



Republika ng Pilipinas
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
Lungsod Mandaluyong

ORDINANCE NO. 794, S-2020

**AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING
URBAN AGRICULTURE IN THE
CITY OF MANDALUYONG**

WHEREAS, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, urban farming has been the most attractive and practical means of growing fresh farm produce in one's backyard, especially during the lockdown period;

WHEREAS, Metro Manila's unprecedented growth has brought a host of challenges and complex land use dilemmas that urban governance seeks to address in a way that is sustainable, inclusive and sensitive to the needs of urban residents;

WHEREAS, to adapt to the "New Normal" established by the government, it has been noted that there is an increasing interest in the planting of backyard farm products and maximizing small spaces amongst the residents, thus, developing interests, innovation and creativity in urban farming are now apparent, and must be taken advantage to encourage community cooperation;

WHEREAS, for purposes of focus and consistency, the enabling legislation shall contain specific and doable programs and strategies to be implemented by concerned agencies under the executive branch of local government;

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 9 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 empowers the local government unit to prepare their respective comprehensive land use plans enacted through zoning ordinances which shall be the primary and dominant bases for the future use of land resources: Provided, that the requirements for food production, human settlements, and industrial expansion shall be taken into consideration in the preparation of such plans;

WHEREAS, under Section 16 of the General Welfare Clause of the Local Government Code of 1991, it states that, "Within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology, encourage and support the development of appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, improve public morals, enhance economic prosperity and social justice, promote full employment among their residents, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants";

WHEREAS, the City of Mandaluyong has adopted the Comprehensive Land Use Plan of 2017-2032 with the goal for environmental sector to conserve, protect and preserve a balance healthy environment towards a progressive urbanization for its inhabitants to enjoy a healthful balance ecology, through sustainable environment quality management;

WHEREAS, urban gardening should be promoted in the City as it will be one of the practical and effective measures to address stability of food supply, alleviate poverty, foster social interaction among communities, and protect the environment through eco-friendly methods and other alternative and innovative gardening method;

WHEREAS, this Ordinance is created to adhere to the General Objective of the City to improve the quality of life through increased availability in basic goods such as food and ensure accessibility thereof and to develop among the community a sense of self-worth and adequacy to engage in collective action for their own development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Mandaluyong, in regular session assembled:

ARTICLE I INTRODUCTORY PROVISION

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as "Urban Agriculture Ordinance of Mandaluyong City".

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

- 2.1 To support the Philippine Agenda 21 vision of poverty reduction and ecological integrity;
- 2.2 To create greener spaces in the midst of the City, curbing the increasing problem of air pollution and other negative impact of rapid urbanization;
- 2.3 To encourage urban agriculture that will reduce the cost required to transport food, making healthier foods more readily available to the public, and provide food stability in the City;
- 2.4 To enhance green landscape adding to the aesthetics of the City;
- 2.5 To enhance productivity by making use of idle lots and open spaces;
- 2.6 To alleviate poverty through self-sustaining programs such as backyard to table food programs, thereby encouraging residents to grow fresh organic produce in the comfort of their own spaces;

- 2.7 To reduce the carbon footprint of the City thereby mitigating the impacts of climate change, particularly flooding and extreme heat;
- 2.8 To support the local climate change action plan in the areas of food security and ecosystem/environmental stability;
- 2.9 To enhance productivity by making use of idle lots and open spaces by turning them into green spaces; and
- 3.0 To create and maintain a network of green spaces in order to maintain a healthy biodiversity.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

- 3.1 Arbor Day - Proclamation No. 396 enjoined the "active participation of all government agencies, including government-owned and controlled corporations, private sector, schools, civil society groups and the citizenry in tree planting activity." The necessity to promote a healthier ecosystem for the people through the rehabilitation and re-greening of the environment. The Philippine Arbor Day has been institutionalized to be observed every June 25 throughout the nation by planting trees and ornamental plants and other forms of relevant activities;
- 3.2 Aquaponics - a system of aquaculture in which the waste produced by farmed fish or other aquatic animals supplies nutrients for plants grown hydroponically, which, in turn, purify the water;
- 3.2. Community Open Spaces - non-buildable spaces in settlement areas;
- 3.3 Composting - is a form of waste disposal where organic waste decomposes naturally under oxygen-rich conditions;
- 3.4 Foodscaping - edible landscaping or front yard farming; public or private property used to grow food;
- 3.5 Hydroponics- the growing of plants in nutrient solutions;
- 3.6 Public Open Spaces- vacant lots and spaces owned and maintained by the government;

3.7 Subdivision or Villages Open Spaces - mandatory non-built spaces in subdivisions or villages;

3.8 Tree Saplings - a young tree;

3.9 Urban Agriculture - growing of any crops and plants in an urban setting;

3.10 Urban Farming – growing of crops in an urban setting;

3.11 Urban Gardening – the growing of ornamental plants in an urban setting; and

3.12 Vertical Garden - green wall, a wall partially or fully covered with greenery that includes a growing medium such as soil.

ARTICLE II USE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OPEN SPACES

SECTION 4. OPEN SPACES IN SUBDIVISIONS/VILLAGES

Available open spaces in all subdivisions, both turned over and not, within the City, are encouraged to be converted into urban gardens in close coordination with the concerned Homeowners' association officials.

The City Environmental Management Department (CEMD) will seek to coordinate with the Homeowners Association in handling community participation, execution of projects, monitoring and evaluation.

SECTION 5. OPEN SPACES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS/DAY CARE CENTERS

Public schools and daycare centers shall develop an urban farming or urban gardening area within the school premises. Fresh produce shall be incorporated in healthy canteen food programs of the said school; or used in feeding or donation/relief programs of the school.

This shall be implemented in partnership with the General Parent-Teacher Association of the said school.

SECTION 6. OPEN SPACES IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS/DAY CARE CENTERS

Private schools and daycare centers are encouraged to develop an urban farming or urban gardening area within the school premises. Such produce may be used in feeding or donation/relief programs of the school or incorporate the same in healthy canteen food programs of the said school.

This may be implemented in partnership with the General Parent-Teacher Association of the said school.

SECTION 7. VACANT LOTS

Owners of vacant lots within the City, including privately-owned lands that have no development plan within the year, are encouraged to convert their lots into urban garden/farming, until such time that development on the lot shall commence. Vacant lots converted into urban gardens, either temporarily or permanently shall be entitled to exemption from the idle land tax.

SECTION 8. PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

Open spaces, owned by the City Government of Mandaluyong, such as linear parks, freedom parks, and common areas of medium rise residential buildings (MRBs) shall be converted into urban farms or urban gardens. The development cost, operations and maintenance of these gardens shall be under the City Environmental Management Department (CEMD). Whenever possible, the willingness of the community where these open spaces are located shall be considered, for possible adoption and turn over to the community.

ARTICLE III
URBAN GARDEN DESIGN

SECTION 9. Urban Gardens shall be in the form of the following:

- 9.1. Rooftop;
- 9.2. Window;
- 9.3. Vertical or wall;
- 9.4. Pots and small containers;
- 9.5. Plots;
- 9.6. Air plants;
- 9.7. Aquaponics; and
- 9.8. Hydroponics

ARTICLE IV
CREATION OF THE CITY URBAN AGRICULTURE COUNCIL

SECTION 10. THE CITY URBAN AGRICULTURE COUNCIL

An Urban Agriculture Council is hereby created as a dedicated local council that will be responsible for the citywide management of urban farming and gardening activities in the City as well as programs for greening and beautification. Its duties include inventory, profiling, technology enhancement, education and information dissemination, seeds distribution as well as other planting materials, identification of potential lots for urban farming and greenery activities and programs.

SECTION 11. MEMBERS OF THE CITY URBAN AGRICULTURE COUNCIL

Chairman: City Mayor

Vice Chairman: Chair, Committee on Urban Planning and Technology

Members: Chairman, Committee on Health, Environmental Protection and Sanitation; Chair, Committee on Barangay Affairs; Chair, Committee on Youth and Sports Development; Department Head of the City Environmental Management Department (CEMD) or designated representative; Department Head of the City Planning and Development Department (CPDD) or designated representative; Department Head of the City Social Welfare and Development (CSWD) or designated representative; Department Head of the City Administrator's Department or designated representative; Representative from Department of Agriculture; Representative from Department of Education

Secretariat: City Environmental Management Department (CEMD)

SECTION 12. FUNCTIONS

- 12.1 Formulate and develop a City Urban Greening Plan in consultation with stakeholders, and oversee its implementation, monitoring and evaluation;

12.2 Supervise the citywide urban agricultural practices;

12.3 Design a comprehensive program for the success in the implementation of this Ordinance through information dissemination, education and other advocacy activities;

12.4 Conduct an annual evaluation program that will award the most outstanding urban farms, and urban gardens among schools, and barangays.

