

Republic of the Philippines
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
CITY OF SURIGAO

MINUTES OF THE 25TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF THE
CITY OF SURIGAO HELD AT THE SP SESSION HALL ON JUNE 21, 2024.

PRESENT:

Hon. Alfonso S. Casurra	- City Vice Mayor (Presiding Officer)
Hon. Sebastian Ric. A. Nagas	- City Councilor
Hon. Joenil B. Aldonza	- City Councilor
Hon. Joel E. Tinio	- City Councilor
Hon. Joshua Emilio S. Geli	- City Councilor
Hon. Baltazar C. Abian	- City Councilor
Hon. Noel Christian G. Catre, Jr.	- City Councilor
Hon. Joseph Joey S. Yuipco	- City Councilor
Hon. Karl Duane A. Casurra	- City Councilor
Hon. Florenillo B. Ravelo	- Liga ng Barangay President
Hon. Jenelyn Edulzura	- SK Federated President

ABSENT:

Hon. Cacer R. Azarcon	- City Councilor (On Leave)
Hon. Jose Expeditus B. Bayana	- City Councilor (Official Travel)

The session was called to order at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon of June 27, 2024.

OPENING PRAYER

HON. JOSHUA EMILIO S. GELI:

We should always remember that we are always in the presence of God. In the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. Almighty God Creator of all that is good and true.

In thy name we have assembled, humbled by Your grace and seeking for Your divine wisdom as we prepare to listen to the State of the 2024 Local Governance Report of Honorable City Mayor Paul Yves L. Dumlao II. We acknowledge Your hand in the journey of our city and we are grateful for the progress we have made together under Your guidance.

We pray for Mayor Paul, and the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod under the stewardship of Vice Mayor Alfonso S. Casurra and all the employees of the city government and we pray that You harmonize and enrich our hearts and that You endow us the spirit of guidance and understanding, that You whisper good counsel to our ears, gently admonishing our errors and hope to bring a reformation in our hearts. May our hearts be attuned to Your will, and may Your words reflect Your vision for the City of Surigao.

We ask for Your blessings to overcome obstacles, necessary to contribute positively to our community. May we grow in Your love and become beacons of hope and change. May we always

remember that we should never hesitate to go out of our way to assist our less fortunate neighbors and always remember the welfare of the people as our own and guide us to be ever ready to stretch forth a helping hand.

We also lift up the welfare of the people of Surigao. May we move forward as one, united in purpose and driven by a shared commitment in building a better and brighter land for all. Help us to support one another, to lift each other up, and to work tirelessly for the common good.

Lord, we likewise ask for Your continued presence among us, to inspire us, to challenge us, and to comfort us. May the decisions we make and the actions we take be pleasing to Your will and for the benefit of all Surigaonons.

This we ask together in the mighty name of Jesus our Lord, the Artificer of all that is Good, Our Creator, our Father and our Savior. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SINGING OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL ANTHEM

ROLL CALL

The roll call was conducted with all the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod listed herein as present in attendance, and thereafter a **QUORUM** was declared.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS

HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA / PRESIDING OFFICER:

Before we proceed to the items of the agenda for this regular session, I will allow the acknowledgement of our guest for today's regular session.

MS. ANGELICA VAYA L. BURDAS:

May I formally acknowledge the presence of this afternoon of the following dignitaries and guest. We have

The Congressional Representative of the Second District of Surigao del Norte, Hon. Ace S. Barbers

Provincial Governor, Hon. Robert Lyndon S. Barbers

Family member of our City Mayor, Hon. City Mayor Pablo Yves L. Dumlao II, Ms. Deane Dumlao The

Wife of the City Vice Mayor, Alfonso S. Casurra, we have Mrs. Rosemarie A. Casurra

*Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Board Member Victor F. Bernal
Board Member Kaiser B. Recabo, Jr.*

