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Republika ng Pilipinas TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD Lungsod ng Naga City Hall Compound, J. Miranda Avenue, Naga City, 4400 205-2980 local 2060

AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE URBAN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF NAGA IN ORDER TO AUGMENT INCOMES AND MAKE AVAILABLE HUMAN IMMUNITY-BOOSTING AGRICULTURAL FOOD PRODUCTS AS A STRATEGY IN THE CONTINUING FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY AND THE ERADICATION OF COVID-19, ALLOCATING THE INITIAL AMOUNT OF FIVE MILLION PESOS (PHP5,000,000.00) CHARGEABLE AGAINST THE 2020 ANNUAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATE FOR THE PURPOSE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES:-

Author: Hon. City Councilor Mila SD Raquid-Arroyo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As described in the planning report submitted in the year 2007 to the City Government of Naga by the twenty graduate students of the University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, Canada, under the guidance of UBC Associate Professor Leonor C. Angeles, urban agriculture, which is broadly defined as any form of agriculture taking place in urban and peri-urban areas, is increasingly recognized as a sustainable, holistic, and empowering means for achieving food security and aiding in poverty alleviation.

From the time the aforementioned report was submitted to the City Government and received by our beloved Jesse M. Robredo who was then the Mayor of this City, various initiatives have been started by the City Agriculture Office all aimed at increasing productivity and utilizing available agricultural resources.

Recently, with the passage of Naga City Ordinance No. 2020-046, urban agriculture, particularly household-based gardening, was declared and taken on as a strategy to fight COVID-19 by ensuring access of each household to vegetables that are needed by the human body in boosting the immune system.

On 22 June 2020, in reply to the request of the Sangguniang Panlungsod for information on the steps that the City Agriculture Office (CAgO) has undertaken or plans to undertake in implementation of the mandates for household gardening under the aforementioned Ordinance, the CAgO reported the following:

- i. Since 2012, the highly urbanized barangays have been included in the urban gardening/agriculture program being implemented by the City through the Oueen Program;
- ii. In 2017, the CAgO started the implementation of a BuB funded project called the Integrated Community Food Production (ICFP) which culminated in 2019. One feature of this program was the organization of Barangay Agricultural Technologists from each participating barangay whose main task was to monitor the project's progress and maintain a barangay nutsery;
- iii. With the passage of Ordinance No. 220-046, CAgO is now looking at the continuation of the said ICFP and expanding the same in order to have a community nursery not only in each barangay but also in each of the zones in each barangay.

To ensure full implementation of the provisions of Ordinance No. 2020-046 on household gardening, initial discussions with the CAgO revealed that greater coordination with the

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barangays and allocation of resources are crucial for a stronger implementation of the urban gardening program. Likewise, initial discussion with the personnel in-charge of the Locally Empowered and Resilient Communities (LERC) Program revealed that engaging the beneficiaries thereof would be one effective strategy to achieve the objectives of urban gardening and resources must be allocated in order to mobilize such participation and engagement.

Thus, this Ordinance.

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Be it enacted by the Sangguniang Panlungsod in session assembled:-

SECTION 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the Urban Gardening Ordinance of Naga City.

- **SECTION 2.** Purpose. This Ordinance is enacted in order to strengthen the implementation of the urban agriculture program of the City of Naga as a strategy to reduce poverty, improve nutritional health and fight the COVID-19 pandemic.
- SECTION 3. Institutionalization of the Integrated Community Food Production (ICFP) Program funded under the Bottom-up Budgeting (BuB) strategy implemented in the City of Naga by adopting the same as a regular program of the City Agriculture Office (CAgO).

SECTION 4. ICFP Program Components. The ICFP, as herein adopted by the City Government of Naga, consist of the following components:

4.1 Barangay Agricultural Team Technicians (BATTs). The Barangay Agricultural Team Technicians who shall act as CAgO's arms in the implementation of this Ordinance is hereby organized as composed by three (3) ICFP Program Cluster Coordinators, One (1) BATT Leader and Two (2) BATT Assistants in each barangay, provided, however, that a higher or lower number of BATTs per barangay may

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be recommended by the CAgO to the City Mayor as deemed necessary.

- 4.1.2 The BATTs shall implement the ICFP in each barangay and the ICFP Program Coordinators shall supervise the implementation of the ICFP in each cluster of barangays and effect collaboration between and among the different BAT Teams to efficiently and effectively achieve the purposes of this Ordinance. The formation of the ICFP Program Clusters shall be determined by the CAgO.
- 4.1.3. The ICFP Program Cluster Coordinators and the BATTs shall be appointed by the City Mayor based on a list of names submitted by the CAgO. The minimum qualification for such personnel shall be residents of Naga City who possess dedication and commitment to agricultural development. In the appointment of BAT Teams for CY 2020-2021, those who have lost their employment by reason of COVID-19 and have passed the minimum qualification for appointment shall be given priority.
- 4.1.2. The ICFP Program Cluster Coordinators and the BATTs shall work in collaboration with the Barangay Councils in each Barangay and shall report directly to the CAgO.
- 4.1.3 BAT Honorarium. The BAT Team shall each receive the following monthly honorarium which shall be periodically reviewed for possible increase as may be recommended by the CAgO:
 - i. ICFP Program Cluster Coordinators P4,000.00
 - ii. BATT Leader P2.000.00
 - iii. BATT Assistants P 1,500.00
- 4.2 **Establishment of Seedling Nurseries at the sitio level.** Seedling nurseries at the sitio level in each barangay shall be established and managed by the BATT Leader and BATT Assistants. The nurseries shall make available to the community the following vegetable/herb varieties, among others:

i. Pechay	ix. Bottle Gourd (Upo)	xvii. zucchini
ii. Mustard	x. Upland Kangkong	xvii. cucumber
iii. Eggplant	xi. Winged bean (sigarillas)	
iv. Bitter gourd	xii. Green or Sweet Pepper	
vi. Okra	xiii. Malunggay	
vi. Squash	xiv. Basil	
vii. Ridge Gourd (Patola)	xv. Italian Oregano	
viii. Tomato	xvi. Lemongrass,	
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4.3. Distribution of Seedlings. The BATTs shall ensure that seedlings propagated at the nurseries are distributed to the households in the barangay and the growth thereof regularly monitored by them. Such seedlings shall be sold for not more than five pesos (P5.00) per seedling, as determined by the CAgO, provided, however, that indigent families may avail of such seedlings at a subsidized cost with the set of the seedlings.



