



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
22nd City Council

PR22CC-139

28th Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP- **9226** , S-2023

A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES TO RENAME AGHAM ROAD FROM NORTH AVENUE TO QUEZON AVENUE AND BIR ROAD FROM QUEZON AVENUE TO EAST AVENUE, AS SENATOR MIRIAM P. DEFENSOR-SANTIAGO AVENUE, PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10066, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT OF 2009", REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991", AND OTHER RELATED LAWS, RULES AND GUIDELINES.

Introduced by Councilors DAVE C. VALMOCINA and ALFRED VARGAS, MPA.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Nikki V. Crisolago, Charm M. Ferrer, Fernando Miguel "Mikey" F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Aly Medalla, 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, Ram V. Medalla, 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 22, Article V of Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009, states that:

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“SECTION 22. Renaming of Historical Streets, Buildings Designated as Cultural Treasure or Important Cultural Property. - The names of historical streets, parks, buildings, shrines, landmarks, monuments and sites designated as national cultural treasures or important cultural property shall not be allowed to be renamed by a local or national legislation, unless approved by the National Historical Institute, and only after due hearing on the matter. Furthermore, for changes of names done to historical streets, parks, buildings, shrines, landmarks, monuments, and sites prior to the effectivity of this Act, the National Historical Institute may direct the local government units to restore their original names, also after due hearing.”

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 13(b) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, which states that the Sanggunians of highly urbanized cities and of component cities whose charters prohibit their voters from voting for provincial elective officials, hereinafter referred to in this Code as independent component cities, may, in consultation with the Philippine Historical Commission (now National Historical Commission of the Philippines), change the name of the following within its territorial jurisdiction, including City roads, avenues, boulevards, thoroughfares, and bridges. Provided that, none of the foregoing local government units, institutions, places, or buildings shall be named after a living person, nor may a change of name be made unless for a justifiable reason and, in any case, not oftener than once every ten (10) years. The name of a local government unit or a public place, street or structure with historical, cultural, or ethnic significance shall not be changed, unless by a unanimous vote of the sanggunian concerned and in consultation with the PHC;

WHEREAS, the Revised Guidelines on the Naming and Renaming of Streets, Public Schools, Plazas, Building, Bridges and other Public Structures issued by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines states that:

“IV. 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.”*

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WHEREAS, Senator Miriam Palma Defensor-Santiago was a Filipino scholar, academic, lawyer, judge, author, and politician who served in all three branches of the Philippine government: judicial, executive, and legislative. She was known for being a long-serving Senator of the Republic of the Philippines, an elected judge of the International Criminal Court, and the sole woman recipient of the Philippines' highest national honor, the Quezon Service Cross;

WHEREAS, in 1983 she had become the youngest presiding judge in the Regional Trial Court of Quezon City. Known as the "Fighting Judge", she handled a record of fifty (50) cases a month by refusing to tolerate delays and postponements. She gained a reputation for strict impartiality in applying the law. "No bribes or extortion" was the first rule of her courtroom;

WHEREAS, Agham Road or Science Road, a National Tertiary Road as per Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Road Map, traverses from North Avenue to Quezon Avenue, and was named as such because of the presence of the Philippine Science High School which was moved to Agham Road in 1970 and the three (3) lots that are under the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), hence the alternate name of agham meaning science. The dream to make Quezon City a center for scientific study in the Philippines and Asia was not just the dream of then President Ferdinand Emmanuel Edralin Marcos, but also that of President Ramon del Fierro Magsaysay (1907-1957) in the 1950s. Beside the northeastern BSP Security Plant Complex is the first DOST lot, which is the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA);

WHEREAS, BIR Road, a National Tertiary Road as per DPWH Road Map, traverses from North Avenue to Quezon Avenue, and was named after the Ministry of Finance's Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) National Office, which was constructed in 1976. The BIR was formally established in 1904, during the American Occupation of the Philippines, and was later housed in the Department of Finance Building in Manila (now the National Museum of Anthropology). Upon its construction, the Quezon City BIR complex occupied the central lot on the eastbound south lane of BIR Road to its NIA Road intersection;

WHEREAS, among the landmarks that occupies Agham Road are the New Central Business District, the Occupational Safety and Health Center, the Ombudsman, the Philippine Children's Medical Center and the Bureau of Fire Protection National Headquarters;

WHEREAS, among the landmarks that occupies BIR Road are the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Security Plant Complex, the PAGASA Office, National Telecommunications Commission, and the National Power Corporation Power Center (including the National Transmission Corporation and the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines);

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WHEREAS, there is a need to rename Agham Road and BIR Road after Senator Miriam Palma Defensor-Santiago who was a QCitizen that resided in La Vista Subdivision, a Law Professor for around ten (10) years at the University of the Philippines - Diliman, a presiding Judge of the Regional Trial Court of Quezon City and an Agrarian Reform Secretary (Department of Agrarian Reform Office is located in Elliptical Road, Quezon City); who earned her degrees in Bachelor of Arts - Magna Cum Laude and Bachelor of Laws - Cum Laude; and in recognition of her numerous awards and accomplishments.


NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to urge, as it does hereby urge, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Philippines to rename Agham Road from North Avenue to Quezon Avenue and BIR Road from Quezon Avenue to East Avenue, as Senator Miriam P. Defensor-Santiago Avenue, pursuant to Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the "National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009", Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", and other related laws, rules and guidelines.

ADOPTED: 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)

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Resolution was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on March 27, 2023 and was CONFIRMED on April 3, 2023.


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