Department Heads of the Province of Surigao del Norte

115
 116 *Our National Line Agencies Head*
 117
 118 *The Local Government of Surigao City and the Members of their Council*
 119
 120 *Our Men in Uniform:*
 121 *Provincial Director P/Col Laudemer Laude*
 122 *Provincial Police Office PltCol Patrick Jess P Paguirigan*
 123 *Our Chief of Police .Atty. Marinao lukban*
 124
 125 *Philippine Army:*
 126 *Lt.Col Jerold H Jale, Commanding Officer of 30th Infantry Battalion*
 127
 128 *PNP Regional Maritime Unit 13*
 129 *P/Lt Col. Ervin Glenn Provide*
 130 *Regional Chief PCol Zaidee M Daculug*
 131
 132 *Bureau of Jail Management and Penology*
 133 *Jail Senior Inspector Reinzon Sienes Roullo*
 134
 135 *Philippine Coast Guard*
 136 *Coastguard Ensign Roy Christopher Orillaneda*
 137 *Coastguard Station Commander Coastguard Lt Junior Grade Robert T. Nieto*
 138
 139 *Bureau of Fire Protection*
 140 *Regional Director Fire Chief Supt. Fred Trajeras -represented by: FSSupt Rey G Bautista*
 141 *City Fire Marshall Fire Inspector Eduardo P. Quinto Jr.*
 142
 143 *Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG)*
 144 *PltMaj. Dorothy Tumalak Provincial Chief, SDN*
 145
 146 *PNP Surigao del Norte Provincial Forensic Unit*
 147 *PltCol Mariaflor T. Tiu*
 148
 149 *Highway Patrol Group*
 150 *PMaj. Andrew D. Ponay- represented by: Patrolman Patrick Angelo D. Menor*
 151
 152 *PDEA Provincial Office*
 153 *IA III Wenefredo Alagabia Jr., Provincial Officer*
 154
 155 *National Bureau of Investigation*
 156 *Regional Director Sally Hans C. Barbaso*
 157
 158 *Department of Education Headed by*
 159 *Regional Director Dr. Ines C. Asuncion, CESO IV*
 160 *Dr. Marilou B. Dedumo, City Schools Division Supt.*
 161 *Dr. Gilber L. Gayrama, City Asst. Schools Division Supt.*
 162 *Mr. Manuel O. Caberte, Dep Ed Surigao del Norte Schools Division Supt.*
 163 *Dr. Segundino A. Madlos, Jr., Asst. School Division Supt.-SDN*
 164
 165 *Presidents, Heads and Representative of the Private Schools in Surigao City*
 166
 167 *DENR- Provincial ENRO - Agapito T. Patubo*
 168
 169 *Regional Director Madam Cristie Y. Reyes, and Asst. Regional Director, Mr. Paris Raymond Gaballo*
 170 *of the Dept. Of Human Settlements and Urban Development*
 171

172 *Officers and Members of the Surigao Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry*
 173
 174 *Officers and Members of the Surigao Chamber of Commerce and Industry*
 175
 176 *Head of the National Prosecution Service, Head of Public Attorneys Office, the Honorable Judges of*
 177 *the Regional Trial Court and City Court*
 178
 179 *Our Senior Citizens, Surigao Retirees Association, Golden Mentors, Surigao PWD Organization*
 180
 181 *Members of the Various Religious and Christian Groups and Denomination*
 182
 183 *Officers and Members of the Mt. Diwata Masonic Lodge 236*
 184 *Officers and Members of the Very Worshipful Antoni T. Dumlao Masonic Lodge 424*
 185 *Officers and Members of Siargao Masonic Lodge 494*
 186
 187 *From the Mining Companies:*
 188 *Mr. Keisuke Shibayama Executive Vice President and Plant Manager of taganito HPAL*
 189 *Nickel Corporation*
 190
 191 *Engr. Francisco J. Arañas, Vice President and Resident Mine Manager of Hinatuan Mining Company*
 192
 193 *The different Bank Managers of the Banking Institution here in Surigao City*
 194
 195 *The Representatives of the Media, the Different Communication Firms, Radio Stations and Shipping*
 196 *Lines Operating in the City.*
 197
 198 *The Four Rotary Clubs in Surigao:*
 199 *Officers and Members of the Rotary Club of Surigao City*
 200 *Rotary Club of Metro Surigao*
 201 *Rotary Club of Central Surigao*
 202 *Rotary Club of Surigao Midtown Jewels*
 203
 204 *Officers and Members of JCI Surigao Wensie, Surigao Nickel, Surigao North, Junior Chamber*
 205 *International and JCI Senate Surigao*
 206
 207 *The Heads of the Different Professional Organizations*
 208
 209 *The accredited Civil Society Organizations in the Ccity*
 210
 211 *Officers and Members of the Surigao City and Surigao del Norte Muslim Association.*
 212
 213 *Officers and Members of the United Muslim Association of Surigao City*
 214
 215 *Officers and Members of our Badjao Indigenous Community of Surigao City.*
 216
 217 *Our different Farmers and Fisherforks Association in Surigao City.*
 218
 219 *Various Transportation Groups, Tricycle, Bao-bao, Multicab, Jeepney Operators, and Drivers*
 220 *Association*
 221
 222 *United Nations Habitat.*
 223
 224 *Tingog Party List.*
 225
 226 *Boys Scouts and Girls Scouts of the Philippines.*
 227
 228 *Members of the Rainbow Connection and LGBTQIA +*

Provincial Board Member Hon. Jaime Cortes

Officers and Members of the Surigao City Public Market Vendors Association & Federation of Surigao Public Market Vendors, Inc.

AT Dumlao Construction

Surigao City Restaurant and Caterer's Association

And to all the Stakeholders present for today's Regular Session.

Marajaw na hapon sa tanan. Mabuhay!

PERUSAL AND APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Before the approval of the Minutes, Sanggunian Secretary, Ms. Edna B. Siega read the resolutions that were passed and approved in the previous regular session.

Thereafter, Honorable Sebastian Ric A. Nagas was recognized and presented a motion for the approval of the Minutes of the previous regular session, seconded by Honorable Joshua Emilio S. Geli, it was unanimously

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Regular Session held on June 21, 2024, re: Resolution Nos. 145-146 be as it is hereby approved.

