

Republic of the Philippines
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
J. Miranda Ave., City Hall, City of Naga
Tel. Nos. 473-2051*473-2049* 811-1937* 472-7919

ORDINANCE NO. 2007-037
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AN ORDINANCE NAMING THE ROAD FROM THE JUNCTION OF THE NATIONAL ROAD TO THE NAGA CITY ECO-PARK IN BARANGAY SAN FELIPE AS MERIEM R. PALACIO DRIVE:-

On joint and collective motion

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga that:

Section 1. --- The entire stretch of the road from the junction of the National road up to the Naga City Ecology Park (Eco-Park) in Barangay San Felipe is hereby named after **MERIEM RODRIGUEZ PALACIO** or, following National Historical Institute Guidelines, simply called **M. PALACIO DRIVE**.

Section 2. --- This avenue has no legislated name at present and is being frequented by visitors and advocates of a clean environment and by lovers of flowers and by those with interest in gardens with which they are rewarded when they reach the Eco-Park of Naga City.

Section 3. --- Basis for choosing the Name

a) Meriem Rodriguez Palacio was a distinguished Mayoral Awardee in 1991 for her dedication to music. In fact, among other achievements which demonstrated her skill and talent, she wrote in February 10, 1993 the music and scoring of the Naga City March "Heart of Bikol" in tandem with novelist and poet Bienvenido M. Santos who wrote the lyrics of the song and when called upon to sing it, as the occasion would permit, she would as she did before the city officials and guests during the June 18 Charter day of Naga in 2002.

b) Meriem Rodriguez Palacio had a direct hand in the establishment of the Isarog Garden Society Foundation, Inc. (IGSFI) in showcasing the care of the environment at its window, the Eco-Park. For this the IGSFI was awarded in 2005 a Special Mayoral Award which cited the IGSFI as a "non-political organization of environmentally conscious individuals, whose members went further than showing their common interest in flowers and green and established the Eco-Park through members' contribution and donations, thereby demonstrating that people and government can

work together to preserve and enrich the gift of nature for the general welfare of the residents".

c) Meriem Rodriguez Palacio was practically everywhere, wherever there were occasions that involved music and showcasing culture, be they religious or civic, and in most instances she herself had to give her share and her personal rendition of her God-given gift in music.

Section 4. This ordinance is in keeping with one of the new thrusts of the City Government of Naga, contained in the July 30, 2007 State of the City Report by the City Mayor Jesse M. Robredo, which is to perpetuate and enhance the preservation of, as well as making vibrant, the culture and arts of Naga. The naming of this subject road after Meriem Rodriguez Palacio is a humble tribute to the gift of voice and to a touch of green that Naga City once had the opportunity to be in the company of.

Section 5. Section 16 of Republic Act 7160 otherwise known as The Local Government Code of 1991 provides that "within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the *preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balance ecology* . . ." (Italics done for emphasis by the proponent of this ordinance)

Section 6. Section 13 (b) of the same Republic Act under the heading *Naming of Local Government Units and Public Places and Structures* states that "the sanggunians of highly urbanized cities and 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, change the name of the following within its, territorial jurisdiction: (2) City roads, avenues, boulevards, thoroughfares and bridges."

Naming the subject road after Meriem Rodriguez Palacio is an exercise by the City of Naga of its power to name city roads, avenues and the like as provided for in this section of republic Act 7160.

Section 7. Since there is no name to be changed in the subject avenue, the power of giving names remains at the discretion of the local government unit

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notwithstanding whatever policies there are in the National Historical Commission since this government agency may only be consulted and its policies cannot overrule the power of the local government unit to legislate in keeping with what is deemed proper and relevant to the needs and culture by the local government unit.

Section 8. This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

ENACTED: October 23, 2007

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WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

ORIGINAL SIGNED
JOSE L. GRAGEDA
Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod

ORIGINAL SIGNED
GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.
City Vice Mayor &
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

ORIGINAL SIGNED
JESSE M. ROBREDO
City Mayor
10-26-07