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- **SECTION 5. Coordinated Implementation.** The implementation of this Ordinance shall tap into existing mechanisms and initiatives particularly those serving the same sector such as the urban poor. For this purpose, the implementation of the ICFP Program shall also be carried out through the programs for the Least Economically Resilient Communities (LERC), those undertaken by the Naga City Urban Poor Federation, Inc. which are funded by the City Government, and the livelihood programs undertaken by the QUEEN and Sanggawadan, Program beneficiaries, among others, which are hereby mandated to be integrated into the implementation of the ICFP Program.
- **SECTION 6. Marketing Support for Planters' Produce**. To ensure that any green produce which are in excess of what may be required for direct family consumption shall redound to augmenting family incomes, the CAgO shall under the following:
 - 6.1 *Priority in the Weekly Farmers' Market*. The Barangay ICFP Program Advocates shall be given priority in the allocation of space in the weekly farmers' market held at the Naga City Hall grounds.
 - 6.2 Establishment of a buy-and-sell program. To further the support extended to Barangay ICFP Advocates, the CAgO shall, within thirty (30) days from the approval of this Ordinance, establish a system of buying green produce directly from the planters and reselling it to retailers or end-consumers. In the implementation of this mandate, the CAgO shall tap into the capability of organized groups, cooperatives or corporations in the City of Naga to respond to market needs both within and outside.
 - 6.3 Establishment *of processing centers*. To add value to the raw produce of the Barangay ICFP Advocates, processing centers especially for farm produce that are easily perishable such as tomatoes shall be established and commence sustainable operation within three (3) months from the approval of this Ordinance. The food processing centers shall meet the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) for food safety required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- **SECTION 7. Quarterly Report.** A quarterly report on the progress of the implementation of this Ordinance based on the parameters or criteria as enumerated under Section 4.5.3 above shall be submitted by the CAgO to the City Mayor, copy furnished the Sangguniang Panlungsod.
- SECTION 8. Fund Allocation. The initial amount of Five Million Pesos (Php5.000.000.00) is hereby allocated to fund the implementation of this Ordinance in CY 2020. For FY 2021 and thereafter, the annual appropriation for the implementation of this Ordinance shall be a line item under the budget of the CAgO.

For the immediate implementation of this Ordinance, the City Budget Officer is mandated to submit to the Sangguniang Panlungsod the items in the CY

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2020 Budget which could be freed for the purpose or any other fund of the City Government which could be allocated therefor.

- **SECTION 9. Continuing Information Dissemination.** The City Events, Protocols and Public Information Office (CEPPIO) shall devise and implement a public information strategy designed not only to fully inform the Nagueños about this Ordinance but also to strongly encourage them to actively participate in the achievement of the objectives of this Ordinance
- **SECTION 10.** Separability. If any portion of this Ordinance is declared as invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, those that have not been so declared shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon the approval hereof.

ENACTED: October 6, 2020

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WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

GIL A. DE LA TORRE Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

CECILIA B. VEDUZ-DE ASIS City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

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and provided, further that seedling cost as provided under this section shall be subject to annual review by the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

- 4.4. **Organization of the Barangay ICFP Advocates**. The BAT Team shall facilitate the formation and organization of the association of ICFP Advocates in each barangay. This association of ICFP Advocates shall be composed of all heads of households participating in the ICFP Program in the barangay.
- 4.5 Annual Search for Naga City Greenest Barangay. To further encourage and incentivize urban agriculture, the Search for Greenest Barangay is hereby established with the following mechanics:
 - 4.5.1 The Search shall be conducted annually and awarded in the month of July as part of the celebration of the Nutrition Month.
 - 4.5.2 Search Committee. The Search Committee shall be composed of the following:

Chairperson: Co-Chairperson: Members: Head, CAgO NCPC Representative Chairperson, SP Committee on Agriculture Representative, MNCCI (by invitation) Head of Office, CPNO

- 4.5.3 Selection Criteria. The Greenest Barangay shall be selected based on the following criteria:
 - Percentage of Zones with complete and maintained vegetable seedling nursery – 15%
 - ii. Percentage of households with vegetable gardens all year round -50%
 - iii. Percentage of households who are able to regularly source income from their vegetable garden 25%
 - iii. Total area of formerly-vacant lots utilized for vegetable gardening 10%
- 4.5.4 Winners and Prizes. Three (3) Greenest Barangays will be declared winners garnering the First, Second and Third Places, and a cash prize of P100,000.00, P75,000.00 and P50,000.00, respectively, will be awarded to the winners. No winner shall be declared unless the score of at least 75% is achieved. A consolation prize of P10,000.00 shall be given to each barangay that achieved at least 50% of the total score. The prize awarded to the winning barangay shall be paid to and received by the Barangay ICFP Advocates and will be utilized by them in further pursuit of the objectives of the ICFP Program.

