

Proposed Ordinance

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION (CSO) DESK AT THE JESSE M. ROBREDO CENTER FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE (JMRCGG), DEFINING ITS PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS, MANDATING THE DESIGNATION OF A CSO DESK OFFICER, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF.**

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Explanatory Note

*“The participation of Civil Society Organizations in government processes is important for the purpose of providing check and balance, as well as exacting accountability. An active participation of civil society organizations is an indicator of healthy participatory governance.”*

Through DILG Memorandum Circular 2021-012 issued January 28, 2021, all local government units are enjoined to establish a CSO Desk that will be responsible for handling CSO-related concerns in their respective areas of jurisdiction, including the provision of support, as may be deemed necessary.

The City Government of Naga, realizing the need to have a dedicated desk and officer to facilitate and promote people’s participation in governance, finds that the establishment of a CSO Desk is necessary as a proactive measure to raise the bar of good governance in the City of Naga and further enhance its existing partnership with the Naga City People’s Council.

Therefore, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Naga, in session assembled, that:

**SECTION 1. TITLE.** For brevity, this ordinance shall also be known as the *“CSO Desk Ordinance of Naga City”*.

**SECTION 2. OBJECTIVES OF THE CSO DESK.** The CSO Desk shall have the following objectives:

- a) To serve as a venue for CSOs in the City of Naga to address their issues and concerns;
- b) To assist CSOs intending to apply for accreditation to participate in the City’s various local special bodies, committees, taskforces, councils, boards, etc., and or in City Government Programs through the recognized People’s Council;
- c) To encourage the active participation of CSOs in the City Government of Naga, programs, projects, and activities through the spirit of volunteerism.

**SECTION 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF A CSO DESK.** A CSO Desk is hereby established as a unit under the Jesse M. Robredo Center for Good Governance (JMRCGG) to facilitate and promote people participation in governance within the City of Naga. The CSO Desk shall:

- a) Cause the organization of federation or coalition of sectoral Civil Society Organizations from the barangay level to the City level;
- b) Ensure and monitor compliance of barangays with City Ordinance 2015-032 or the *“Barangay Empowerment Ordinance of Naga City”*;
- c) Mobilize and ensure participation of accredited and recognized Civil Society Organizations in the various processes and activities of the local government, particularly in planning, budgeting, monitoring and other service delivery areas;
- d) Coordinate with the Naga City People’s Council, the holding of regular meetings, and other relevant activities of Civil Society Organizations;

- e) Monitor, through the Naga City People’s Council, CSO participation in programs, projects and activities of the City of Naga;
- f) Assist CSOs in the application for accreditation and endorse the same to the Sangguniang Panlungsod upon completion of all requirements, as provided in City Ordinance 1995-092.
- g) Maintain and update the Civil Society Organization directory and database;
- h) Collaborate and submit annual reports to the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Naga and DILG field officers on matters relating to the programs, projects and activities of Civil Society Organizations and to further improve the mandates provided in City Ordinance 1995-092; and
- i) Perform relevant functions as may be required by higher authorities.

**SECTION 4. CSO DESK OFFICER.** Within 30 days from the effectivity of this ordinance, the City Mayor shall designate a capable and experienced person who shall carry out the functions provided under Section 3 of this ordinance.

**SECTION 5. FUNDING.** All funding necessary for the establishment of and performance of the functions of the CSO Desk Officer shall be chargeable against the Naga City People Empowerment Fund.

For this purpose, the CSO Desk, in coordination with the recognized People’s Council, shall spearhead the formulation of a medium-term development plan and the preparation of the annual investment program as basis for the utilization of the People Empowerment Fund established under City Ordinance 2015-027.

**SECTION 6. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** Any provision or portion of this ordinance found to be in violation of the Constitution or declared invalid by a competent court, shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

**SECTION 7. REPEALING CLAUSE.** All ordinances, executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 8. EFFECTIVITY.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_

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