial teeth, dentures, or plates, not involving any danger of fire or explosion nor offensive noise, vibration, smoke or other particulate matter, odorous matter, heat, humidity, glare, or other objectionable effects
Medical or orthopedic appliance stores
Meeting halls
Millinery shops
Music stores
*Musical instrument repair shops
Newsstands, open or enclosed
Optician or optometrist establishments
Paint stores
Pet shops
Photographic equipment or supply stores
Photographic studios
***#Physical culture or health establishments#, including gymnasiums (not listed under Use Group 9), reducing salons, massage establishments or steambaths, but other than #adult physical culture establishments#

Picture framing shops
*Plumbing, heating, or ventilating equipment showrooms, without repair facilities

Record stores
Seed or garden supply stores
Sewing machine stores, selling household machines only
Shoe stores
Sporting or athletic stores
Stamp or coin stores
*Studios: art, music, dancing or theatrical

Telegraph offices

Television, radio, phonograph, or household appliance repair shops
Television, radio, phonograph, or household appliance stores, limited to 10,000 square feet of floor area per establishment

Toy stores

*Trade, or other schools for adults, not involving any danger of fire or explosion nor of offensive noise, vibration, smoke or particulate matter, dust, odorous matter, heat, humidity, glare, or other objectionable effects

Travel bureaus

*Typewriter or other small business machine repair shops

Typewriter stores

*Umbrella repair shops

Wallpaper stores

Watch or clock stores or repair shops

H. Transient Accommodations

#Hotels, transient#

I. Wholesale Establishments

Hair products for headwear, wholesaling including styling

Photographic developing or printing establishments, limited to 2,500 square feet of floor area per establishment

J. Accessory Uses#

* In #Special Limited Commercial Districts#, a #use# marked with an asterisk (*) shall not be located on the ground floor of a #building# unless such #use# is at least 50 feet from the #street# wall of the #building# in which it is located

** In #Special Limited Commercial Districts#, a #use# marked with a double asterisk (**) shall be permitted only by special permit of the Board of Standard and Appeals pursuant to Section 73-36 (Physical Culture or Health Establishments)
83-04
Signs

Non-illuminated signs with total surface area not exceeding three times the street frontage of the zoning lot (in feet), but in no event more than 150 feet for interior or through lots or 150 feet on each frontage for corner lots, are permitted. Illuminated non-flashing signs with total surface area not exceeding three times the street frontage of the zoning lot (in feet), but in no event more than 50 feet for interior or through lots or 50 feet on each frontage for corner lots, are permitted. No permitted sign shall extend above curb level at a height greater than 25 feet.

83-05
Enclosure of Uses

All permitted uses shall be located within completely enclosed buildings.

83-06
Special Permits by the Board of Standards and Appeals in Special Limited Commercial Districts

For the purpose of determining the powers of the Board of Standards and Appeals in Special Limited Commercial Districts, such districts shall be considered equivalent to C1 Districts, and the powers of the Board, as set forth in Article VII, Chapter 3, shall be limited to those powers which the Board would have in C1 Districts.

83-07
Special Permits by the City Planning Commission in Special Limited Commercial Districts
For the purpose of determining the powers of the City Planning Commission in #Special Limited Commercial Districts#, such districts shall be considered equivalent to C1 Districts, and the powers of the Commission, as set forth in Article VII, Chapter 4, shall be limited to those powers which the Commission would have in C1 Districts.