

NYC DOT Street Seats Design Guidelines

The following guidelines are to be used in the design of Platform & Non Platform Street Seats:

- Provide stamped architectural/engineering detailed drawings including section(s) and elevation(s) drawings to provide details of vertical elements as appropriate.
- A Street Seat with a platform must not be wider than 6 feet, in order to be narrower than surrounding parked cars
- DOT will assess each site and will determine necessary traffic safety improvements, including but not limited to, street regulation signs, traffic markings, flexible bollards, and wheel stop bars
- A Street Seat with a platform must be flush with the sidewalk as possible. The platform must be flush with the sidewalk to comply with ADA guidelines.
- Curbside drainage must not be impeded
- The Street Seat must allow for easy access to the space underneath (e.g. manhole covers)
- A Street Seat with a platform must be able to bear at least 750 pounds per square foot
- The Street Seat must be publicly accessible. The design must accommodate two regulations signs, provided by DOT, on either end of the structure.
- The Street Seat must have vertical elements (e.g. planters, umbrellas) so that it is visible from vehicles
- The Street Seat should be finished with materials that comply with the tropic hardwood ban of NYC.
- The Street Seat must include plantings. See approved list of preferred plantings.
- The Street Seat must include a continuous physical barrier along the street-facing perimeter while maintaining clear visual sightlines to the street
- Cables, if used, must not have spacing more than 3"
- The barrier must not be higher than 36" tall, excluding plantings and other amenities
- The sidewalk-facing side of the Street Seat must be open to pedestrians at all times
- Seating height must be a minimum of 16-18"