Republika Ng Pilipinas
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
Lungsod ng Bacolod

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 1096
June 17, 2025

AN ORDINANCE PROMOTING WALKABILITY IN BACOLOD CITY AND PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

WHEREAS, the City of Bacolod envisions a safe, accessible, and sustainable urban environment that prioritizes pedestrian-friendly infrastructure and promotes the well-being of its citizens;

WHEREAS, walking is the simplest, most sustainable, and cheapest medium of locomotion. Recent studies show that humanity walks an average of 200 kilometers (130 miles) per person per year-barely seven minutes per day. We drive seven times as much as we walk. Walkability is still associated only with leisure and recreation in most urban areas around the world. However, the notion of walking as sustainable urban mobility is increasing;

WHEREAS, improving walkability in cities is a powerful way to reduce emissions, while improving the quality of life for residents;

WHEREAS, walkable cities use planning, designing and retrofitting urban environments to encourage walking and minimize driving, thus, reducing carbon footprint. Emissions decrease as pedestrians take the place of cars. At the same time, making walking easier in cities can make other sustainable modes of transport more attractive: bicycling, e-biking, and mass transportation all stand to gain from improved walkability in cities;

WHEREAS, walkable cities have been shown to boost local economies, improve public health, promote cleaner environment and enhance the overall quality of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bacolod City in a regular session assembled:

ARTICLE I: PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE

Section 1. Sidewalk Improvement. The city shall prioritize the construction and maintenance of sidewalks that are at least 1.5 meters wide, clear of obstacles, and made of durable materials.

Section 2. Crosswalks. All intersections shall have marked crosswalks with audible signals and sufficient lighting to ensure pedestrian safety.

Section 3. Pedestrian Signals. Pedestrian signals shall be installed at all major intersections, and signal timing shall prioritize pedestrian crossing time. Other guides and detectable warning, particularly those intended for persons with visual and hearing disabilities shall also be installed.

ARTICLE II: TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

Section 4. Speed Limit Reduction. Speed limits in urban areas shall be reduced to 30 km/h to prioritize pedestrian safety.

Section 5. Traffic Calming Devices. Traffic calming devices such as speed bumps, raised crosswalks, and chicanes shall be installed in areas with high pedestrian activity.

ARTICLE III: PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY LAND USE

Section 6. Mixed-Use Development. The city shall encourage mixed-use development that combines residential, commercial, and recreational spaces to reduce the need for lengthy commutes.

Section 7. Pedestrian-Oriented Zoning. Zoning regulations shall prioritize pedestrian-oriented design, with buildings facing the street and minimal setbacks.

ARTICLE IV: PUBLIC SPACES

Section 8. Public Plaza Development. The city shall develop and maintain public plazas and parks that are accessible, well-maintained, and programmed with community events.

Section 9. Street Furniture. Street furniture such as benches, trash cans, and lighting shall be installed along sidewalks and public spaces.

ARTICLE V: ENFORCEMENT AND MONITORING

Section 10. Enforcement. The city shall enforce traffic laws and regulations to protect pedestrians, including regular monitoring of speed limits and pedestrian crossings.

Section 11. Walkability Audits. Regular walkability audits shall be conducted to assess the city's walkability and identify areas for improvement.

Section 12. Sidewalk Clearing. The city shall conduct regular road clearing operations in all city roads in the implementation and enforcement of existing road clearing ordinances and shall supervise barangays and other government offices to ensure their compliance.

Section 13. Existing Rules and Regulations. The city shall review and update existing laws and ordinances around pedestrian safety.

ARTICLE VI: IMPLEMENTATION

Section 14. Implementation Plan. The city shall develop a comprehensive implementation plan to achieve the goals outlined in this ordinance. The City Engineer's Office shall identify specific zones in the city as priority areas for the implementation of this ordinance.

Section 15. Appropriation. The city shall allocate sufficient funds in its annual budget to support walkability initiatives.

Section 16. Aids, Grants, and Donations. The city shall be allowed to accept national and international aids, grants, and donations to be used for the enactment and implementation of this ordinance.

ARTICLE VII: FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 17. Separability Clause. If any part of this ordinance is declared as unconstitutional or unlawful, such declaration shall not affect the other parts or the section hereof that are not declared unlawful or unconstitutional.

Section 18. Repealing Clause. All ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 19. Effectivity. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF:

Affirmative :	
Councilors :	Cindy T. Rojas, Vladimir S. Gonzalez, Al Victor A. Espino, Renecito S. Novero, Jason Isidro S. Villarosa, Simplicia Z. Distrito, Psyche Marie E. Sy, Lady Gles Gonzales-Pallen, Danna Marie C. Barzo.
Official Travel :	Councilor Em L. Ang. Councilor Celia Matea R. Flor.
Official Leave :	Vice Mayor El Cid M. Familiaran. Councilor Israel P. Salanga.
Author :	Councilor Em L. Ang.
Co-Author :	Councilor Cindy T. Rojas,
Passed :	June 17, 2025 (155th Regular Session of the 11th Council).
Comments :	P a s s e d . Councilor Claudio Jesus Raymundo A. Puentevella was not yet around when this Ordinance was passed.

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JUDE THADDEUS A. SAYSON
Acting Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

ATTY. VICENTE C. PETIERRE III
Secretary to the Sangguniang

APPROVED: JUN 25 2025

ALFREDO ABELARDO B. BENITEZ
City Mayor

VCP/CGT/llt

SP LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES SECTION
DATE: June 26, 2025 TIME: 2:25 p.m.
BY: