
Furniture

5.0	Introduction	170
5.0.1	General Guidelines	171
<hr/>		
5.1	Art Display Case	172
5.2	Automatic Public Toilet (APT)	173
5.3	Bike Parking Shelter	174
5.4	Bike Share Station	175
5.5	Bus Stop Shelter	176
5.6	CityBench	177
5.7	CityRack	178
5.8	Mini CityRack	179
5.9	Multirack	180
5.10	Newsstand	181
5.11	WalkNYC Wayfinding System	182
5.12	Waste Receptacle	183

5

Introduction



CityBench on Court Street, Brooklyn.

About this Chapter

A wide range of elements are located on New York City's streets and plazas — everything from bus stop shelters to benches to banners. Some of these items perform utilitarian functions, while others serve as amenities. When well designed and installed in a coordinated manner, they enhance the on-the-street experience for New Yorkers and visitors. Chapter 5 describes the design and siting guidelines for street furniture.

General Guidelines

Clear Path

City regulations mandate that objects on sidewalks leave an unobstructed clear path. Revocable consent rules require that the greater of 8 feet or 50 percent of the sidewalk remain clear; DOT sites bus shelters such that they leave 7-foot clear paths, and newsstands must allow 9.5-foot clear paths. A clear path minimum of 5 feet is required to ensure two wheelchair users are able to pass each other or change direction. Most street furniture should be placed 18 inches from the curb to allow for motor vehicle access. To accommodate pedestrians with vision disabilities adequately, the lowest edge of any ground-level protruding object should be a maximum of 2.25 feet above the sidewalk, and the lowest edge of any suspended protruding object should be a minimum height of 6.7 feet.

Clutter

DOT generally discourages the installation of street furniture and other permanent objects on streets where they may restrict pedestrian circulation and degrade the visual quality of the street.

City policy restricts the placement of movable planters on sidewalks. DOT uses movable planters to delineate pedestrian areas within the roadway, such as interim plazas or sidewalk extensions.

Property Lines

The metes and bounds of private properties, although clearly described in deeds and other real property documents, may not be consistent with existing outdoor structures. As such, property owners must determine the exact locations of their property lines before installing any outdoor furniture by consulting the surveys provided to them upon purchase of their properties or by retaining licensed surveyors to prepare such surveys.

Design

Light poles, signs, seating, bike racks, bus shelters, and other fixed elements play a supporting role on New York City streets. Consistent design of those varied elements is an important consideration in their selection and siting.

Revocable Consents

The city grants a revocable consent to construct and use certain structures on, over, or under its inalienable property — in this case, city roadways and sidewalks. The city retains the right to revoke this consent at any time. For more information on revocable consents, visit www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/permits/revconif.shtml.

Resiliency

Street furniture and other permanent objects should be constructed using resilient materials that can withstand periodic temporary inundation by both fresh and salt water.

Universal Design

Furniture should be designed to accommodate as wide a range of potential users as possible. Relevant considerations include interface height, amount of force that must be applied, color schemes and level of contrast with surrounding materials, and adjacent clear path.

Additionally, the city has begun installing accessible water fountains across the five boroughs, in order to enhance the comfort and health of all pedestrians using the public realm.

Security Structures

Security structures are fixed objects, such as bollards, installed around the perimeter of a building to reduce blast impacts from vehicle-borne explosives. A property owner who wishes to install security structures must apply for a revocable consent from DOT. The application is forwarded to the New York City Police Department's (NYPD) Counterterrorism Division, which reviews security-related information provided by the property owner. If the NYPD determines that security structures are necessary, it works with the property owner's architect/engineer to develop a conceptual plan of an effective security perimeter.

DOT then works with the owner and architect/engineer to develop plans that will provide the security perimeter required by NYPD and will fit in with all other structures that are already in, under, and above the affected streets. DOT then coordinates an expedited interagency review of the plans. Plans are reviewed on a case-by-case basis to confirm that the structures are necessary and effective, have a minimum impact on pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and are aesthetically appropriate.

Art Display Case

DOT partners with local institutions to curate rotating, temporary exhibits in plazas and on large sidewalks around the city.