147

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Honorable Baltazar C. Abian, seconded by Honorable Karl Duane A. Casurra, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, to approve, as it is hereby approved, the agenda of the 25th Regular Session of the Sangguniang Panlungsod dated 27 June 2024 as prepared and presented.

148

1. CALENDAR OF BUSINESS

- STATE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNANCE REPORT OF HONORABLE PABLO YVES L. DUMLAO II, CITY MAYOR OF SURIGAO CITY

RULES ARE SUSPENDED and the City Mayor was escorted by Honorable Jenelyn Edulzura and Honorable Noel Christian G. Catre, Jr. to the stage to deliver his report.

HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA / PRESIDING OFFICER:

Ladies and gentlemen, it is my honor and singular privilege to introduce to you our Hon. City Mayor, Pablo Yves L. Dumlao II, for the 2024 State of the Local Governance Report.

HON. PABLO YVES L. DUMLAO / CITY MAYOR:

Thank you very much. Nagkape na ba ang tanan? Kay taas-taas. Don't you worry waya nay tuwaw tuwaw kuman.

In a world where leadership is often synonymous with authority and power, let us be the leaders who prioritizes the needs of others, leaders who are empowering and uplifting those around us, and leaders who foster a culture of collaboration and purpose. Or better yet, be a leader who is leading by example.

As a servant leader, my primary role is to serve you, the people. Your welfare and progress are at the heart of everything we do.

They say that leaders are made and not born. And if you want to make oneself, you will have to build the commitment to be a leader that serves its people.

Let me start my report on the aspect of Administrative Governance.

Foremost is on Local Legislation, the Sangguniang Panlungsod (SP), under the leadership of City Vice Mayor Alfonso S. Casurra, conducted 43 regular and five (5) special sessions in 2023. There were 22 city ordinances, 12 appropriations, and 291 resolutions passed for the same period.

Among the key local legislation's passed, among others, are the formal creation and establishment of key government offices whose operations need to be supported as a separate office, namely: the Youth Development Office, Public Employment and Skills Development Office to which in less than a year was awarded as the Best PESDO in Caraga Region, the Office of the Building Official as a separate department, and the City Environment and Natural Resources Office.

Other legislation's include, the regulation on the Operations of Three-Wheeled vehicles, the Ecological Solid Waste Management Ordinance, the Ordinance establishing the Annual Arbor Day or Tree Planting Day, and the establishment of the area for our traditional Christmas Bazar.

Thank you to our Sangguniang Panlungsod is always our key partner in all our endeavors and they were never remiss in the performance of their duties, most especially in providing for the key legislative and policy support to the initiatives and undertakings of the executive department.

In terms of development planning, we have highlighted a participatory strategy that focuses on community involvement and empowerment. As servant leaders, we realize that true progress is made when every voice is heard and every resident is invested in our city's future. Last year, we had semestral full council and sectoral sessions of the City Development Council (CDC), ensuring that our development strategies are guided by the collective wisdom of our community.

Our united efforts resulted in the passage of 14 CDC Resolutions. Key decisions included adopting a revised Development Vision, approval of the proposed Swine and Breeder Farm Project and allowing the construction of a Hazardous Medical Waste Facility. Each resolution demonstrates our dedication to meeting the needs and ambitions of our constituency.

In 2023, we hosted trainings and workshops to amend our Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Annual LGU Investment Planning Workshop in Ilo-ilo City. These trainings ensured that there is an opportunity for deep stakeholder engagement and a participatory, bottoms-up budgeting approach, allowing every department to set priorities for high-impact plans, programs, and projects.

By creating an inclusive environment in which every member of our community can contribute, we are continuing to build a city that really serves its people. This is our vision, leading by serving and envisioning a future in which every Surigaonon can prosper.

For our Human Resources Development and Management, we are continuously compliant with the mandatory systems of the Civil Service Commission, such as the Strategic Performance Management System (SPMS) and Program on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE). In 2023, we hired 32 employees for regular positions and promoted another 12 employees. Additionally, 228 employees attended various in-house training seminars conducted by our HRMDO.

For the Fiscal Administration,

We have sustained improvements in our revenue collection efforts, with total income in 2023 reaching P1.254 billion. This is a reduction of about 16% from the previous period, due to a nearly 15% decrease in our share of the National Tax Allocation (NTA). However, we have maintained a local income of P277 million. The annual growth rate over the last 10 years is 10.9%.

The bulk of our local income comes from business taxes, real property taxes accounting, special education tax, regulatory fees, business and service income, economic enterprises, and other taxes.

For SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT services, particularly in education, our approach is centered on supporting and empowering our students, teachers, and educational institutions. In the 2022-2023 school year, we met all cohort-survival and completion rate targets, with only a minor shortfall at the senior high school level.

Despite needing improvement in drop-out rates, we achieved our targets for graduation rates in junior and senior high schools, with only a small gap at the elementary level. Promotion rates are strong across all levels except junior high school. Repetition rate targets were met in junior high school. These results reflect our commitment to education and lay a strong foundation for future progress.

