Republika Ng Pilipinas
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
Lungsod ng Bacolod

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 1111
December 4, 2025

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A BARANGAY READING CORNER IN EVERY BARANGAY IN BACOLOD CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bacolod, in session assembled that:

WHEREAS, Republic Act. No. 7743, otherwise, 'known as "An Act Providing For The Establishment of Congressional, City, and Municipal Libraries and Barangay Reading Centers throughout the Philippines, Appropriating the Necessary Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes", lays down the policy of the state to promote the moral intellectual well-being of the people; elevate the, literacy level of every Filipino, to the end that illiteracy is eradicated by the end of the century and recognize the vital role of knowledge and information in nation building by establishing public libraries in every congressional district, city and municipality, and reading centers in every Barangay throughout the Philippines;

WHEREAS, recognizing the laudable purpose of RA. No. 7743 and immense benefit, learning and knowledge it can contribute to Bacolod City constituents, the Bacolod City Government recognized the need to require establishment of Barangay Reading Centers in all Barangays within the city to promote and encourage reading at the grassroots level, particularly in the Barangay, with the end view of enhancing intellectual capabilities of every individual, promoting the habit of reading, and ultimately eradicating illiteracy in the community;

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.A. No. 7160 and the view of the foregoing, there is hereby established a Barangay Reading Center in every Barangay within Bacolod City, subject to the exceptions stated in the above-enumerated Barangay Libraries, with the annual budget, appropriation stated thereon;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bacolod, in session assembled that:

SECTION 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Barangay Reading Corner Ordinance of the City of Bacolod"

SECTION 2. Definition of Terms. The following terms are defined as follows:

a) Barangay - the basic political unit which serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of the government policies, plans, programs, projects and activities in the community and as a forum wherein the collective views of the people may be expressed, crystallized and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled.

b) Barangay Reading Corner - not necessarily a standalone building, but a designated space in the barangay hall, day care center, or multipurpose building, located in and established and maintained by a Barangay and caters primarily to the library and Information needs of Barangay residents.

c) City Library - a public library located, established, maintained and supported by the city government and primarily for the use of residents of the City.

d) Librarian - is any person who is a bonafide holder of a license and a certificate of registration issued by the Professional Commission Board of Librarians in accordance with R.A. No. 6966.

e) Library - is a collection of books and similar material organized and administered for reading, consultation and study.

f) Public Library - is a library located in, established and maintained by the city or the barangay as the case may be and serves or caters primarily.

g) Child Development Worker (CDW) - a trained worker assigned to oversee early childhood care and development programs at the barangay level.

h) Reading Session - a structured literacy activity held at least once a month in the Barangay Reading Corner involving storytelling, book reading, or literacy games.

SECTION 3. Establishment and Functions of Barangay Reading Corners. - Except for

Barangays with existing libraries or Barangay Reading Center/Corner/s, all Barangay in Bacolod City shall establish a Barangay Reading Corner within twelve (12) months from the effectivity of this Ordinance.

The Public Libraries and Barangay Reading Corners shall have the following functions:

a) To make available to the members of the community reading materials of wide array including reading materials prescribed by the Department of Education Culture and Sports and national newspaper of general circulation and others;

b) To be used as a venue for audio-visual presentation in the community and other kinds of exhibitions and activities aimed at increasing the literacy rate by government agencies, non-governmental organizations or private entities in the dissemination of information of general interest; and

c) To offer such other related services in furtherance of R.A. No. 7743.

SECTION 3-A. Barangay E-Library Access Program. To enhance the literacy services of the Barangay Reading Corners, an E-Library Access Program is hereby established to provide barangay residents with access to digital learning resources, online reading materials, and educational platforms, whenever possible. The Program shall be implemented jointly by the Barangay and the Bacolod City

Public Library and shall include:

1. Provision of at least one (1) internet-connected device for public educational use;
2. Access to online e-books, digital learning tools, and research databases made available by the Bacolod City Public Library and partner institutions;

3. Digital literacy assistance to users, facilitated by Child Development Workers and trained barangay personnel;
4. Internet safety protocols and responsible-use guidelines;
5. Annual maintenance and upgrading of devices and connectivity; and
6. Partnerships with private and academic institutions for donations of devices or digital materials.