Description

7 feet-6 inches high x 3 feet-10 inches wide

Displays art on both sides

Siting

Public plazas and wide sidewalks with a limited number of street elements

Sites in close proximity to mass transit, retail, and residential corridors with a high density of foot traffic

Minimum clear path: 8 feet

Minimum of 18 inches from the curb

Installation

Suggestions for display sites can be sent to arts@dot.nyc.gov

DOT is responsible for the installation and removal of art display cases

For More Information

To learn more about the art display case, visit www.nyc.gov/urbanart



Art display cases are installed temporarily: Willoughby Plaza, Brooklyn

Automatic Public Toilet (APT)

In response to the lack of public restrooms in New York City, Cemusa, the Coordinated Street Furniture Franchisee, installs automatic public toilets (APTs). These state-of-the-art facilities offer comfort, hygiene, accessibility, and security to the public.

Description

6 feet-7 inches deep x 12 feet wide

Siting

On wide streets, only in commercial, manufacturing, or mixed use districts

On sidewalks or plazas adjacent to property owned or leased by a government agency or public authority, or under the jurisdiction of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC)

On traffic islands or public places bounded on all sides by mapped streets under the jurisdiction of DOT

On or adjacent to parks property or playgrounds, subject to the approval of the Department of Parks and Recreation

Close proximity to water, sewer, and electrical connections

Minimum clear path in front: 8 feet; all other sides: 5 feet

There must be no sub-surface infrastructure in the footprint

Other Clearances:

- 10 feet: fire hydrants, standpipes
- 5 feet: tree trunks, canopies
- 3 feet: streetlights, traffic signal poles
- 2 feet: ventilation, street signs, cellar doors



Madison Avenue at 23rd Street, Manhattan (Credit: Cemusa, Inc.)

Installation

DOT determines where to install APTs

Cemusa installs APTs at DOT's direction

For More Information:

To learn more about the Coordinated Street Furniture Franchise, call 311, visit nyc.gov/dot, or email streetfurniture@dot.nyc.gov

Bike Parking Shelter

Bicycle parking shelters enclose four stainless-steel bike racks. The design closely resembles the BUS STOP SHELTER (5.5), using the same high-quality materials. The side panels display the annual NYC Bike Map and public service campaigns.

Description

5 feet x 14 feet — equivalent to the “regular” size BUS STOP SHELTER (5.5)

NYC Bike Map and public service campaigns on side panel; clear glass on back

Siting

Minimum clear path: 7 feet

All shelters must allow a straight unobstructed path of a minimum of 3 feet between the shelter and the curb

Other Clearances:

- 6–8 inches: sub-surface
- 10 feet: fire hydrants, standpipes
- 5 feet: tree trunks, canopies
- 5 feet: tree pits, cellar doors
- 3 feet: streetlights, traffic signal poles
- 2 feet: ventilation, street signs

Installation

DOT determines where to install bike shelters

Cemusa installs bike shelters at DOT’s direction

For More Information

To learn more about the Coordinated Street Furniture Franchise, call 311, visit nyc.gov/dot, or email streetfurniture@dot.nyc.gov



Jackson Avenue at 50th Avenue, Queens (Credit: Cemusa, Inc.)

Bike Share Station

New York City's bike share system provides access to a network of public bicycles intended for short, one-way trips. By 2017, the system will comprise 700 self-service docking stations for 12,000 bikes, available for use 24 hours a day throughout the year. With a few exceptions, stations hold 15 to 59 bicycle docks. Motivate will own, operate, and maintain the bike share system, with oversight from DOT. The station design complements many of the city's other street furniture elements.

Description

Includes a pedestrian wayfinding map that indicates locations of nearby bike share stations, transit connections, landmarks, etc.

Composed of 4-15 plates (40-150 feet long) with 15 to 59 docks

Three types of modular plates, all of which are 3 feet deep and 10 feet long without bikes:

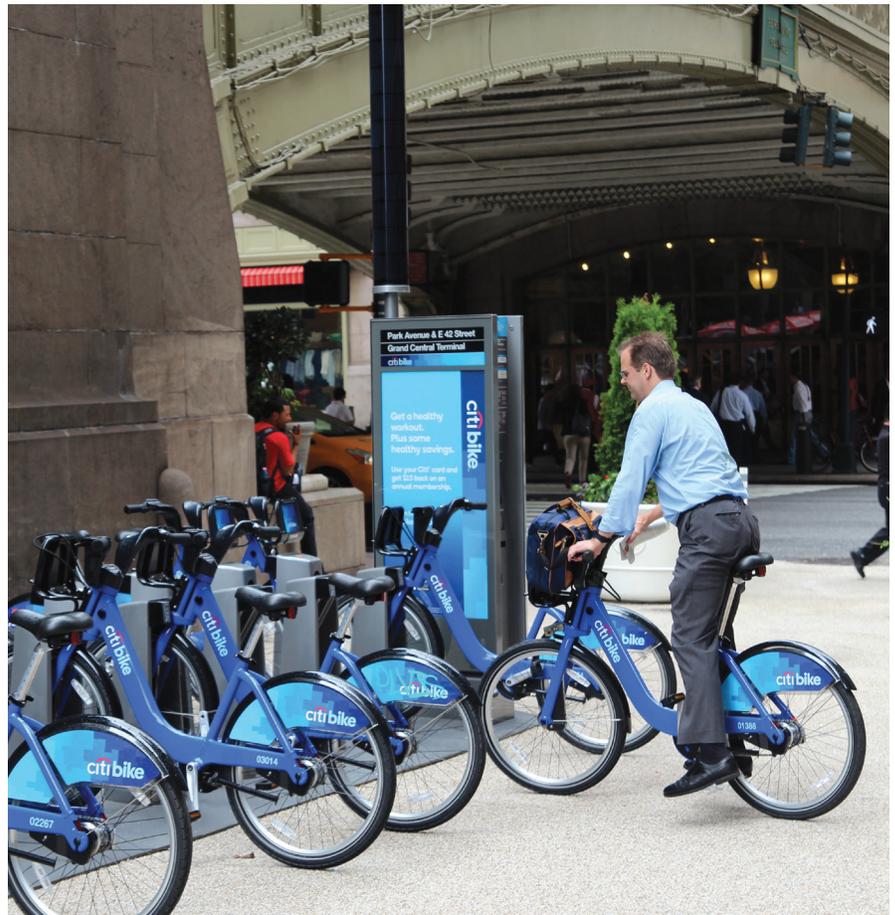
- Standard: Four docks, approximately 6 feet deep (with bikes)
- Angled: Three docks, approximately 4 feet - 6 inches deep (with bikes)
- Double-sided: Six docks, approximately 9 feet deep (with bikes)

Solar-powered and connected to a central computer via existing wireless networks; stations are not wired, trenched, bolted, or fixed into the ground

Plates can be non-contiguous, bridging obstacles such as tree beds with an 8-inch-wide connecting channel

Can be configured in a number of ways, including:

- Linear
- L-shaped (i.e., turning around a corner)
- Back-to-back



Bike share station: Park Avenue at East 42nd Street, Manhattan

Siting

Located in curb lanes of roadways, on sidewalks, in plazas, or on publicly accessible private property

Different siting guidelines apply for each type of location

For More Information

To learn more about bike share stations, visit nyc.gov/bikeshare

Bus Stop Shelter

Bus stop shelters are part of the Coordinated Street Furniture Franchise that was awarded to Cemusa, Inc., in 2006. The award-winning, stainless-steel and glass design provides seating and protection for bus users.

Description

Shelters are configured in five sizes:

- Regular: 5 feet x 14 feet
- Narrow: 3.5 feet x 14 feet
- Short: 5 feet x 10 feet
- Little: 3.5 feet x 10 feet
- Double: 5 feet x 26 feet

Advertising panels on sides; clear glass on back

Siting

Minimum clear path: 7 feet

All shelters must allow a straight unobstructed path of a minimum of 3 feet between the shelter and the curb

Other Clearances:

- 6–8 inches: sub-surface
- 10 feet: fire hydrants, standpipes
- 5 feet: tree trunks, canopies
- 5 feet: tree pits, cellar doors
- 3 feet: streetlights, traffic signal poles
- 2 feet: ventilation, street signs

Installation

Cemusa generally installs bus stop shelters at bus stops that meet clearances, upon request and at DOT's discretion



York Avenue at East 69th Street, Manhattan (Credit: Jennifer Yao)

For More Information

To learn more about the Coordinated Street Furniture Franchise, call 311, visit nyc.gov/dot, or email streetfurniture@dot.nyc.gov

CityBench

Through its CityBench program, DOT installs a standard street bench at bus stops without shelters and in commercial areas to support transit use and to encourage walking. In 2014, after analyzing feedback from a wide range of users, DOT updated the design of the arm rests to enhance usability for aging New Yorkers; the seat depth was also slightly decreased to improve comfort. Structural enhancements include more stable footings and a significant reduction in the number of separate pieces, extending the bench's lifespan and reducing its unit cost.

