

INFORMATION FROM FIFTY CITIES ON ENCROACHMENTS OVER STREET LINES

CITIES	Are encroachments over street lines forbidden by Ordinance	Are encroachments allowed on new structures	Encroachments of Sills, Bases, Pilasters & Columns	Encroachments of Show Windows	Encroachments of Oriel & Bay Windows	Encroachments of Cornices	Encroachments of Signs	Encroachments of Awnings	Encroachments of Marquees	Encroachments of Steps	Remarks
ALBANY	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	18"	18"	2'-6"	Allowed	Extreme 18"	Width of walk 8' above walk	Allowed on special permit revealable	1/2 width of street	Special permission from the council necessary for all encroachments
ATLANTA	Yes Without Permission	Yes	By Permission	By Permission	By Permission	By Permission	By Permission	By Permission	By Permission	By Permission	
BALTIMORE	Yes	Not in restricted district	Not allowed in restricted district	Not allowed in restricted district	Allowed if 10' above walk	Small Bldgs 2' Large Bldgs 4'		Extreme 7' 10' above walk	Width walk 8' above walk	Not in burnt district	No projections of any character in restricted district unless above walk level charged
BUFFALO	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Columns and Pilasters at entrances	Allowed if 10' above walk	Allowed 3' if 10' above walk	Extreme 3'				Not allowed	No projections allowed at walk level except at entrances by special permission
BOSTON	No	Yes	Extreme allowed 3'	Allowed extremes 3'	Allowed 3'	Extreme 3'	Extreme 4' 10' above walk	By Permission	By Permission No posts	Extreme 3'	Permission for projections given by mayor and Board of Aldermen
BRIDGEPORT	Yes	Yes	Not supposed to encroach	Not supposed to encroach	Not supposed to encroach						Projections are frequently permitted
CAMBRIDGE	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Allowed if above first story		Allowed above 1st story	In 30' street 3' less than 30' 16"		Allowed	Allowed		All encroachments require the permission of council. None allowed at walk level
CAMDEN	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	16"	16"						Allowed 4' except on	Tendency is to disregard encroachments if not affecting pedestrian travel
CHICAGO	Yes	Yes	18" except in restricted streets	18" except in restricted streets	18"	Allowed	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance		
CINCINNATI	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	18"	Allowed if 12' above walk	Allowed	Allowed see remarks	Width walk 12' above walk	2 1/2 width walk 8' above walk	Width of walk 8' above walk	Not allowed	All projections to be within a line making 22 1/2" with property line
CLEVELAND	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Base courses 6" Walk less than 16" allowed 4"	18"	Allowed 3' above 1st story	5 1/2 width street Max 5'					Pilasters at entrances if walk 13' 6" may project 5" less than 10' walk 2" No others
COLUMBUS	Yes	No	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance	2 width walk 8' above walk	Not allowed	
DAYTON	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes		Walk 25' or less 25" more than 25" walk 36"			If 10' clear 6' if 18' clear over 6' allowed	2 1/2 width walk 8' above walk	Extreme 10' No posts 12' above walk		
DENVER	Yes	Yes	By approval of Bldg Dept.	By approval of Bldg Dept.	On approval of Bldg Dept.	By approval of Bldg Dept.	By permission Bldg Dept.	By permission Bldg Dept.	On approval of Bldg Dept.	By approval	All projections require special permit. Seldom permit given for columns or pilasters at walk
DETROIT	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Bases 12" Pilasters at entrances 4"	Allowed if 12' above walk	Allowed 3' if 12' above walk	Allowed extremes 3'	Maximum 14' 12' above walk	Extreme 8' 7' above walk	2 width walk 8' above walk	8' above walk	
FALL RIVER	Yes	No	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not Allowed				Ordinance requires everything to be back of street line
GRAND RAPIDS	No	Yes	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance	Allowed 3' if above 1st story	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not mentioned in ordinance	No projection allowed of more than three feet
HARTFORD	Yes	No	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not mentioned in ordinance	Not allowed	Allowed but not mentioned in ordinance	Not Allowed	Not allowed	Many encroachments exist by sufferance. All prohibited by ordinance
INDIANAPOLIS	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Walk 12' or more 28" allowed		Allowed 3' if 12' above walk	Not mentioned in ordinance		Width walk	Not allowed		No projections allowed where walk is less than 12'
JERSEY CITY	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	12"	12"	Allowed if 12' above walk By Permission	Allowed by permission	By Permission	By Permission	By Permission	By Permission	Encroachments of 12" if walk is 12' permission given by Street Commissioners
KANSAS CITY	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Not on first story	Not allowed on 1st story		18"	Allowed extremes 18"	Illuminated Hinged 10' above walk	Extreme 10'	Extreme 10'		Arterials by permission Band of 5,000 required
LOS ANGELES	Yes unless 12' above walk	No	Allowed 12' above walk	Allowed if 12' above walk	Allowed 3' if 12' above walk	Allowed extremes 5'	Extreme 3 12' above walk	2 1/2 width walk 8' above walk	2 1/2 width walk 8' above walk	Not allowed	