In 2023, the City Government allotted a total of more than P65 million from the Special Education Fund (SEF), inclusive of the unexpended balance of around P40 million in 2022 to support the education services in the city including the payment of honorarium of 40 school board teachers, 50 non-teaching staff and 10 Child Development Workers, with increased year-end benefits, of P15,000.

We thank our partners in the Department of Education for heeding our call last year, achieving the vast improvement in fund utilization for the SEF of more than 85% compared to the previous period of only about 22%.

We also would like to congratulate our own DepEd City Division for efficiently steering various education programs resulting to our achieving recognitions and awards not only in the local or regional levels but more so in the national and international.

We are pleased to announce the continued success of the City Scholarship Program, now supporting 639 deserving students, a 24% increase from last year, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to ensure inclusive and equitable education for all.

The operation of our Livelihood Training and Productivity Center has remained at the forefront of promoting Technical-Vocational education. Last year, we repurposed a former COVID facility in Brgy. Cagniog into an extension training center. This facility now offers training programs in construction-related fields such as Carpentry, Masonry, Plumbing, and Heavy Equipment Operation.

The new facility allows us to increase the number of trainings by as much as 57%, and consequently, the number of trainees also increased by more than 6%. In 2023, the certification rate of our graduates is more than 88%.

In 2023, our Health Services demonstrated consistent performance in vital health indicators over the past two years, although there was a slight increase in infant and under-five mortality. We are proud to report that out of 2,247 deliveries last year, an impressive 98.8% were handled by skilled professionals, surpassing the national target of 90%. Moreover, all deliveries took place in health

facilities, with 95% utilizing public health facilities, reflecting our commitment to providing accessible and high-quality healthcare to our community.

The percentage of Fully Immunized Children (FIC) in the city increased from 70% in 2022 to 73% in 2023. This progress underscores our dedication to safeguarding children's health, contributing to the UNSDGs by reducing child mortality and ensuring healthy development.

We also achieved significant progress in reducing child malnutrition. The prevalence rate of underweight and severely underweight children between 0-59 months old decreased from 5.7% in 2022 to 4.1% in 2023. This positive trend is due to our ongoing advocacy campaigns on healthy lifestyles, such as Pinggang Pinoy and the 10 Kumainments.

Similarly, the prevalence rate of stunted and severely stunted children dropped from 11.6% to 9.5%, and the prevalence rate of wasted and severely wasted children reduced from 4.3% to 3.3%

In 2023, Family Planning acceptance rose, while Covid vaccination coverage reached 85%. Dental services benefited over 12,000 individuals. Our Communicable Disease and Tuberculosis Control efforts achieved a 90% treatment success rate. The Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation program, in collaboration with the Department of Health, effectively facilitated outpatient referrals. Additionally, our Voluntary Blood Services exceeded its target by over 130%.

We have also completed this year the construction of the super Rural Health Unit in Brgy. Cagniog, providing an added boost to our capacity in providing basic health services in the Arellano District. Our CHO laboratory, San Juan District TB Dots and Taft District birthing health center is already accredited with the PhilHEALTH. Moreover, our main health center is also accredited by PhilHEALTH as a Konsulta Provider.

We are also a recipient of the project for the procurement of Mobile X-ray System from the official development assistance of the Embassy of Japan costing P3.55 million.

Our City Health Office now has readily available medical and dental supplies that our people can access. No less than P18.2 million-worth of medicines and P2.3 million-worth of medical and dental supplies were dispensed and made available for free to the Surigaonons last year. This is an essential support to fulfill our people's access to better and efficient health services.

We would like to thank the Department of Health and our own City Health personnel for a job well done.

We also sustained the provision of Emergency Medical Services to the Surigaonons. On top of the responses we made, which totaled 6,102 ambulance runs in 2023, we also strive to provide our frontline responders with the appropriate trainings to enhance skills and efficiency.

We have sustained and enhanced social welfare services for vulnerable groups, including children, out-of-school youth, women, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and disaster victims, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs).

For Early Childhood Care and Development, a total of 3,636 children were enrolled in the 89 Child Development Centers and four (4) Supervised Neighborhood Plays. The same number of children were recipients of the supplemental feeding for 12 weeks with two (2) meals per day at a cost of P6.54 million.

Our program for senior citizen's welfare is also in full swing with no less than 8,598 seniors provided with social pension. Those in crisis situation were also provided assistance and intervention, together with capability-building initiatives to 54 senior citizen associations all over the city. With the assistance from the provincial government, the DSWD, and from our own funds, we provided P300,000.00 to four (4) senior citizens who have reached 100 years old.

Furthermore, over P6.3 million was directed to the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS), aiding 1,821 individuals. Post-Odette recovery efforts supported 3,832 households with P10,000 each, and the National Housing Authority provided P5,000 to 6,359 households, totaling around P70.1 million. An additional P79.2 million from the Emergency Shelter Assistance Program aided 31,707 households with partially damaged homes with P2,500 each.

The city also reports 8,618 active households in the Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program (4Ps), with 22.08% being new registrations, distributing a total of P150.9 million in grants. The Sustainable Development Program under the Payapa at Masaganang Pamamayan (PAMANA) covered eight barangays and three conflict-vulnerable areas, disbursing P3.3 million in livelihood assistance to 287 beneficiaries last year.

