Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
19th City Council

PO19CC-515

78th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP-2462, S-2015

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES IN NAMING OR RENAMING PUBLIC PLACES, STREETS AND STRUCTURES OF THE CITY.

Introduced by Councilor RAMON P. MEDALLA.

WHEREAS, the naming and renaming of local government units and facilities such as public plazas, bridges, schools, hospitals, health centers, streets, structures and the like, which power was originally lodged in Congress, has been devolved to the concerned Sangguniang Panlungsod, Panlalawigan or Bayan as the case maybe, provided that certain requirements have to be met for the said purpose;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, empowered the LGUs in consultation with the National Historical Commission to name and rename the following:

(1) City barangays, upon the recommendation of the Sangguniang Barangay concerned;

(2) City roads, avenues, boulevards, thoroughfares, and bridges;
(3) Public elementary, secondary and vocational or technical schools, community colleges and non-chartered colleges;

(4) City hospitals, health centers and other health facilities; and

(5) Any other public place or building owned by the city government.

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Quezon City saw it fit to set guidelines in the approval and disapproval of measures which pertains to naming and renaming of the subjects stated above.

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. TITLE – The Quezon City Guidelines in Naming/Renaming its Public Places, Streets and Structures.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE – The naming or renaming of public places, streets and structure is complex and sometimes emotionally – fraught undertaking since assigning a name is a powerful conferment of permanent identity for public places, streets and structures. It also requires significant resources in terms of changing names on signs, maps, and literature. In addition, excessive and constant name changing can be the source of confusion to the public. Therefore, the purpose of this Ordinance is to provide guidance to those that have interest in the naming or renaming of a public places, streets, and structure.

SECTION 3. CONDITIONS – the following conditions shall be met and considered before naming or renaming is affected.
A. NAMING/RENAMING AFTER A LIVING PERSON — As a general rule, naming or renaming after a living person shall not be allowed.


2. As stated in the guidelines set forth by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines.


B. NAMING/RENAMING AFTER A DECEASED PERSON

1. No public places, streets and structures should be named or renamed after a person within ten (10) years of his death except for highly exceptional reasons (e.g., his death was due to assassination in the service of the country, he/she gave exceptional service to the nation, death while trying to save others, death was a result of his patriotism and death while in the performance of one’s duty)

2. A genuine indigenous, and non-hispanized spelling should be used at all times, with reference to the naming or renaming of streets and/or plazas the spelling of which does not conform to official Filipino orthography.

3. Honorific titles like “Don” or “Father” or “Jr.” or “Sr.” should be deleted in naming or renaming of streets and/or plazas for practical, aesthetic and historic-literary reasons;

4. A street and/or plaza may be named after a family in a particular community whose members have historically contributed to the welfare of the Filipino people;
5. The use of Filipino terminology should be encouraged in naming or renaming of streets and/or plaza;

6. Names of street and/or plaza should be short and simple. However, those with no historical significance should be specified;

7. Streets with indigenous names should be retained. However, those with no historical significance should be replaced;

8. Streets bearing the names of religious personalities identified with national movements should be retained or should be recommended for street names;

9. Recommended street names should be appropriate in terms of historical value and significance to the street intended to be named or renamed;

10. No street and/or plaza should be named/renamed after a person if and when questionable propriety might arise from the said act of naming/renaming after that person.

11. Any change shall not be made more than once in every ten (10) years.

C. NAMING/RENAMEING OF PUBLIC SCHOOL – A change in a name of local public school shall be made only upon the recommendation of the Local School Board.

D. CHANGE OF NAME OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, HEALTH CENTERS AND OTHER HEALTH FACILITIES – A change in name of local public hospitals, health centers, and other health facilities shall be made only upon the recommendation of the Local Health Board.
E. NAMING OR RENAMING OF ROADS – Roads can be named and renamed after the following:

1. President and National Heroes for primary roads;
2. Senators and Congressman for secondary roads; and
3. Local Officials for tertiary roads.

F. NAMES WITH HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

1. No public place should be renamed if the present name has attained a degree of historical association and has developed an importance of its own.

2. Names of places, which have been sanctified by long usage by the people, shall be retained and preserved.

3. Name of public places named after foreigners or places with foreign names may be retained if these names were associated with the place and attained a degree of historical significance.

4. No name of Local Government Units, public places, streets and structures with historical, cultural or ethnic significance shall be changed, unless by unanimous vote of the Sanggunian and in consultation with the National Historical Institute.

5. No public places, streets and structures shall be renamed if the original name was created by an act of Congress, or by a Proclamation of the President of the Philippines.
6. No change in name of Local Government Units shall be effected unless ratified in a plebiscite called for the purpose, and in the unit or units directly affected.

G. FOR AESTHETIC UNITY – No street or roads should be renamed if it is one of complex of related street names in one district and renaming one of them would destroy aesthetic unity.

H. CONTINUITY – No portion of a street or road may be renamed if it would tend to disrupt the continuity of its present name and the whole length of one street shall have only one name.

SECTION 4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES – In considering proposals for naming or renaming public places, streets and structures the following general principles shall be taken into consideration:

1. Engenders a strong positive image.

2. Appropriate and with due regard to the public place, street and structure's location and history.

3. Have historical, cultural or social significance for the future generations.

4. Commemorates places, people or events that are of continued importance to the city and the nation.

5. Have symbolic value that transcends its ordinary meaning or use and enhances the character and identity of the public place, streets, and structures.

6. Have broad public support.
SECTION 5. REQUEST FOR A CHANGE OF NAME — All request for naming or renaming of public places, streets and structures shall be made in writing to any member of the Sangguniang Panlungsod for sponsorship. The request should contain the following information:

1. The proposed name;

2. Reasons for the proposed name;

3. Written documentation indicating community support for the proposed name;

4. Description/map showing location and boundaries of the public place;

5. If proposed to name a public place, street and structure, must include a description/maps showing the location;

6. If proposing to rename a public place, street and structure, include justification for changing an established name;

7. If proposed to name a public place, street or structure after an outstanding person, include documentation of that person’s significant contribution and good reputation in the city or Nation’s history.

SECTION 6. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION — The Office of the President, the representative of the Legislative District concerned and the Postal Services Office shall be notified of the change in name of the Local Government Units, public places, streets and structures.

SECTION 7. REPEALING CLAUSE — All provision of the City Ordinance, Executive Orders and Resolutions inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.
SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE – If for any reason any part of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts hereof, which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY – This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its approval.

ENACTED: November 16, 2015.

VINCENT D.G. BELMONTE
President Pro-Tempore
Acting Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Gov't. Asst. Dept. Head III

APPROVED: 20 JAN 2016

HERBERT M. BAUTISTA
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on November 16, 2015 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on November 23, 2015.

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Gov't. Asst. Dept. Head III