

C O P Y

THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
Intradepartmental Memorandum

To: Borough Superintendents Date: November 22nd, 1955  
From: Bernard J. Gillroy Subject: RADIO TOWERS  
Commissioner

Numerous radio towers have been erected throughout the city for amateur radio stations. Because of the small size and light construction of such towers and since such towers are frequently used for a temporary period only, they have been accepted as being similar to poles. In order to obtain uniformity in all boroughs, permits for radio towers for amateur radio stations may be issued under the following conditions.

1. The application may be filed by the radio amateur.  
The applicant shall file a location plan, the manufacturer's specification for the tower and its support, the manufacturer's analysis of the stresses in the tower and its supports, the details of footings, guys and braces.
2. Where the tower is erected by a tenant, the consent of the owner shall be filed. Towers shall not overlap adjoining property unless the consent of the owner of such property is filed. Guys may be fastened to anchors on adjoining property, if the consent of the owner is filed.
3. The height of such towers shall not exceed seventy-five feet above the adjacent ground, except that towers constructed of wood may not exceed 20 feet in height.
4. The construction of such towers shall be checked to insure safety. If constructed according to the specifications of the manufacturer, the tower may be accepted. Foundations of such towers shall meet the requirements of the code.
5. The thickness of steel in towers shall be not less than one-eighth inch when galvanized. If not galvanized, steel shall be not less than one-fourth inch in thickness. Aluminum shall be not less than one-eighth inch in thickness when used structurally. Where towers are constructed of tubing, the minimum wall thickness of the tubing shall be not less than one-sixteenth inch and such tubing, if steel, shall be galvanized on the exterior.

6. Such towers may be accepted in rear yards as they are not substantial enough to effect light or air. They may be accepted in residence districts as accessory to the dwelling.

7. Towers constructed of wood may not be erected on roofs.

Bernard J. Gillroy  
Commissioner

cc: Deputy Comm. Crinnion  
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