Our Comprehensive Program for Street Children, Street Families, IDPs, and Sama Badjao have been allocated P500,000 for activities such as participation in the Youth Congress, distribution of cash, school uniforms, and shoes totaling P463,156, alongside tuition support. Further initiatives include urban gardening, consultations, and curfew coordination, enhancing integration and empowerment of the Badjao community, strengthening family ties, and fostering NGO collaborations to boost their educational and economic prospects. In fact, we now call them Goodjao.

For Peace and Order, the comparative crime statistics for the last five (5) years showed a declining trend in the number of reported crimes. The reduction last year to 551 incidents showed a decreasing trend of about 6.75% from 2022. Crime solution efficiency improved to 62% and the average monthly crime rate reduced to 27.

The unrelenting campaign against illegal drugs resulted in the arrest of 70 persons with a total of 4.1 kilos of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride (SHABU) confiscated with an estimated street price of around ₱27.9 million.

Regular conduct of mobile check points and other police operations resulted to the arrest of 132 wanted persons, 13 illegal gambling violators, 48 for theft, robbery, and carnapping, 1,030 minors violating curfew, and 9,359 traffic violators.

I would like to acknowledge the effort and dedication of the men and women comprising our own Surigao City Police Station.

It is with great pride that I report our city has been officially declared insurgency-free. In September 2023, our city peace and order council issued a resolution affirming that our city is free from the influence of communist terrorist groups. This significant resolution led to a province-wide declaration by none other than the Secretary of the Department of National Defense (DND), Secretary Gilbert Teodoro and our Governor Robert Lyndon Barbers, early this year. We cannot thank our Armed Forces of the Philippines enough for its sacrifices made to be able to achieve the peace and stability we are enjoying now.

The Surigao City Fire Station successfully inspected all 4,451 buildings and establishments certified by the Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO). Impressively, 3,398 of these were issued Fire Safety Inspection Certificates (FSIC), representing a 76% compliance rate, a significant improvement from last year's 59%.

Our BFP responded to 51 emergencies with 44 of it fire incidences. Of these 44 incidents, 15 are structural fire and 29 non-structural which are mostly grass fires.

In 2023, the BJMP achieved a significant milestone with the awarding of the title to a 2.0-hectare lot worth Php 8 Million. This acquisition and formal turnover granted our city jail legitimate ownership, allowing for further development of its facilities. We signed the Deed of Donation in January last year and proudly handed over the title of the lot in November.

For Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Services, we received the Gawad KALASAG Seal of Excellence for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Humanitarian Assistance, recognizing

our “Beyond Compliant” rating and outstanding performance in disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

For Housing and Urban Development, Last year, we initiated inter-agency and private sector collaboration to develop city-owned properties in Arellano District. However, initial site clearing revealed rock outcrops and caverns typical of a karst landscape in the planned Phase 2 of our 7-hectare NHA-Surigao Countryhomes and the adjacent 14 hectare lot.

We have revised our plans to increase potential beneficiaries for housing resettlement, submitting them to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for approval. Adjusting for the geologic conditions of the 7-hectare and 14-hectare lots, the new plans revealed a smaller buildable area. We are now redesigning this into a resettlement site with at least 232 lots in Phase I and 778 lots in Phase II.

This careful planning aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) by ensuring sustainable, resilient, and safe communities.

We have also acquired and equipped our planning office with a new drone capable of conducting field surveys and mapping using Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR). This is a big boost in our on-going activities in support of housing and urban development, especially in elevation and topographic mapping, structure tagging and even land use mapping.

Last year marked the beginning of our partnership with UN-HABITAT, the Province of Surigao del Norte LGU, the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, and the Sama Bajau tribe for the Huy-Anan nan Badjao Project. This initiative is part of UN-HABITAT's broader effort to promote sustainable growth and resilience in Philippine cities through nature-based solutions and a circular economy.

We celebrated this collaboration with a groundbreaking and capsule laying ceremony earlier this year.

For Youth Development, the Local Youth Development Office engaged in numerous training and workshops, including technical assistance and sessions on planning and budgeting, mental health awareness, and the SK Mandatory Trainings with the complete attendance for 54 SK Chairpersons, Secretaries and Treasurers.

Noteworthy achievements include the institutionalization of Youth Week in Surigao City through a city ordinance and the successful registration of several youth organizations under the National Youth Commission's Youth Organization Registration Program.

For Sports Development, we started last year the 1st Inter-Barangay competition involving the three (3) sports of basketball, volleyball and chess. We have conducted the Basketball Training Camp for boys ages 10-16 yrs. old. We also resumed last year the conduct of the Charter Day Anniversary Sportsfest, conducted the 2nd year leg of the King of Brazil Mountain Bike Trail and Enduro Challenge. Also conducted on its second-year edition is the Triathlon event and the Trail Run.

