

**REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
LUNGSOD NG BAKOLOD
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**CITY ORDINANCE NO. 637
March 13, 2013**

AN ORDINANCE NAMING THE STREET FROM THE CORNER OF RIZAL AND SAN JUAN STREETS, TOWARDS THE RECLAMATION AREA OF THIS CITY, UNTIL THE WESTERN SHORELINE OF BACOLOD AS THE "BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH AVENUE".

WHEREAS, R. A. 7160 or THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, particularly Section 13, provides that xxx (b) The Sangguniang of highly urbanized cities xxx may in consultation with the Philippine Historical Commission change the name of the following within its territorial jurisdiction xxx (2) City roads, avenues, boulevards, thoroughfares, and bridges, xxx (d) None of the foregoing Local Government Unit, institutions, places, or buildings shall be named after a living person..xxx;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Revised Reclamation Agreement of 1995 between the City and Bacolod Real Estate Development Corporation (BREDCO) provides that all road networks therein shall pertain to the City of Bacolod;

WHEREAS, because of the real estate development done by BREDCO, a new street was added as an extension of Rizal St., which to date is still unnamed;

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to name said street, after a man who had lived nearby and who was seen as a towering figure in the moral and spiritual growth of the city, the late BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH";

WHEREAS, in 1968 the late BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH was instrumental in the establishment and operation of Magnitude 10, a television network that specializes in production of educational programs as well as in the distribution of television sets in haciendas for the entertainment of lowly workers, which programs were cut short when Martial Law was declared in 1972. He was also instrumental in the establishment of a radio, DYAF, which is still on air. In the same year, the late Bishop introduced the manufacture of pants and jacket known as "BISHOP'S MAONG" long before LEVI'S was in vogue to provide sugar workers with working clothes as well as additional income opportunities to mothers in rural communities;

WHEREAS, in 1969, the late BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH led the acquisition of the old AIDSISA sugar mill and organized the DACONGCOGON PROJECT, leading to the creation of a sugar central eventually owned by a cooperative composed of at least fifteen thousand (15,000) small-farmer members from the mountain barangays of Kabankalan, Negros Occidental;

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WHEREAS, in 1973, because of the Dacongogon project, BISHOP FORTICH was awarded the prestigious RAMON MAGSAYSAY AWARD FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT and in 1974, was one of the first awardees of the ANG BANWAHANON AWARD for Public Service, the highest award given by the City to a Bacolodnon whose life or service has made a considerable impact on the people and community;

WHEREAS, during the pastoral years of the late BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH, a man of peace, an ardent advocate of human rights and an indefatigable champion of the masses, the Social Action Center of the Diocese of Bacolod was started, which to date continues to give shelter to the poor, the persecuted and the marginalized, provides legal, social and financial assistance and extends spiritual and psychological counseling, all of which earned him a nomination in the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize;

WHEREAS, the naming of the street from corner Rizal and San Juan Streets towards the Reclamation Area until the western shoreline of Bacolod in honor of the late BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH is the least a grateful city can bestow to the man whose life touched men from all walks of life. It will also correspond well with the erected monument and edifice in memory of POPE JOHN PAUL II's 1981 historic visit in Bacolod City facilitated by the late BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF BACOLOD CITY IN SESSION ASSEMBLED, THAT:

ARTICLE I. TITLE. RATIONALE.

This Ordinance shall be known as "BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH AVENUE" Ordinance in honor and recognition of the contribution of the late BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH to the social, economic, educational and moral development of the City of Bacolod.

ARTICLE II. LOCATION OF ANTONIO Y. FORTICH AVENUE.

The street from the corner of Rizal and San Juan Streets towards the Reclamation Area of the City until the western shoreline of Bacolod shall be named as the "BISHOP ANTONIO Y. FORTICH AVENUE".

ARTICLE III. FUNDS.

The City shall appropriate the sum of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P300,000.00) for the installation of street-markers; street corner signs and/or an aesthetically designed bust or statue.





ARTICLE IV. EFFECTIVITY.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval thereof.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF:

Affirmative :
Councilors : Homer Q. Bais, Archie S. Baribar, Roberto M. Rojas, Catalino T. Alisbo, Em L. Ang, Dindo C. Ramos, Elmer T. Sy, Sonya M. Verdeflor, Caesar Z. Distrito, Mona Dia G. Jardin, Keith Emmanuel L. Ramos.

Negative : None.

Absent : None.

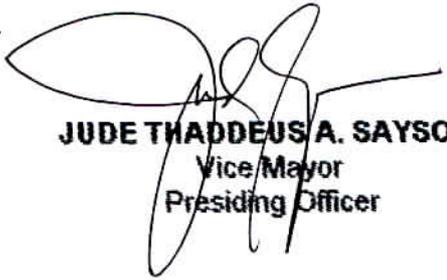
Official Leave : Councilor Al Victor A. Espino.

Main Author : Floor Leader Homer Q. Bais.

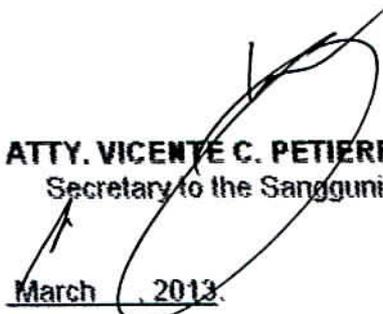
Co-Author : Councilor Archie S. Baribar.

Passed : March 13, 2013 (141st Regular Session).

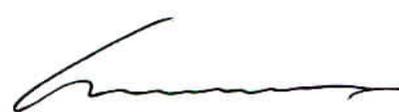
Comments : Passed.
Councilors El Cid M. Familiaran and Carlos Jose V. Lopez were not around when this ordinance was passed.


JUDE THADDEUS A. SAYSON
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


ATTY. VICENTE C. PETIERRE III
Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED: March, 2013.


EVELIO R. LEONARDIA
City Mayor

VCP/HPL/jbz

SP
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES SECTION
DATE 4/4/13 TIME 11:05 AM
BY: Granon

4/2/13 