SECTION 13. THE CITY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (CEMD)

The CEMD is hereby instructed to submit an annual report of the state of the City's urban agriculture projects, as well as vacant lots within the City that may be entitled to awards, or exemption from the idle land tax by virtue of this Ordinance. The CEMD shall also report open spaces within the City, that may be used for urban agriculture projects and activities, or converted into urban agriculture facilities.

The CEMD shall also research and submit an annual report on the latest agricultural innovations, and the latest policies from the National Government concerning urban agriculture.

ARTICLE V
URBAN FARMING AND PLANTING EDUCATION SEMINARS

SECTION 14. URBAN FARMING EDUCATION

The City Urban Agriculture Council shall coordinate with National programs in greening and urban farming such as with the Bureau of Plants and Industries, Department of Agriculture and Department of Agrarian Reforms to harmonize national programs with the local.

The said Council shall, likewise, promote various technologies and mechanisms of modern farming to the residents, encourage backyard farming, teach them how to maximize available spaces in the community, distribution of initial seeds, seedlings, soils and other planting materials in order that residents may be able to jump start an urban farming in their vicinity.

SECTION 15. INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

The City Urban Agriculture Council shall propagate this Ordinance and encourage all households to perform urban farming in their area through advertisements, social media campaign, incentivizing and technology and education campaign.

ARTICLE VI URBAN FARMING TECHNOLOGIES

These Urban Farming Technologies shall be studied, researched, taught, information disseminated by the City Urban Agriculture Council:

SECTION 16. COMPOSTING - Every Barangay must develop its composting mechanisms through collection of kitchen wastes of its residents' household and converting such into compost fertilizers which will be organically used by the household in urban farming.

SECTION 17. RECYCLING - Recycled pet bottles, used containers, sacks, abandoned appliances and the likes, which can be used potentially as planting materials shall be encouraged and developed. Mechanisms and technologies as to how to convert such into planting materials shall be introduced by the Urban Farming Management Office.

SECTION 18. HYDROPONICS - The technology of hydroponics shall be introduced to the residents as one of the most practical urban farming mechanism. Hydroponics offers several advantages over traditional ways of growing crops. It can help produce bigger harvests of better quality fruit and vegetables, and a consistent year-round yield that cannot equal using soil or by growing outdoors or in greenhouses using only natural light. Its self-watering function helps in the conservation of water thus helping the urban farmer in yielding more crops and less overhead expenses.

SECTION 19. AQUAPONICS - Aquaponics is a system of aquaculture wherein the waste produced by farmed aquatic animals supplies nutrients for plants being grown using hydroponics. This system shall be studied by the City Urban Agriculture Council, and shall be introduced to residents.

SECTION 20. VERTICAL PLANTING - It shall be encouraged that a vertical planting be performed in areas where there is not much space for planting horizontally by using trellis, hanging pet bottles or maximizing the use of walls and rooftop for urban planting. A technology on this matter shall be disseminated in every barangay for the knowledge and information of all interested residents.

ARTICLE VI
ARBOR DAY

SECTION 21. DECLARATION OF ARBOR DAY

The City Government of Mandaluyong hereby declares June 25 of every year as ARBOR DAY in manifestation of its support to tree planting, urban farming care and maintenance.

The City Environmental Management Department (CEMD) shall take the lead in the annual celebration of Arbor Day, including the conduct of related activities such as massive tree planting, greenery, urban farming and advocacy campaigns.

ARTICLE VII
BARANGAY PARTICIPATION

SECTION 22. The 27 Barangays with their respective Sangguniang Kabataan shall be encouraged to initiate its program with specific budget allocation from its budget for urban agriculture program. Such programs must be reflected in their Annual Investment Plan.

ARTICLE VIII
FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 23. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE - Any provision or portion of this Ordinance found to be violative of the Constitution or invalid shall not impair the other provisions or parts thereof which shall continue to be in force and in effect.

SECTION 24. REPEALING CLAUSE - Ordinances, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

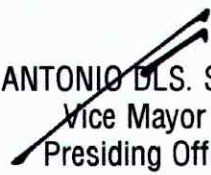
SECTION 25. EFFECTIVITY - This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval.

ENACTED on this 17th day of August, 2020, in the City of Mandaluyong.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WAS
ENACTED AND APPROVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG
PANLUNGSOD OF MANDALUYONG IN A REGULAR SESSION
HELD ON THE DATE AND PLACE FIRST ABOVE GIVEN.


MA. TERESA S. MIRANDA
Sanggunian Secretary

ATTESTED BY:


ANTONIO DLS. SUVA
Vice Mayor &
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:


CARMELITA A. ABALOS
City Mayor

Date: AUG 17 2020