

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 173
September 26, 1987

AN ORDINANCE NAMING THE STREET MAJED AS ROAD LOT 4 AND ROAD LOT 9 IN THE RECLAMATION AREA BOUNDED ON THE NORTH BY THE PROPERTY OF THE BACOLOD COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PARK ON THE SOUTH AND WEST BY THE PROPERTY ON SAN CITY, BACOLOD AND ON THE EAST BY THE BACOLOD BAYS CENTER, MANOKAN COUNTRY, THE VENDORS PLAZA AND PARAMAGAN AS "FATHER MAURICIO FERRERO, OUR STREET".

WHEREAS, Father Mauricio Ferrero is considered by many historians as one of the first urban planners and builders of what is now known as the City of Bacolod.

WHEREAS, Father Mauricio Ferrero's work that witnessed the times included the 120 years old San Sebastian de Bacolod Cathedral completed in 1898, the first stone fort in Bacolod known as Puerto San Juan, now known as Provincial Jail, which was finally completed in 1899, and the biggest cathedral on the island of Negros, now known as the Bishop's Palace, known for having 99 nails but what was called *cuña* or the Hilgaynon *tarigo*. The English term is "wedge".

WHEREAS, during his time he built what the community needed such as the *depositaro de cadavers* or mortuary chapel to segregate the dead with contagious diseases, which is now the Adoration Chapel beside the San Sebastian Cathedral and a cemetery across the present Western Visayas Regional Hospital at Lacson Street for Catholics, the *tribunal* or the town hall where the *gobernadorcillo* held sessions in hearing cases and issuing decisions, along with modest place for the *alguacil* of Bacolod who guarded the tribunal, where we have the PCIB and the nearby Plaza Mart today. The *tribunal* was thus important for the over-all operation and governance of Bacolod since all processions on important religious events began here where attendance was checked and ended at the *convento* where the *cura parroco*, the *gobernadorcillo*, and the *principales* held sessions on important matters.

WHEREAS, all these constructions were part of the plan of Fr. Ferrero, the reason he was often called the first urban planner of Bacolod. Prior to his plan, Bacolod was a hodgepodge of nipa, bamboo and wood structures without defined street. He laid out the streets of Bacolod, with the *tribunal* and the Casa Real across the church and the convent. He designated the locations of the structures of the church, convent, *tribunal*, Casa Real, school and the houses of the *principales* around the plaza. The church and convent was an entire block, no other structures were constructed around it. The market place was located in today's corner of Gatustao and Gale. The church block extends towards the Mambucok Creek. The church yard occupied half of today's plaza. There was no road in front of the church.

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WHEREAS, to complete his plan for Bacolod, Fr. Ferrero opened the road that went out of Bacolod in the south in what is today Araneta Street and towards Mandalagan in what is today's Lacson Street. The south road, called *Calle Real*, extended all the way to Sum-ag and hence to Bago, while the north road went all the way to Talisay. The original road from Bacolod to Bago and Talisay passed along the shoreline stretch of what is today San Juan Street. He also constructed a road from the plaza, to the fort, the one we know now as Gatustao Street but only until the fort. This road was extended only in 1926 to reach the Provincial Capitol which was being constructed then;

WHEREAS, in 1895, the Recollect Provincial Chapter decided to open a high school in Negros. There were many contenders - Hinigaran, Binalbagan, Marayo, Talisay, Valladolid, Pulupandan, and Escalante - all wanted the school in their parish but Fr. Ferrero was able to convince that Bacolod would be the best site for the Recollects' Colegio de San Jose. The Colegio opened its doors in Bacolod on July 1, 1886, but it closed in 1898 when the Negros Revolution broke out and was not reopened. The Recollects came back to Bacolod on May 25, 1962 to start what is now the University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos;

