



Republika ng Pilipinas
Lungsod Quezon
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
(City Council)

PO2001-198
PO2001-203
PO2001-208

19th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 1100, S-2001

AN ORDINANCE MANDATING THE INCORPORATION, POSTING AND MANNER OF PUBLICLY DISPLAYING THE FIRE EXIT PLANS IN ALL PUBLIC ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS, EDIFICES AND ESTABLISHMENTS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Introduced by Councilors ALLAN BUTCH T. FRANCISCO, VINCENT P. CRISOLOGO and ANTONIO E. INTON, JR.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Wilma Amoranto-Sarino, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Elizabeth A. Delarmente, Bernadette R. Cruz-Herrera, Rommel R. Abesamis, Voltaire Godofredo L. Liban III, Ramon P. Medalla, Eric Z. Medina, Jorge L. Banal, Julian M.L. Coseteng, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Franz S. Pumaren, Dante M. De Guzman, Jesus "Bong" C. Suntay, Janet M. Malaya, Ricardo R. Del Rosario, Restituto B. Malaligan and Almario E. Francisco.

WHEREAS, severe injuries, innumerable death of persons and the irreparable damage and loss to property due to fire accidents have reached proportions that cast a doubt on the personal and economic well-being of the residents of Quezon City;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 1185 (26 August 1977) has provided for mechanisms to ensure faithful and strict implementation of the rules and regulations on fire safety and protection;

WHEREAS, threats of destruction and death due to fire continues to hog and hound the residents of Quezon City in view of blatant violations of the provisions of the Fire Code of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the City government, pursuant to Section 16 of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, is mandated and empowered to: "promote health and safety, xxx enhance economic prosperity and social justice, xxx maintain peace and order, preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants."

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. TITLE.- This Ordinance shall be known and referred to as the "Fire Exit Plan Ordinance of Quezon City."

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SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICIES.- The following policies are hereby adopted in pursuance of this Ordinance.

2.1 Fire safety and protection is a paramount concern of the government and civil society, thus, requiring the adoption of effective and efficient means of information dissemination;

2.2 The City government is empowered to promulgate and mandate certain rules and regulations with respect to the enforcement of laws aimed at ensuring the safety and security of people's life, limb and property;

2.3 Fire safety and protection can only be enhanced if only the people are informed and are aware of existing measures that are in place in case of fire, earthquake, conflagration, civil disturbance and other natural or man-made disasters or calamities.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms.- For purposes of this Ordinance, the following words and phrases shall mean and refer to, if the contrary is not stated, and shall be indicatively construed as:

3.1 Abatement - an act that would resume or neutralize a fire hazard.

3.2 Fire - the active principle of burning, characterized by the heat and light of combustion.

3.3 Fire Exit Plan - a pre-approved plan for each floor of a public assembly building showing the routes from each room to appropriate exits displayed prominently for the information of its occupants.

3.4 Public Assembly Buildings - any building or structure where fifty (50) or more people congregate, gather or assemble for any purpose.

SECTION 4. Coverage.- the provisions of this Ordinance shall be made applicable to all privately owned buildings and establishments including facilities and installations of the City and National government.

SECTION 5. Fire Exit Plan.- It shall be unlawful for persons, natural or juridical, who fail or refuse to cause the incorporation, posting and public display of approved fire exit plans in conspicuous locations within the premises of public assembly building. In case of

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Hotels, inns, apartelles, condominium units, hospitals, and similar facilities, the fire exit plan must be prominently displayed in each room for each floor showing the routes from each room and floor to appropriate exits, the fire exit plan must be displayed on the main door of the room;

Offices, gymnasiums, and coliseums, school buildings, manufacturing plants and installations of similar types, the fire exit plan must be prominently displayed in each room and along the main corridor, walk way or passage way showing the floor plan of the office space or installation and the routes to be taken towards appropriate exits;

Restaurants, cafes, bars, lounges, night and day clubs, cabarets, dance and concert hall, and similar venues of entertainment and leisure, the fire exit plan must be prominently displayed in the comfort or rest rooms of the facility and made available for public viewing; Provided, further, that establishments with multi-paginated menus, food and beverage listings shall cause the printing, publication, posting of the fire exit plans at the inside back corner page of such menus or food and beverage listings;

Moviehouses, theaters, videograms and film projection rooms and similar establishments, shall cause to be shown in between projections or film showings, a film or video presentation on the fire exit plan of the establishment concerned;

Other establishments, installations or facilities must comply with the provisions of this ordinance and ensure that fire exit plans are conspicuously and permanently installed prior to the issuance of any certificates of completion and/or occupancy permits by appropriate agencies of the City government.