A first of its kind last year is the conduct of the Mobile Legends: Bang-Bang competition. This is our first venture on E-sports with the end in view of providing platforms for Batang Surigaonons to learn together, develop teamwork, individual skills, and improve their mental well-being

Let me now present the accomplishments we made in pursuit of ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT for our city. For Agricultural Development, our city has allocated over P119 million to foster comprehensive agricultural development. Of this, more than P25 million, or 21%, is sourced from our local government funds. Key initiatives last year included the distribution of certified palay seeds and free tractor services, alongside the implementation of devolved programs.

For Irrigation Systems Development, we secured P54 million from the National Irrigation Administration for the development, repair, and rehabilitation of irrigation systems, a key intervention

in our Rice Program. Notably, over P30 million of this funding is allocated for the restoration of the long-mothballed Surigao Communal Irrigation Project. With an additional P10 million from our local funds, I'm pleased to report that the Surigao CIS now delivers irrigation to Barangay Poctoy.

For Fisheries Development, we distributed 65 units of 30-footer fiberglass fishing bancas to our fisherfolks, with 15 units from the Provincial Government of Surigao del Norte. Thank you, Governor Lyndon Barbers and Cong Ace Barbers. In collaboration with BFAR, we also distributed fishing paraphernalia and seaweed farm implements, conducted Bangus Culture in Cage projects, and held various training sessions, seminars, and capability-building activities.

Last year, we focused on developing the Surigao City Mariculture Park, attracting investors, completing preliminary activities, and obtaining necessary permits. With BFAR's support, we conducted a technical-environmental survey in August and secured the documents for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for an initial 25 hectares at Brgy. Nabago by December 2023. These steps are crucial for the full-scale development of our mariculture park, which promises significant economic potential.

Our efforts align with our commitment to enhancing agricultural productivity and livelihoods, supporting sustainable agriculture and economic growth as part of the UNSDGs. Through modern techniques and comprehensive support, we aim to fortify our agricultural sector and boost the city's economic development.

In Livestock Production, after suffering from a drop in production last year due to the lingering effects of the post-pandemic, post-Odette periods, and the African Swine Fever, we have seen a positive development last year with a high 83% increase in the number of offspring produced through artificial insemination. Natural breeding services also show a slight increase in the number of animals bred by 7%.

We also sustain our Animal Dispersal and Redispersal Program distributing a total of 367 animals covering 50% of the city's barangays and benefitting no less than 137 farmers. We have distributed 7 carabaos, 9 cattles, 118 swine, and 240 poultry. More than the animal dispersal component, we have also given 5 modules of egg machines to beneficiary farmers and SLP associations as an added source of livelihood and income opportunity.

Due to the city's commitment to advancing livestock production, we have successfully secured a loan from DBP for the construction of the Swine Breeder Farm Facility in Brgy. Quezon, Surigao City. This project, with a total cost of PHP 375,000,000, includes PHP 300,000,000 for construction and PHP 25,000,000 for land acquisition.

Earlier this year, the LGU and Chareon Pokphand (CP) Foods Philippines Corporation signed a Lease Agreement. The loan, which has been approved by DBP and is pending ratification by Sangguniang Panglunsod, spans a 12-year term with amortization fully covered by rental income from the facility, making it self-sustaining.

For Tourism Development, we are pleased to report a significant increase in tourist arrivals last year, with a growth of over 18%. While this represents about 55% of our pre-Covid levels in 2019, the steady rise in the last three years is a very encouraging sign. This positive trend highlights the potential for further growth as we continue to enhance our promotional efforts and attract more investments in the tourism sector. We are optimistic about the future and committed to making our city a premier tourist destination.

The data on our most basic tourism-related enterprise (TRE) in the accommodation sector also showed improvements, though it is still recovering from the pandemic's impact. Last year, we saw a promising increase of almost 6% in room supply and 13% in bed supply, reflecting a gradual rebound in the industry.

We continue to uphold our vibrant tourism calendar, highlighted by our Bonok-Bonok Festival in celebration of the Feast of our Patron Saint. Additionally, we successfully conducted various other events, including the Sakay-Sakay Abayan Festival, Tilaw Food Festival, Charter Day Celebrations, the revival of the Drum and Lyre Competitions and the Bankarera, the Commemoration of the Battle of Surigao Strait, and the Light-up-a-Tree/Festival of Lights. These events not only celebrate our rich cultural heritage but also attract visitors and invigorate our local economy.

For Business and Investments, in 2023, the city reported 5,084 business establishments, a 14% increase over the previous year. While total gross sales fell slightly by 13% to just over P12.8 billion, this shows the impact of inflation on consumer spending. Despite this, the increase in business activities demonstrates our city's resilience and potential for future economic recovery.

In terms of new investments, DTI records show that despite a national economic slowdown, our city attracted P81 million in business investments in 2023. The capital was strategically distributed, with 57% going to trading, 28% to the services sector, and 14% to manufacturing/processing. This diversified investment approach positions our city for future growth and resilience.

For ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, our city successfully planted over 4,320 seedlings of various tree species through collaborative efforts involving the City ENRO, DENR, local and provincial governments, national agencies, academia, civil societies, and volunteers.