SECTION 4. Operations of Barangay Reading Corners - The Barangay Reading Corners shall be jointly operated by the respective barangay where it will be established and by the Bacolod City Public Library.

The barangay shall:

a) provide for the space or room/corner, facilities, furniture, and equipment required to establish the Barangay Reading Corner;
b) allocate and appropriate an annual budget for the operation and utilities (electricity, internet, etc.) of the Barangay Reading Corner to be drawn from a certain percentage raised from the barangay permit fees and other income of the barangay;
c) plan, coordinate, and support educational, culture , and arts programs and activities such as story-telling, puppet shows, and others in the barangay reading corner;
d) encourage organizations and individuals in the community to support the Barangay Reading Corner by donating books and other reference materials or any facilities and equipment needed; and
e) campaign and promote Barangay Reading Corner services in the community

SECTION 5. Monthly Reading Sessions. To support the literacy goals of this Ordinance and ensure the continued use of the Barangay Reading Corners, there shall be monthly reading sessions conducted in each barangay. These sessions shall:

1. Be facilitated jointly by Child Development Workers (formerly Day Care Workers) assigned in the barangay and the Bacolod City Public Librarian or their designated representative;
2. Be designed to encourage children, out-of-school youth, and other community members to develop reading habits and improve their literacy skills;
3. Include activities such as storytelling, read-aloud sessions, and other interactive reading strategies appropriate to the audience's age and learning level;
4. Be coordinated by the Barangay Council with support from the City Social Services and Development Office (DSSD);
5. Follow a monthly reading program or schedule prepared by the Bacolod City Public Library, including suggested titles and themes aligned with national observances and community interests.

The Barangay shall ensure a conducive environment for these sessions by maintaining the Barangay Reading Comer in good condition and encouraging participation from families and local organizations.

SECTION 6. Duties of the Bacolod City Public Library. The Bacolod City Public Library shall:

1. Provide technical support to Barangay Reading Comers (e.g., training, book donations, monitoring);

2. Design the monthly reading program and coordinate with Child Development Workers for implementation;
3. Monitor and evaluate the performance of each Barangay Reading Comer;
4. Submit an annual report to the Sangguniang Panlungsod on the status of the Reading Comers.

SECTION 7. Training and Capacity Building. The City Public Library, in partnership with DepEd, NGOs, and other literacy partners, shall conduct training and orientation programs for barangay officials, Child Development Workers, and volunteers on managing reading comers and facilitating literacy activities.

SECTION 8. Monitoring and Reporting. Each Barangay shall submit an annual report on the operations of their Reading Corner, including usage, activities conducted, and issues encountered, to the City Public Library and DSSD.

SECTION 9. Appropriations. The amount of Two Million Pesos (P2,000,000.00) shall be appropriated annually for the implementation of the program to augment the expenses of the Barangays in maintaining the Barangay Reading Comer. The said amount shall be incorporated in the annual budget of the City Mayor's Office.

SECTION 10. Separability Clause. If for any reason or reasons, any section of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions thereof which are not thereby affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause. All Ordinances, Rules, Orders and Regulations contrary to or inconsistent with this Ordinance if any, are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 12. Effectivity. This Ordinance Shall Take Effect Immediately Upon Approval.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF:

Affirmative:

Councilors : Caesar Z. Distrito, Israel P. Salanga, Em L. Ang, Jude Thaddeus A. Sayson, Jason Isidro S. Villarosa, Celia Matea R. Flor, Dindo C. Ramos, Roberto M. Rojas, Wilson C. Gamboa, Jr., Psyche Marie E. Sy, Homer Q. Bais, Lady Gles Gonzales-Pallen, Danna Marie C. Barzo.

Official Travel : None.

Official Leave : None.

Main Author : Councilor Celia Matea R. Flor.

Co-authors : Councilors Caesar Z. Distrito, Em L. Ang, Jason Isidro S. Villarosa, and Danna Marie Z. Barzo.

Passed : December 4, 2025 (23rd Regular Session of the 12th Council).

Comments : P a s s e d .

CLAUDIO JESUS RAYMUNDO A. PUENTEVELLA
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

ATTY. VICENTE C. PETIERRE III
Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED: _____

GREG G. GASATAYA
City Mayor

VCP/CGT/llt

SP LEGISLATIVE SERVICES SECTION
DATE: 01/06/2026 TIME: 9:15 am