



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City
21st City Council

PO21CC-338

37th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- **2964**, S-2020

AN ORDINANCE ALLOCATING FUNDS FOR CONTACT TRACERS AS PART OF THE BARANGAY HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS.

Introduced by Councilor FRANZ S. PUMAREN.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Lena Marie P. Juico, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Nicole Ella V. Crisologo, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Winston "Winnie" T. Castelo, Atty. Bong Liban, Eden Delilah "Candy" A. Medina, Ramon P. Medalla, Mikey F. Belmonte, Estrella C. Valmocina, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Matias John T. Defensor, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Jorge L. Banal, Sr., Peachy V. De Leon, Imee A. Rillo, Marra C. Suntay, Irene R. Belmonte, Resty B. Malañgen, Ivy L. Lagman, Hero M. Bautista, Jose A. Visaya, Karl Castelo, Patrick Michael Vargas, Shaira L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Allan Butch T. Francisco, Marivic Co Pilar, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Diorella Maria G. Sotto-Antonio, Donato "Donny" C. Matias, Eric Z. Medina, Freddy S. Roxas and Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, on 8 March 2020, Proclamation No. 922, S. 2020 was issued by the President declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak and enjoining all government agencies and local government units to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, and appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the COVID-19 threat;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO), which includes the Philippines as a Member State and which has the primary role of directing and coordinating international health within the United Nations system, declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a global pandemic;

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WHEREAS, under Proclamation No. 929, S. 2020, the President declared a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines and imposed Community Quarantine throughout Luzon due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, under Resolution No. SP-8141, S-2020, the City Council declared Quezon City to be under a State of Calamity due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, Section 6 (e) of Republic Act No. 11332, otherwise known as the "Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act," provides that local governments have the authority to conduct and enforce disease surveillance and response systems; mandatory reporting of notifiable diseases and health events of public health concern; epidemic/outbreak and epidemiologic investigations; rapid containment, quarantine and isolation, disease prevention and control measures, and product recall; and response activities for events of public health concern;

WHEREAS, based on Book I, Title I, Chapter II, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", the City has the implied power to do all things necessary, appropriate, or incidental to govern efficiently and effectively, promote the general welfare, promote health and safety, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants;

WHEREAS, Book III, Title III, Chapter III, Article III, Section 458 (a)(1)(iv) of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that the City Council shall adopt measures to protect the inhabitants of the City from the harmful effects of natural disasters and calamities;

WHEREAS, Book III, Title III, Chapter III, Article III, Section 458 (a)(5)(xii) of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that the City Council shall approve measures and adopt quarantine regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases;

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior and Local Government directed all local chief executives to organize Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTs) and mobilize them to help implement prevention and mitigation, preparedness, and response measures for the COVID-19 pandemic;

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WHEREAS, the WHO defines "contact tracing" as the process of identifying, assessing, and managing people who have been exposed to a disease to prevent onward transmission. When systematically applied, contact tracing will break the chains of transmission of an infectious disease and is thus an essential public health tool for controlling infectious disease outbreaks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is vital for the BHERTs to have sufficient manpower for contact tracing efforts, to ensure that the Quezon City Health Department can test or implement quarantine in accordance with the appropriate guidelines with respect to COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. CONTACT TRACERS. - The City's barangays shall be authorized to engage up to three hundred (300) contact tracers under their Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTs) under the supervision of the Quezon City Health Department (QCHD). The QCHD shall determine the qualifications and number of contact tracers per barangay based on the barangay population and land area, attack rate (number of new cases in a certain population per specified period), disease risk, and other relevant factors.

SECTION 2. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OF CONTACT TRACERS. - The minimum qualifications of a Contact Tracer are the following:

- a) Male or Female below 45 years old;
- b) Physically fit with no history of chronic illnesses (Hypertension, Diabetes, Heart diseases, Pneumonia, Asthma, Kidney diseases, etc.);
- c) Currently a Quezon City Barangay employee;
- d) Resident of any Quezon City Barangay for at least one (1) year prior to engagement as Contact Tracer;

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- e) *Involved in COVID-19 Barangay Response;*
- f) *Owens a smart phone and knowledgeable on its applications;*
- g) *Willing to be trained as COVID-19 Contact Tracer;*
- h) *Can work full time as Barangay Contact Tracer;*
- i) *Able to perform basic computer encoding and printing; and*
- j) *Can drive (with license) is an advantage.*

SECTION 3. FUNDING. - Each contact tracer shall be provided an allowance of Four Thousand Pesos (Php4,000.00) per month. For the annual allowance of three hundred (300) contact tracers, the City hereby appropriates and sets aside a budget of Fourteen Million Four Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php14,400,000.00), which shall be sourced from any available funds from realized income of the City, which remain free of any obligation, available and existing.

SECTION 4. GRANT OF AUTHORITY TO THE CITY MAYOR TO ALLOCATE. - In view of the public health emergency and the developing exigencies of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Mayor is hereby authorized and empowered to allocate and apportion the above-mentioned budget for each barangay in accordance with the number of contact tracers of such barangay, from whatever available funds of the City and from such funds that may be reprogrammed by the Office of the City Mayor.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - If any provision of this Ordinance is declared void or unconstitutional, the remaining portions shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE. - All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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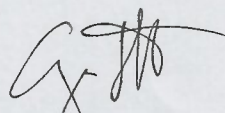
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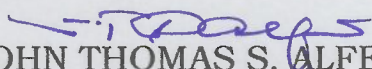
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SECTION 7. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. - This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.


ENACTED: August 24, 2020.


GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

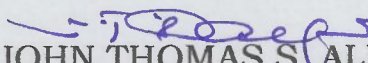

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

APPROVED: SEP 17 2020


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on August 24, 2020 under Suspended Rules and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on the same date.


Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

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