LOUISVILLE	Yes	Yes if 8' above walk	Allowed 8' above walk	Allowed if 12' above walk	Allowed if 8' above walk	Allowed	Allowed if 8' above walk	Allowed if 8' above walk	Allowed 8' above walk	Not allowed	Ordinance prohibits projection of any portion of building but they are permitted if 8' up
LOWELL	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Columns may project 10"		Allowed 3' if 10' above walk					Not allowed	Face of wall pilasters or columns above water table not to project
MILWAUKEE	Yes unless 10' above walk	Yes if 10' above walk	Allowed 10' above walk	Allowed if 3' if 10' above walk	Allowed if 10' above walk	Allowed maximum 5'		1/2 width walk 7 1/2' above walk	By Council Permission No posts	Not allowed	
MINNEAPOLIS	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Water table 4" above water table not allowed		Allowed 3' if 12' above walk on street 3' or more	Not mentioned in ordinance	Extreme 10' 7' above walk	Allowed if 7' above walk		Allowed if walk is 12' wide	Columns at entrances may project 2'
NEW HAVEN	Yes	No	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Extremes 3' if 8' above walk	Extremes 3' if 8' above walk	By Permission	Not allowed	Ordinance is rigidly enforced
NEW YORK	Yes	Yes if 10' above walk and as noted	Allowed for non supporting columns 10"			Not allowed		Allowed	Allowed No posts	18"	Court has ruled that any and all encroachments are unlawful
NEW ORLEANS	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Not on first story	Not allowed	Not allowed	Allowed if above 1st story	Not mentioned				Not allowed	
OAKLAND	Yes unless Above	Yes if 12' above walk	Not allowed or walk level	Not allowed	Allowed if above 1st story	Allowed	First story 6" Above 1st story 10" over 12"	Not allowed in fire limit	Allowed		No restrictions above first story
OMAHA	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	18" By Permission See remarks	Allowed 2' if 12' above walk	Allowed	At walk level 3' width of walk if up 12"	Allowed if 8' above walk	By Permission 8' above walk	By Permission 8' above walk	Not allowed	Permits seldom given for marquees
PHILADELPHIA	No	Yes	Encroachments allowed if slight	Allowed 3' if 10' above walk				Allowed on Permit	Allowed on Permit	4' 6" on streets 50' or more	Encroachment of steps prohibited in certain area
PORTLAND	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Base courses 4" Pilasters 6"	6"	Allowed 3' if above 1st story	Allowed		Allowed	Allowed 8' 12' above walk	Thresholds 6"	
READING	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	12"	Allowed if above 1st story	Allowed if above 1st story			Allowed	Allowed on Permit		
RICHMOND	Yes unless special ordinance is granted	Only by special ordinance	Only by special ordinance	Only by special ordinance	Only by special ordinance	Only by special ordinance	Only by special ordinance	Only by special ordinance	Only by special ordinance	Only by special ordinance	Permission for awnings and marquees as a rule are the only ones given
SAN FRANCISCO					Allowed 10' above walk if street is 35'			Width walk 7 1/2' above walk	Width walk 10' above walk		
ST. JOSEPH	Yes	No	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Encroachments exist by sufferance but may be ordered removed
SCRANTON	Yes	No	No	Not allowed	Not allowed			Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	State law prohibits projections over street line
SEATTLE	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Maximum 8"	Not allowed	Allowed 2' if 10' above walk	Governed by Height of Bldg Max 5'	By Permission	By Permission 8' above walk	Width walk 8' above walk	Not allowed	
SPOKANE	Yes Without Permission From Council	Yes	Only by permission	By Permission	By Council Permission	By Council Permission	By Council Permission	By Council Permission	By Council Permission	By Council Permission	
ST. PAUL	Yes	No	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed		Extreme 2' up 10' Electric 8' up 12'			Not allowed	No obstructions permitted in sidewalk Fee of 15¢ 5¢ ft. charged for signs
SYRACUSE	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Pilasters at entrances 4" above 1st story	Not allowed	Allowed 3' if 12' above walk	Allowed		Extreme 8' 7' above walk	Extreme 10' 10' above walk		
TACOMA	Yes	No	May project above 1st story	Allowed if above 1st story	Allowed if above 1st story	Allowed	Allowed if above first story	Width of walk 7' above walk	Width walk 7' above walk	Not allowed	
WASHINGTON	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Not to interfere with traffic						By permit 8' above walk		All projections that are at walk regulated by ordinance others are not
WORCESTER	Yes	No	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Allowed but may be ordered removed	Allowed but may be removed	Allowed but may be removed	Not allowed	
LOUISVILLE	Yes	Yes if 8' above walk	Allowed 8' above walk	Allowed if 8' above walk	Allowed if 8' above walk	Allowed	Allowed if 8' above walk	Allowed 8' above walk	Allowed 8' above walk		Ordinance prohibits projections of any kind but it is only enforced from walk up
MEMPHIS	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes	Not allowed above water table	Allowed 4' if 10' above walk	Allowed 4' if 10' above walk		By Permission of Bldg Comm				
PROVIDENCE	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes		Allowed 4' if 10' above walk	Allowed 4' if 10' above walk				Width walk 9' above walk		Marquees may be ordered removed
ST. LOUIS	Not Forbidden But Regulated	Yes		Not allowed	Allowed 3' if 14' above walk		Allowed 18" if 18' above walk				