

Republic of the Philippines Province of Bulacan City of Malolos

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF MALOLOS HELD AT BULWAGANG DON RAMON G. DE LEON OF THE CITY OF MALOLOS ON JULY 13, 2020.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

City Vice Mayor HON. NOEL G. PINEDA Presiding Officer HON. FRANCISCO J. CASTRO City Councilor HON. NIŇO CARLO C. BAUTISTA HON. KIRK LOUIS NICOLAS HON. MICHAEL M. AQUINO HON. ENRICO C. CAPULE HON. DENNIS D. SAN DIEGO HON. EMMANUEL R. SACAY HON. EDGARDO F. DOMINGO HON. LUIS ALFONSO M. ARCEGA HON. MIGUEL CARLOS B. SOTO SK President HON. PATRICK S. DELA CRUZ HON. DIONISIO C. MENDOZA ABC President

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT:

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 49-2020

AN ORDINANCE MANDATING THE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF CENTURY AND HERITAGE TREES IN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF MALOLOS, PROVIDING FOR PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

PRINCIPAL AUTHOR: HON. NINO CARLO C. BAUTISTA CO-AUTHOR: HON. MICHAEL M. AQUINO

EXPLANATORY NOTES

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Article 2 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the state shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

WHEREAS, Section 15 of Article 14 of the same Constitution also provides the conservation, promotion, and popularization of the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations by the state;

WHEREAS, Section 389 and 458 of Republic Act 7160 also known as the Local Government Code of 1991 empowers the Local Government Unit to implement policies for the protection of the environment;

WHEREAS, trees and other woody vegetation in the cities provides for social amenities and various environmental and economic benefits including: improving air and water quality, reducing noise pollution, flooding, preventing soil erosion, cooling urban heat islands, reducing the energy required to cool and heat buildings and residences;

WHEREAS, trees have become the symbol of the environmental movement for preservation and rehabilitation of our mother Earth, including in this Historical City of Malolos;

WHEREAS, century trees (100 years old) have historical roots and can be effective symbols for taking care of our environment and for the embodiment of our past as Malolenos;

WHEREAS, heritage trees are considered as living witnesses of the City's rich historical events which molded our present days so, it is only proper to give these trees importance and protections;

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WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160 also known as the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that every local government units (LGU's) shall implement programs and project for the general welfare and development of its constituents;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Malolos in session assembled, that:

SECTION 1. - TITLE - This Ordinance shall be known and be cited as the "CENTURY AND HERITAGE TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE".

SECTION 2. - COVERAGE - The provisions of this City Ordinance shall be effective within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Malolos and shall apply to all person, whether natural or juridical, whether resident or not of this city.

SECTION 3. - DECLARATION - All trees identified to have lived for more than 100 years shall be declared as "Century Trees".

Important trees species which have not yet reached 100 years old but are considered ecological, historically or culturally valuable or belonging to rare species or are adjacent or near a water source, spring or well and whose cutting or destruction will disrupt or destroy the water source, shall be declared as "Heritage Trees" and shall receive the same protection under this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. - CREATION OF SPECIAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE - There is a hereby constituted a Special Te4chnical Committee composed of the following:

- a. City Environment and Natural Resources Head;
- b. City Agriculturist;
- c. City Tourism, Culture, Arts and Sports Head;
- d. City Planning and Development Officer; and
- e. City General Services Officer.

SECTION 5. - FUNCTIONS - The created Special Technical Committee shall:

- a. Formulate policies for the effective implementation of this Ordinance;
- b. Craft the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of this Ordinance;
- c. Coordinate with the National Agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Science and Technology for the scientific evaluation of trees that can be classified as "Century Trees";
- d. Coordinate with the National Historical Commission of the Philippines for the declaration of "Heritage Trees" in the City;
- e. Recommend to the City Mayor the issuance of the necessary Cutting Permit;
- f. Establish mechanisms for the preservation, conservation and protection of Century and Heritage Trees;
- g. Perform such other functions necessary to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. - NAMING AND MARKING - After the thorough evaluation and study of the Special Technical Committee, the committee shall submit the official list of the identified Century and Heritage Trees in the City of Malolos to the Local Chief Executive and to the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

Thereafter, the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall adopt the official list through a City resolution declaring those trees listed therein as the City Century and Heritage Trees.

The City General Services Office and City Environment and Natural Resources Office in coordination with the City Tourism, Culture, Arts and Sports Office shall cause the labelling of these trees (Metal Plate or Marker) bearing the following information;

- a. Name of the Trees (Scientific and Local Name)
- b. Date of Declaration
- c. Approximate age of the Tree
- d. Tree Registry Number
- e. Location of the Tree

RANCISCO J. CASTRO CITY COUNCILOR

The Special Technical Committee shall conduct yearly review and inspection to maintain said trees and update newly discovered "Century and Heritage Trees" and install a Global Positioning System (GPS).

KIRK LOUIS NICOLAS

HON. NOEL G. PINEDA CITY VICE MAYOR

HON. MICHAEL A AQUINO CITY COUNCIOR HON. ENRICO C. CAPULE

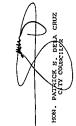
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SECTION 7. - PROHIBITION - All trees declared as "Century and Heritage Trees shall not be subjected to any cutting or any form of destruction, except for medical, public emergency, public safety and botanical reasons and shall be preserved and maintained in its natural state.

The City shall be the lead agency in the maintenance of the declared Century and Heritage Trees including but not limited to curing, trimming and cutting if necessary. Cutting of Century and Heritage Trees shall be the last resort, earth balling must be observed (Earth balling is the process of moving a tree by digging out the earth and the roots in a circular shape, leaving most of the root system undisturbed and intact).

SECTION 8. - PENALTY - Any person or entity who violates the provisions stated in Section 7 hereof shall be penalized as follows:

1st OFFENSE Php3,000.00 2nd OFFENSE Php4,000.00 3rd OFFENSE Php5,000.00

SECTION 9. - SEPARABILTY CLAUSE - If any provision or part of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions thereof shall remain valid and effective.

SECTION 10. - REPEALING CLAUSE - All ordinances, orders, or rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. - EFFECTIVITY - This Ordinance shall take effect 15 days upon approval and upon compliance with Section 59 (c) of RA 7160.

APPROVED.

HON. FRANCISCO J. CASTRO City Councilor

HON. KIRK LOUIS NICOLAS City Councilor

HON. ENRIGO CAPULE ouncilor NIÑO CARLO d PAUTISTA City Councilor

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HON. DENNY D. SAN DIEGO Councilor

HON. NOEL

VICE MAYOR

PINEDA

BAUTIST

HON

KIRK LOUIS NICOLAS

HON. EMMINUEL R. SACAY City Councilor HON EDGARDO F. DOMINGO City Councilor

HON. LUIS ALFONSO M. ARCEGA City Councilor

HON. DIONISIC C. MENDOZA City Councilor - ASC President HON. MICUEL CARLOS B. SOTO City Councilor

HON. PATRICK S. DELA CRUZ City Councilor - SK President

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the aforementioned City Ordinance was duly approved by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Malolos.

ATTESTED BY:

HON. NOEL G. PINEDA

CRISTZYA R. GUTIERREZ, EnP Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

City Vice Mayor - Presiding Officer

APPROVED/DISAPPROVED:

Date of Approval:

BNGR. GILBERT T. GAPTHATIAN

*absent

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