We have conducted the preliminary discussions and planning with DENR, the Barangays and other partners, for the establishment of EcoParks, Forest Trails and highlands Camping Areas in Brgy. Cagniog, in Sitio Brazil, Brgy. Mat-I, and in our Parang-Parang watershed.

For Waste Management and Pollution Control, we conducted clean-up activities with various stakeholders to recover improperly disposed waste. Last year, we collected over 19,000 tons of waste, with 86% being residual waste and just over 13% recovered, all disposed of in our Sanitary Landfill Facility.

Last year, we enhanced our operations by acquiring two key pieces of equipment: a Bio-Waste Shredder and a Hollow Block Molder. Additionally, the DENR-Environmental Management Bureau donated a 20-footer container van for temporary storage and handling of hazardous and infectious waste. In our ongoing rehabilitation of sidewalks, I can proudly say we are now using Eco Bricks from pulverized waste glass in our construction.

We also facilitated the procurement and delivery of 10 units of 6.5 cubic meter garbage trucks to bolster our waste management capabilities.

In 2023, our Infrastructure Development efforts witnessed a remarkable expansion, with a total expenditure of P407 million on 236 projects, marking a 206% increase in the number of projects compared to the previous year. This nearly parallel allocation, with only a 2.5% variance from the previous year's total project costs, allowed us to enhance government facilities, school buildings, seawalls, and ports significantly. We maintained a strong commitment to restoring infrastructure damaged by Super Typhoon Odette, underscoring our dedication to the growth and resilience of our community.

Project allocations in 2023 emphasized government buildings, which received 46% of the budget, followed by roads and bridges at 27%. School buildings received 10% of the funding, with miscellaneous projects and water systems accounting for 9% and 8%, respectively.

In detail, the year saw the implementation of 17 road projects, 4 drainage initiatives, 5 bridge and pier constructions, and 29 school building projects. Our efforts to bolster governmental functionality included 39 projects for government office repairs and improvements, 57 health center projects, 22 daycare centers, 5 evacuation centers, and 16 multi-purpose buildings.

Additionally, we developed 15 water supply and irrigation systems, and enhanced community facilities with 7 new perimeter fences, 9 street lighting projects, 2 biogas collectors and weighbridges, and 4 parks and plaza developments. These comprehensive efforts reflect our unwavering dedication to enhancing the living standards and infrastructure resilience of our community.

Repairs of our airport were completed last year with various projects undertaken amounting to P66 million. Through the strong representation of our 2nd District Congressman Robert Ace S. Barbers, we were able to receive no less than P874 million-worth of projects implemented by various national line agencies.

DPWH implemented 8 road projects covering 9.7 kms., 2 drainage systems of 61.2 meters, 4 flood control projects of 1.4 kms., 15 buildings amounting to no less than P792 million. DOH also gave us 32 projects consisting of 2 super health centers and 30 barangay health stations amounting to P34.2 million, while the DILG provided P19 million to fund a warehouse, 319 meters of farm-to-market road and Level III barangay water system worth P19 million.

In terms of our local fund sources we have implemented 57 projects from our 20% Development Fund consisting of 140 lineal meters of bridges, 11 public buildings, 369 meters of flood control systems, 3 health centers, 3 street lightings, 1,946 meters of roads, day care center, 233 meters of drainage system, 13 water supply systems. From the special education fund we were able to accomplish the construction, repair, and improvement of 25 school buildings.

Other projects from the 5% DRRM Fund and capital expenditures include 8 day care centers, 68 meters of roads, electrification projects and 13 public buildings. (Pause for video)

For the second straight year we implemented the People's Day initiative. We started this last year with no other intention but to bring city hall closer to the barangays. The services we brought to the barangays include: medical, dental, and laboratory services by our health personnel; veterinary services including surgical castrations; agricultural extension services especially on provision of vegetable seeds; civil registration services; registrations for social welfare services; legal assistance and consultations; real property assessment; miscellaneous services provided by our partners – the city PNP, Philippine Army, Family Organization of the Philippines, Optometric Society, Tingog Party List, Rainbow Connection, PhilHEALTH, BJMP, PhilPOST, PSA, DTI, COMELEC, the Congressional Office, and even photocopying and ID photos by our own PIO.

26,000 people availed of the services we offered in 2023 and none of our 54 barangays was left behind. Moreover, the culmination of our People's Day Year 1 was the conduct of a Cataract Surgical Mission where 60 patients were successfully operated. As of June 11 this year, with just 37 barangays covered, more than 29,000 were already benefited by this initiative.

Health services constitute 52% of the bulk of what we bring to the barangays. This truly shows that people in the barangays are now looking forward to this event and rest assured that we will continue to do this.

Allow me now to present to you the highlights of what we will be pursuing this year and, in the years, ahead -

Plans and Priorities moving forward ...

- **REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE CITY BOULEVARD.** Another one of our priorities reported last year is to be able to access funds earmarked for damages of ST Odette from the DND-Office of Civil Defense. I am happy to report to you now that our proposal for P200-million funding for the repair and improvement of our city boulevard has been approved and funds has already been received by our city. The construction in the area has already commenced and is expected to be completed within 270 calendar days.
- **IMPLEMENT QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN LGU OPERATIONS.** To institutionalize procedures, recording, service standards, process flow and other

management components for greater efficiency and public service, the city shall embark on the attainment of ISO 9001:2015 certification for quality management system. This is ambitious, but one that is doable and a must for our city, so that our level of performance shall be at par with international standards.