SECTION 6. Approval and Adoption of Fire Exit Plans.- In coordination and consultation with the Local Fire Service, owners and operators of public assembly buildings and establishments must submit and secure the approval of their proposed fire exit plans for each room of each floor leading to appropriate exits.

In the discharge of this function, the Fire Service is hereby authorized to review, reverse and revise the proposed fire exit plan after the conduct of field and ocular inspection of the facility or establishment concerned.

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SECTION 7. Manner of Posting.- Upon approval by the local fire service, the fire exit plan must be permanently displayed, posted and made an integral part of every main corridor, passageway or means of ingress and egress of every public assembly building.

Persons, whether natural or juridical, who shall be caught defacing, altering and/or removing posted or installed fire exit plans, without color of authority, shall suffer the penalty of six months to one year imprisonment and a fine of Five Thousand Pesos or both, at the discretion of the court.

SECTION 8. Review and Application of Fire Exit Plans.- In coordination with the local fire service, and as a prerequisite for the annual renewal of business permits and licenses to operate, all owners and operators of public assembly buildings and similar establishments and installations are required to conduct regular quarterly fire, earthquake and disaster management drills and exercises.

After the conduct of disaster management drills and exercises, the local fire service is authorized to issue certifications attesting to the activity and certifying further to the applicability and efficacy of existing fire exit plans.

SECTION 9. Fees and Charges.- For purposes of this ordinance, the following fees and charges shall be levied and collected from persons, whether natural or juridical, in the following schedule:

9.1 For purposes of Section 6 hereof, a processing fee in the amount of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) shall be levied and collected by the City Treasury;

9.2 For purposes of Section 8 hereof, the amount of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) shall be levied and collected prior to the conduct of the disaster management drills and exercises as a prerequisite for the issuance of the required Certificate of Compliance;

9.3 The fees and charges levied and collected by the City Treasurer under this Section shall be appropriated and applied for the continuing purchase, procurement and upgrading of the equipment and fire fighting capabilities of the local fire service.

SECTION 10. Penalties.- The provisions of Presidential Decree No. 1185, to the contrary notwithstanding, the amount of five Hundred pesos (P500.00) shall be levied against persons, whether natural or juridical, for every floor found violating the provisions of this Ordinance.

The local fire service department head shall, upon conduct of inspection serve a Notice of Violation (NOV) to violators of the provisions of this Ordinance.

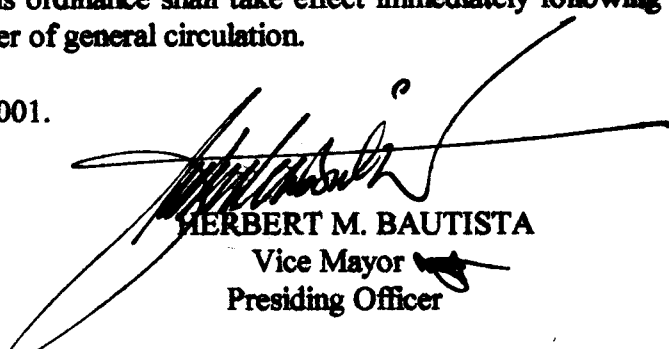
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In coordination with the Department of Engineering, the Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) and the Prosecution Service, the local fire service shall cause the filing of appropriate administrative and criminal actions against violators of this Ordinance. Aside from the penalties prescribed under this Section, the additional penalty of imprisonment for a period of not less than six (6) months nor more than one (1) year shall be imposed against the president, chief operating officer, manager or responsible officer, in charge of the management and operations of the public assembly building found and convicted, in appropriate proceedings, to have violated the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause.- All orders, ordinances and resolutions in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed accordingly.

SECTION 12. Effectivity.- This ordinance shall take effect immediately following its full and complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

ENACTED: December 18, 2001.


HERBERT M. BAUTISTA
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


EUGENIO V. JURILLA
City Council Secretary

APPROVED: February 22, 2002


FELICIANO R. BELMONTE, JR.
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance which was APPROVED on Second Reading on December 18, 2001, was finally PASSED by the City Council on January 22, 2002.


EUGENIO V. JURILLA
City Council Secretary

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