

Republic of the Philippines OUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City 19th City Council

PR19CC-922

69th Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP- 6513 S-2015

A RESOLUTION URGING THE HONORABLE MAYOR OF QUEZON CITY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE METROPOLITAN MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, TO CLOSE DOWN THE SANITARY LANDFILL OR TRANSFER STATION IN BARANGAY PAYATAS, QUEZON CITY WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR.

Introduced by Councilors RANULFO Z. LUDOVICA and VICTOR V. FERRER, JR.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Precious Hipolito Castelo, Voltaire Godofredo L. Liban III, Roderick M. Paulate, Ramon P. Medalla, Estrella C. Valmocina, Anthony Peter D. Crisologo, Ricardo T. Belmonte, Jr., Dorothy A. Delarmente, Lena Marie P. Juico, Alexis R. Herrera, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Gian Carlo G. Sotto, Franz S. Pumaren, Eufemio C. Lagumbay, Jose Mario Don S. De Leon, Jaime F. Borres, Jesus Manuel C. Suntay, Marvin C. Rillo, Vincent DG, Belmonte, Raquel S. Malangen, Jessica Castelo Daza, Bayani V. Hipol, Jose A. Visaya, Julienne Alyson Rae V. Medalla, Godofredo T. Liban II, Andres Jose G. Yllana, Jr., Allan Butch T. Francisco, Karl Edgar C. Castelo, Candy A. Medina, Diorella Maria G. Sotto, Marivic Co-Pilar, Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Donato C. Matias and Ricardo B. Corpuz.

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2000, a tragic and unfortunate accident occurred in Fayatas Dumpsite, a 150-foot garbage pile, when the same suddenly collapsed or fell down due to continuous rains for about ten days brought about by two strong typhoons, Dedeng and Epang, burying hundreds of people, mostly scavengers living in makeshift huts at the open dump;

WHEREAS, as a consequence of such tragedy where close to 300 people died, various investigations were conducted and it turned out that the Payatas Dumpsite was no longer fit as a waste disposal facility amplified by the lack of the necessary Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in violation of Presidential Decree No. 1586;

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WHEREAS, in the wake of the tragedy and taking into consideration the safety of the residents in the vicinity, the Payatas Dumpsite was ordered closed and was converted into a potential source of electricity using methane gas where some of barangay folks are currently benefiting;

WHEREAS, due to lack of alternative waste disposal facilities, the portion of a 15-hectare Payatas Dumpsite was reopened but only as a transfer station under the management of a private contractor where garbage is merely sorted to get recyclables before dumping at the San Mateo Landfill or other sanitary landfill being leased by the city government;

WHEREAS, the residents in the vicinity, however, observed that the transfer station violates certain laws, rules and regulations as it continues to accommodate truckloads of Metro Manila's waste and, in fact, the number of dump trucks doubles at night when they are asleep and could not complain;

WHEREAS, the subject transfer station, which now appears to be a new dumpsite, is creeping toward the houses in the vicinity because, whenever garbage is dumped, the trash is just bulldozed to flatten the surface area for the next dump truck. Worse, the garbage pile covers and clogs half of a creek running across the barangay, thereby posing as a health and environmental hazard, and a cause for possible displacement of the residents and recurrence of trash avalanche;

WHEREAS, worthy of mention is the proximity of the dumpsite to La Mesa Dam which supplies most of Metro Manila's drinking water. This main source of drinking water might get contaminated with leachates produced by a mixture of water and garbage passing from beneath the dump to the dam and the Marikina River, thus causing serious skin irritation and eventual death;

WHEREAS, recently, the inhabitants of Barangay Payatas and nearby barangays aired their strong opposition to the rising level of garbage in the transfer station due to the unbearable stinky odor prevalent in the vicinity which causes respiratory ailment;

WHEREAS, despite the apparent danger to the public, the private contractor and some city officials in-charge in the management, maintenance and operation of the garbage dump, as well as the collection of trash, remain unmindful of the welfare of the people. Hence, the need to shut down the same in compliance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000;



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WHEREAS, Section 458 (iv) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, empowers the City Council to "adopt measures to protect the inhabitants of the city from the harmful effects of man-made or natural disasters and calamities";

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Constitution, provides that "the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them". Likewise, in Section 16 of the same Article, the State is mandated to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to urge, as it does hereby urge, the Honorable Mayor of Quezon City, the Chairman of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, and the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, to close down the Sanitary Landfill or Transfer Station in Barangay Payatas, Quezon City within one (1) year.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Offices of the Honorable Mayor of Quezon City, the Chairman of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, and the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for their information and appropriate action.

ADOPTED: August 24, 2015.

VINCENT DG. BELMONTE
President Pro-Tempore
Acting Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

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

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Resolution was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on August 24, 2015 and was CONFIRMED on September 1, 2015.

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III

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