Description

Approximate dimensions: 7.5 feet long x 20.5 inches deep

Styles: backed and backless

Update:

Siting

Locations that meet DOT's strategic objectives — e.g., at bus stops without shelters and Access-A-Ride designated stops, near senior centers, in retail shopping corridors, and near cultural institutions

Benches adjacent and parallel to the building shall be installed no more than 6 inches from the building face

Benches adjacent and parallel to the curb must be placed 18–24 inches from the curb

A bench that is not anchored to the sidewalk shall be placed against the building face during hours that the benefited property is open to the public and shall be stored inside the building when the building is closed

Minimum clear path: 8 feet



Updated CityBench Design with more ergonomic arm rests and seat depth (Credit: Ignacio Ciocchini)

Installation

New Yorkers can request the bench at nyc.gov/Citybench

DOT personnel installs CityBenches

Outside of the CityBench program, a revocable consent is necessary to install a bench on the sidewalk, and a maintenance agreement is required for benches installed in a plaza. For complete regulations regarding revocable consents, including siting requirements, refer to Rules of the City of New York, Title 34, Chapter 7 and on the web at:

www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/permits/revconif.shtml

CityRack

DOT installs CityRacks on sidewalks and, through its Bike Corral program, in clusters in the curbside lane of the roadway. In both cases, installations are driven by requests from the general public and business and property owners. The product of an international design competition held in 2009, the CityRack has been recognized for its combination of function and elegance, and has been added to the permanent collection of the Madsonian Museum of Industrial Design.



Bike corrals include multiple CityRacks: East 9th Street, Manhattan



Description

33.7-inch-diameter, cast-metal circle with a horizontal bar across the center

Bike Corral

- Buffered with reflective flexible delineators and either planters or wheel stops
- Generally takes up one car-parking space
- Planters are planted and cared for by maintenance partners

Siting

Must be installed on city-owned property

Sidewalk:

- 12-foot minimum sidewalk width
- Away from pedestrian flow, usually at the curb, and always away from crosswalks

- If installed at the curb, clearance from the curb must be a minimum of 18 inches
- Must not be installed on pavers, cobblestone, brick, stone/slate slabs, custom/patterned concrete, or metal grates

Bike Corral:

- Curb lane of roadway
- Locations where demand for bike parking outstrips the available sidewalk space

Other Clearances:

- 15 feet: fire hydrants, bus stops, taxi stand or hotel loading zones, franchise structures, subway entrances
- 10 feet: corner quadrants, driveways, building entrances (building line installations only)

- 5 feet: standpipes, above-ground structures (e.g., signs, meters, lights, mailboxes, planters, phones), building entrances (curb installations only)
- 3 feet: tree-bed edges, grates, utility covers

Installation

DOT installs CityRacks

Call 311 or visit nyc.gov/dot and fill out the online form to suggest a location for a CityRack

For More Information

For more information visit www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/bicyclists/bikerack.shtml

Mini CityRack

DOT developed the Mini CityRack in 2011 to provide more bike parking cost-effectively and to repurpose parking meter poles that are rendered obsolete by new MuniMeters. The Mini CityRack will be the predominant bike rack on sidewalks.

Description

18-inch-diameter, cast-metal circle

Siting

On existing, retired parking meter poles

Installation

DOT installs Mini CityRacks on parking meter poles as they are retired

For More Information

For more information visit www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/bicyclists/bikerack.shtml



Mini CityRack

Multirack

A multirack is a newsrack—a self-service newspaper dispenser—designed to hold two or more publications. DOT encourages the use of multiracks in lieu of standard newsracks because they help reduce streetscape clutter. Multiracks require registration with DOT, proof of insurance, and indemnification of the City of New York.

Description

Multiracks cannot exceed 5 feet in height, 7.5 feet in width, and 36 inches in depth

Advertising is not allowed on the outside of the multirack

Siting

Various clearance requirements apply. Section 19-128.1 of Chapter 1 of Title 19 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York (which was amended by Local Law 36 of 2004) together with Section 2-08 of Chapter 2 of Title 34 of the Rules of the City of New York specify how and where a newsrack can be placed as well as the registration and insurance requirements

Installation

Multiracks may be bolted if a DOT permit has been issued for that purpose

For installation on a distinctive sidewalk, written permission from the person or entity responsible for the maintenance of the distinctive sidewalk is required

For More Information

Please contact the Newsrack Unit
55 Water Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10041
T: (212) 839-8854
F: (212) 839-8867



Multirack: Lexington Avenue at East 68th Street, Manhattan

Newsstand

Newsstands are part of the Coordinated Street Furniture Franchise. They are fabricated from stainless steel and glass. The product displays can be customized by each operator from a standard kit of parts. All existing newsstands that were licensed by the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) as of July 13, 2006, will receive a replacement newsstand at no cost to the licensee.