WHEREAS, Fr. Ferrero did not only leave a mark in Bacolod but in the whole Province of Negros, as historians believe that perhaps of greater importance than his visible structures was his work for the development of Negros as he was not only the parish priest of Bacolod but also the vicar for southern Occidental Negros. In 1889, Fr. Ferrero left to Fr. Inocente Lamata, the parish priest of Inayawan, his historical sketch of the progress of Negros since the Recollects came to this island based on the reports of the different parish priests sent to him and his plan for the island;

WHEREAS, Fr. Ferrero was assigned to Bacolod in 1871 when he was only 27 years old as Bacolod's first Recollect parish priest and he served this parish for more than 38 years. He died in 1916 at the age of 72 years with more than half of his lifetime and almost his entire priestly life spent in the service of the church in Bacolod;

WHEREAS, Bacolod and Negros' history is tied to the life and work of Fr. Ferrero, in fact, 38 years of our history. He was the foremost planner and builder that today we still see the works of his hands. Fr. Ferrero as a man with great achievements a man with a great mind should be remembered well for his great contribution to once the Pueblo of Bacolod;

WHEREAS, closest to his life's work is the reclamation area where a street remains unnamed bounded on the North by the property of Bacolod Commercial and Industrial Park, on the south and west by the property of SM City-Bacolod and on the east by the Bacolod Bays Center, Manokan Country, the Vendors Plaza and Brgy. 10;

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WHEREAS, it is but fitting and proper to honor the late Fr. Mauncio Ferrero by naming the said street after him in honor of the man who contributed greatly to what Bacolod is today and in general the Recollect Order for their great contributions to the development of Bacolod and Negros Occidental;

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bacolod, that:

Section 1 – The unnamed street bounded on the north by the property of the Bacolod Commercial and Industrial Park, on the south and west by the property of SM City-Bacolod and on the east by the Bacolod BAYS Center, Manokan Country, the Venders Plaza and Barangay 10, shall be named as "Fr. Mauncio Ferrero, OAR Street".

Section 2 – The City of Bacolod shall cause a commemorative marker to be placed along the Rizal Street crossing the unnamed street designated as "Fr. Mauncio Ferrero, OAR Street" to be unveiled in a ceremony especially held to remember the major contributions of Fr. Mauncio Ferrero, OAR to Bacolod and Negros Occidental.

Section 3 – The City shall appropriate a budget of at least Seventy Five Thousand Pesos (P75,000.00) for the proper and effective implementation of this Ordinance.

Section 4 – This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF

Affirmative:

Councilors : Homer Q. Bais, Dindo C. Ramos, Wilson C. Gamboa, Jr., Al Victor A. Espino, Napoleon A. Cordova, Catalino T. Alisbo, Roberto M. Rojas, Alex A. Paglumotan, Reynold I. Iladan, Diosdado A. Valenzuela.

Negative : None.

Absent : None.

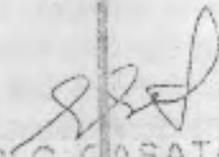
Official Travel : Councilor Jocelle Batapa-Sigue

Official Leave : Councilor Kevin Daniel L. Ramos

Authors : Councilors Dindo C. Ramos and Jocelle Batapa-Sigue.

Passed : November 25, 2008 (74th Regular Session)

Comments : Passed
Councilor Celia Matea R. Fler was out of the session hall when this ordinance was passed.


GREG. G. GASATAYA
Acting Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

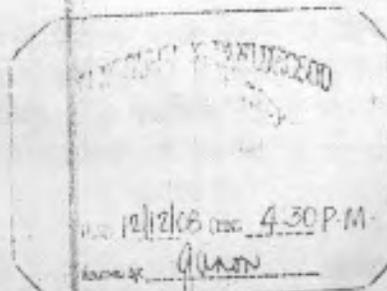
ATTESTED:

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ATTY. NILO T. ALEJANDRINO
Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED: December 10, 2008


JUDE THADDEUS A. SAYSON
Acting City Mayor

NTAHPL/jbz


MAYOR'S OFFICE
NOV 12 2008 4:30 P.M.
SAYSON