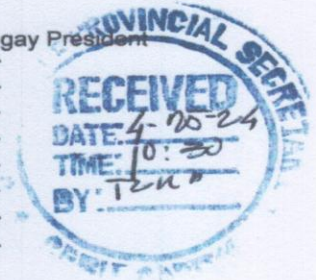




EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 58<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD (SP) HELD AT THE SP SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, EAST POBLACION, CITY OF NAGA, CEBU ON AUGUST 31, 2023.

**PRESENT:**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| HON. VIRGILIO M. CHIONG      | - Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer                                   |
| HON. CLINT ISIDRO A. CHIONG  | - Presiding Officer Pro Tempore                                  |
| HON. CARMELINO N. CRUZ, JR.  | - Majority Floor Leader  |
| HON. SCOTT JUVENAL A. CHIONG | - Assistant Majority Floor Leader/Liga ng mga Barangay President |
| HON. ALEXANDER R. LARA       | - Sangguniang Panlungsod Member                                  |
| HON. AURELIO B. ALINSONORIN  | - Sangguniang Panlungsod Member                                  |
| HON. CHARMAINE R. NAVARRO    | - Sangguniang Panlungsod Member                                  |
| HON. RAY A. MANABAT          | - Sangguniang Panlungsod Member                                  |
| HON. LUZMINDA R. LAPITAN     | - Sangguniang Panlungsod Member                                  |
| HON. JUSTINO L. DAKAY        | - Sangguniang Panlungsod Member                                  |
| HON. DOMINADOR A. LIBOR      | - Sangguniang Panlungsod Member                                  |
| HON. LETECIA F. ABANGAN      | - Sangguniang Panlungsod Member                                  |
| HON. KERSY C. BAFLOR         | - SK Federation President  |



**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-22**

*Principal Author:*  
**HON. CARMELINO N. CRUZ, JR.**  
*Chairperson, Committee on Laws and Human Rights*

*Co-Authors:*  
**HON. ALEXANDER R. LARA**  
*Chairperson, Committee on Heritage, Culture and the Arts*

**HON. SCOTT JUVENAL A. CHIONG**  
*Chairperson, Committee on Tourism Development*

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE PARISH CHURCH AND ARCHDIOCESAN SHRINE OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI AS IMMOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE PROPERTY OF THE CITY OF NAGA, CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR ITS PRESERVATION**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As in other communities, towns, cities and provinces, the City of Naga, Cebu and our townspeople, spearheaded by tourism and heritage advocates, have taken inventory of our tangible and intangible heritage.

Our city's heritage, our connection and identification to the faith, shared values, activities, way of life and attributes of our ancestors – the early inhabitants of Naga, as well as events affecting Nagahanons in the distant and not so distant past, evolve into our identity as a Nagahanon community.

In keeping with tradition, the story of our pride of place – Naga Atong Garbo - is not only told in plain narrative but through the presence of immovable cultural heritage properties, foremost among them is the Catholic Church of St. Francis of Assisi, that saw witness to the devotion and faith in the Divine Creator by the early community of Nagahanons since the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom of the page]*

The late Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cebu, Ricardo J. Cardinal Vidal, DD declared the Parish Church of St. Francis of Assisi in Naga, Cebu as "The Archdiocesan Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi" being the oldest local church in Cebu that is dedicated in honor of St. Francis, or Sr. San Francisco as the locals would prefer.

Thus this representation, in behalf of the more than 135,000 townspeople of Naga, after consultation with stakeholders, heritage conservation advocates, church leaders both at the parish and archdiocesan levels, seek to officially declare the PARISH CHURCH AND ARCHDIOCESAN SHRINE OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI as Naga's very own immovable cultural heritage property, through an appropriate legislative measure.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF THE CITY OF NAGA, CEBU IN SESSION ASSEMBLED THAT:**

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE** - The Ordinance shall be known as the "HERITAGE CHURCH ORDINANCE".

**SECTION 2. PURPOSE/OBJECTIVE** - It is the purpose/Objective of this Ordinance for the Local Government of the City of Naga, Cebu to recognize and preserve memorable and priceless cultural heritage properties that depict the way of life, talent, good traits, religious traditions and values, business acumen and love of work of the local Nagahanon community's forefathers.

**SECTION 3. PARISH CHURCH AND ARCHDIOCESAN SHRINE OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI** - For Centuries, the Naga Parish Church has been the center of catholic faith of majority of Nagahanons. Situated in Barangay East Poblacion, City of Naga, Cebu right across the old munisipio and town plaza, records show that the parish was founded on June 12, 1829. The church building, made of coral stones and limestone, was a labor of love, sweat and blood of local Nagahanon parishioners. World War II damaged the original church façade, yet post-war reconstruction efforts have made possible its unique façade that has been the local community's landmark.

**SECTION 4. DECLARATION AS IMMOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE PROPERTY** - The Naga Parish Church is hereby declared an IMMOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE PROPERTY in recognition of its significant role, spiritual inspiration, pride of place, structural skills and craftsmanship to generations of Nagahanons: past, present and future. Specific features of the Church façade worthy of special heritage conservation efforts include:

- a. Original walls made of coral stone
- b. Mexican-inspired ornamentations especially in the church façade
- c. Buttresses supporting the side wall;
- d. Façade and the transepts flanked by four-sided minaret on top of the buttresses
- e. Restored façade that now expose the original coral stone wall

**SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING OFFICE** - The City Information and Community Relations Department (CICRD) which is presently responsible for the city's tourism and heritage development shall spearhead the efforts for the preservation of the heritage aspect of the parish church, as may be endorsed by the City Tourism and Heritage Development Council and approved by the City Mayor and the Sangguniang Panlungsod in consultation with the Archdiocesan Commission on Church Heritage and relevant national government agencies.

Subject to the provisions of RA 10066 and other relevant laws, the City Government of Naga and Barangay East Poblacion shall develop the area as a heritage landmark and center for relevant knowledge-sharing among Nagahanons and out-of-town visitors alike.

**SECTION 6. FUNDING** - An amount of not less than one-tenth of one per cent (0.10%) of the annual City Government of Naga appropriations shall be allotted to

heritage preservation and restoration, from which funding source the pertinent programs, projects and activities related to the Church heritage may be charged subject to procurement laws, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

**SECTION 7. REPEALING CLAUSE** - All ordinances, resolutions, orders and other related issuances or measures that are contrary to or inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE** - If any part or provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other parts or provisions hereof.

**SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE** - This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

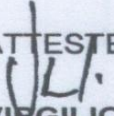
**ENACTED BY** the 5<sup>th</sup> Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga, Cebu, in its 58<sup>th</sup> Regular Session held on August 31, 2023.

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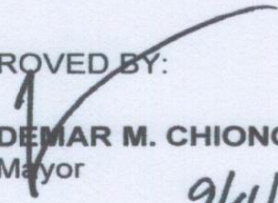
CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

  
**GERALDINE I. TAMPOS**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian-Designate

ATTESTED BY:

  
**VIRGILIO M. CHIONG**  
Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED BY:

  
**VALDEMAR M. CHIONG**  
City Mayor

9/4/2023

