



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City
22nd City Council

PO22CC-049

28th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- **3184**, S-2023

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE Q CITY BUS PROGRAM AS A SUSTAINABLE AND RELIABLE PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Councilors ALFRED VARGAS, MPA and RAM V. MEDALLA.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Nikki V. Crisologo, Charm M. Ferrer, Fernando Miguel "Mikey" F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Aly Medalla, Dave C. Valmocina, Tatay Rannie Z. Ludovica, Godofredo T. Liban II, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Geleen "Dok G" G. Lumbad, Albert Alvin "Chuckie" L. Antonio III, Don S. De Leon, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Atty. Anton L. Reyes, Edgar "Egay" G. Yap, Imee A. Rillo, Raquel S. Malañgen, Irene R. Belmonte, Nanette Castelo-Daza, Marra C. Suntay, Joseph Joe Visaya, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Aiko S. Melendez, Mutya Castelo, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Kristine Alexia R. Matias, Eric Z. Medina, Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Vito Sotto Generoso, Victor "Vic" Bernardo, Alfredo "Freddy" Roxas and Julian Marcus D. Trono

WHEREAS, Section 5, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution declares that the promotion of the general welfare is "essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";

WHEREAS, Sections 15 and 16, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution equally and unequivocally declare as State policies the protection and promotion of the right to health of the people and the promotion and advancement of the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology, both of which are significantly impacted by how people move and travel;

WHEREAS, Section 17(b)(4)(i) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, states that adequate communication and transportation facilities are among the basic services and facilities that a city should provide;

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WHEREAS, public transportation is vested with public interest and various laws have been enacted to regulate the matter, including the laws on common carriers, as well as statutes such as Republic Act No. 4136, as amended, otherwise known as the "Land Transportation and Traffic Code";

WHEREAS, amidst national regulations on land transportation and road traffic, transportation has seldom benefitted from social welfare programs that promote the welfare of the Filipino people, especially the poor and the marginalized;

WHEREAS, restrictions in mobility brought about by adverse social circumstances can create a vicious cycle that ultimately prevents a person from seeking and securing gainful work, from access to education, or from availing of government services and social welfare interventions that could improve his or her well-being, as well as that of his or her family or community;

WHEREAS, exigencies have brought about the need to view safe and reliable public transportation as an integral aspect of how local governments serve their constituents, and this can be perfectly seen from the Quezon City Government's efforts through the Q City Bus Program;

WHEREAS, the launch and implementation of the Quezon City Government's Q City Bus Program had been effective in providing additional means of transportation to commuters and help ease traffic congestion in the City's streets and thoroughfares, thereby contributing to an increase in the quality of life of many of the City's residents;

WHEREAS, the Q City Bus Program has been lauded as a pioneering and inspiring initiative of the City Mayor, Honorable Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte; and since its start in December 2020, it has catered to more than twelve (12) million passengers along its eight (8) routes;

WHEREAS, the organizational and operational concept behind the Q City Bus Program can be referenced in the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028, which described such programs as "innovative" and promoted the pursuit and expansion of service contracting programs for public utility vehicles (p. 247);

WHEREAS, while the Q City Bus Program has been originally introduced to address the need for a reliable, efficient, and safe means of transportation amidst the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic that limited public transportation in Metro Manila, the Program has even become more important with the increase in fuel costs and fare prices, and disruptions in public transportation;

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WHEREAS, there is a need to support, institutionalize and strengthen programs like the Q City Bus Program that has been proven to be useful and significant for residents of Quezon City, and the institutionalization of such programs shall ensure the sustainability and continuing viability of such laudable and noteworthy initiatives, despite changes in local government dynamics, for the ultimate benefit of the residents of Quezon City.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. TITLE. - This Ordinance shall be known as "Q City Bus Ordinance of Quezon City".

SECTION 2. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION. - The Q City Bus Program aims to provide safety, convenience and comfort to commuters by providing special bus routes within Quezon City. It is designed with designated pick-up and drop-off points, following a set departure schedule at beginning and end-points. The Program shall cater to the citizens of Quezon City and individuals who are working, studying or transacting within the City.

SECTION 3. OPERATING DEPARTMENT. - The Transportation and Management Division of the Quezon City Traffic and Transport Management Department (TTMD), pursuant to City Ordinance No. SP-3134, S-2022, shall lead the supervision, operation and further development of the Q City Bus Program, pursuant to its functions based on the said Ordinance and any subsequent amendments thereto.

SECTION 4. INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE PROGRAM. - Subject to relevant public procurement rules and regulations, the current Q City Bus Program shall be institutionalized as part of the implemented programs of the city-managed public transportation system of the Quezon City Government. The implementation, supervision, operation and further development of the Q City Bus Program shall be guided by the principles of environmental sustainability, ecological balance, sustainable technological innovation, good governance and accountability, and the best interest of the constituents of Quezon City.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION. - The annual fund necessary for the maintenance and operation of this Ordinance shall be included in the annual appropriation from the General Fund of the Quezon City Government.

SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE. - All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, memorandum circulars and administrative regulations, or part thereof, which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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SECTION 7. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - Should any part of this Ordinance be held unconstitutional or invalid, the rest of the provisions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. - This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED: March 27, 2023.


GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III
City Government Department Head III
(City Council Secretary)

APPROVED: APR 28 2023


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on March 27, 2023 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on April 3, 2023.


ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III
City Government Department Head III
(City Council Secretary)