Description

Newsstands are available in nine sizes:

- 4 x 8 feet, 4 x 10 feet, and 4 x 12 feet
- 5 x 8 feet, 5 x 10 feet, and 5 x 12 feet
- 6 x 8 feet, 6 x 10 feet, and 6 x 12 feet

Siting

Minimum clear path: 9.5 feet

Minimum of 18 inches from the curb

Other Clearances:

- 15 feet: subway entrances, curb cuts
- 10 feet: hydrants
- 5 feet: tree beds, canopies
- 3 feet: streetlights, traffic signal poles
- 2 feet: street signs, manholes, cellar doors, parking meters

For complete siting criteria, refer to DCA rules at: www.nyc.gov/html/dca/html/licenses/024.shtml

Installation

Businesses apply to the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) for licenses to operate newsstands in specific locations

Cemusa installs new newsstands at locations approved by DCA and PDC

For More Information

To learn more about the Coordinated Street Furniture Franchise, call 311, visit nyc.gov/dot, or email streetfurniture@dot.nyc.gov



6th Avenue at 39th Street, Manhattan (Credit: Jennifer Yao)

WalkNYC Wayfinding System

Description

Three map types serve different purposes:

Area:

- The standard size for the WalkNYC system
- Deployed at key intersections and select transit stations
- Panel is 8 feet-5 inches high x 34 inches wide x 5 inches deep

Path:

- Reinforces the Area sign along primary pedestrian routes
- Slender profile is also suited to narrow sidewalks and busy pedestrian areas
- Panel is 8 feet-7 inches high x 18 inches wide x 5 inches deep

Neighborhood:

- Provides a wide view of the surrounding area
- Typically located in plazas and open spaces
- Panel is 8 feet -3 inches high x 4 feet -2 inches wide x 5 inches deep

Select Bus Service:

- Deployed at stations along SBS routes
- Provides real-time SBS bus arrival information
- Includes map of bus route and transfer points
- Panel is 10 feet-1 inch high x 2 feet wide x 5 inches deep

Walking accounts for 31% of all trips in the city and is a component of nearly all travel by public transit and many car journeys. DOT's comprehensive wayfinding system helps visitors and residents alike navigate the city's streets, further encouraging walking. In addition to the Area, Path and Neighborhood signs, DOT is installing Select Bus Service totems with real-time arrival information along current and future routes.

Two maps on each side of the Area and Path maps:

- Focus map displays destinations and services within a 5-minute walk
- Overview map displays destinations and services within a 15-minute walk and is helpful for planning longer journeys using public transit

Maps are "heads-up" – they are oriented according to the direction the user is facing

Siting

Minimum clear path: 8 feet

Minimum 18 inches from the curb

Other Clearances:

- 15 feet: subway entrances
- 10 feet: hydrants, tree beds, phone booths
- Min 5 feet: canopies, street lights, traffic signals, signs, manholes, parking meters, cellar doors, building entrances

Maps are incorporated into bike share and Select Bus Service stations

Installation

Panels require a 7-inch to 2-foot excavation, depending on sub-surface conditions

DOT is responsible for installation; DDC coordinates installation when it is part of a DDC capital project

For More Information

Visit www.nyc.gov/walknyc or email walknyc@dot.nyc.gov.



The local area map: Canal Street, Manhattan



The Select Bus Service Totem: Nostrand Avenue SBS Route at Church Avenue

Waste Receptacle

Among its other responsibilities, the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) services over 25,000 waste receptacles - known as "baskets" - that are placed on thoroughfares citywide. As part of the city's initiative to double the recycling rate to 30 percent by 2017, DSNY has ordered new recycling baskets that are consistent in design with other streetscape furniture. These will reduce the number of regular trash baskets.

Siting

Commercial areas, where they may be emptied as frequently as five times a day

Predominantly residential zones, where they can be serviced on residential refuse routes along with household trash two or three times a week

Sponsor-a-Basket Program

Sponsoring organizations, such as cultural institutions and Business Improvement Districts, can purchase the new receptacle shown at right. With DSNY approval, they may also purchase custom baskets as part of their branding identities. All basket designs must meet DSNY specifications. Sponsored waste baskets may bear the name or logo of the sponsoring organization, but cannot include advertising of any kind. Locations must be submitted for approval along with the Sponsor-a-Basket Letter of Intent.

For More Information

For more information, refer to Sanitation Rules and Regulations at www.nyc.gov/html/dsny/html/rules_reg/digest.shtml or in Rules of the City of New York, Title 16

To sponsor a waste receptacle, call 311



Prototype of DSNY's new 44-gallon recycling receptacle. A 32-gallon version is also available