- **CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS AND CITY STREETS.** This is another one of our commitments in my last year's report. For so long a time we have seen how our streets here in the city center were neglected that even potholes, re-blocking pavements were not undertaken to ease the plight of our motorists and allow better and efficient movement and circulation.
- Beginning last year and this year you have seen the repairs we have undertaken in the city center in the various streets, along the junction of Surigao High, the perennially flooded section of Nueva Street, the moonscape-like pavement of Kaskag road leading to Navalca. Drainage improvement along Amat, Rizal, Vasquez, Gemina, Borja and Gonzales Streets were also undertaken.
- Other roads that will be constructed and/or improved include the following: the P25.6-million Cagniog-Luna by-pass road that will be undertaken in four (4) years; the P65-million Sitio File-Pinaypayan-Brazil road improvement, which would allow us better access in the area and pave the way for better forest management and promotion of eco-tourism activities in the area. The P20-million road and promenade development along the Surigao River starting from the Kinabutan Bridge. This is just the initial phase, since our plans in this area will be for both sides extending up to the mouth of Tumanday River in Brgy. Sabang.
- The DPWH will also be undertaking the construction of the P38-million bridge that would finally connect and complete the by-pass road connecting Sitio Bioborjan in Brgy. Rizal to Sitio Banahaw in Brgy. Sabang. We have also commenced with the construction of the long planned critical connection of Gonzales St. Bridge to Brgy. San Juan so that we can have another access connecting the central business district across the Kinabutan River. We are investing no less than P52 million in three (3) years to complete this critical bridge connection.
- Other bridges in the rural areas include: the construction of a new bridge that would connect Brgys. Cantiasay, Nonoc Island and San Pedro, Hanigad Island. The planned combination of a boardwalk and hanging bridge design would be a better alternative and cost-effective than bringing back the wooden foot bridge of old. Another one is the provision of a better and sturdy footbridge at Sitio Panggaboan, Brgy. Quezon. All of these are being addressed so that our city and Surigaonon residents can enjoy better roads and more efficient flow of people and goods.
- **IMPROVEMENT AND UPGRADING OF KEY URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES.** We have already started the improvement of our Luneta Park and Phase 1 is already 87% complete and Phase 2 70%. Construction of the Brgy. Taft public market is ongoing at 93% completion together with the Brgy. San Juan public market which is now 70% complete. All these projects are FULLY-FUNDED for the current year.
- **PAMBANSANG PABAHAY PARA SA PILIPINO PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR.** With the problems we have encountered in our city-owned properties in Cagniog and Silop, we are now working with the private sector to implement the 4PH tenement housing program of the national government. In coordination with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), we have made the initial discussions and agreement with I. Cortes Estate for the provision of a one (1) hectare area in Brgy. Luna. We will formalize the agreements in the coming days and initial plans for the area are already prepared.

- *ESTABLISHMENT OF BAGSAKAN CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.* The Provincial Office of the Department of Agriculture in Surigao del Norte will be providing us with no less than P20.0 million for the establishment of a Bagsakan Center in Brgy. Luna. This will be the central point of entry of all agricultural products coming into the city and where the conduct of wholesale trade will be facilitated with a simple objective- Surigao products first.
- *ALIGNING OUR DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ATTAINMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs).* As a backgrounder, the 17 SDGs serve at the core of the peace and prosperity initiative for people and the planet, now and into the future, adopted by all UN Member States in 2015. This is the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This year, we are chosen by the United Nations through the UN-HABITAT, for the voluntary local review of the SDGs. We are the only one among the local governments all over the Philippines to be given such privilege and opportunity.
- *Among others, we will be cross-matching our accomplishments with the SDGs, and determine the essential ones that needs to be addressed in the local level. In this manner, we will be able to determine and accomplish a wholistic development aligned with the global goals, not only for our people, but also for our dear planet. And this is all within the ambit of sustainable development.*
- *CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FISHING PORT WITH REFRIGERATION FACILITIES.* Just recently, on June 21, we marked a key milestone with the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement alongside the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority. This deal launches the development of a P200-million Fishing Port equipped with state-of-the-art refrigeration facilities. This construction is expected to promote the expansion of our local fishing sector by upgrading the existing fish landing operations.

We sincerely thank the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority and the Department of Agriculture for their dedication to and support of this project because is designated as a regional fish port and the first in the whole of eastern Mindanao and eastern Visayas.

Ladies and gentlemen, as I stand before you, many people and leaders have supported me in this administration:

Congressman Hon. Robert Ace S. Barbers: Leading through your vision for Surigao, you have been instrumental in securing crucial funding for our city's infrastructure, fostering urban development and reflecting a thriving partnership.

Governor Hon. Robert Lyndon S. Barbers: Taking cues from how you prioritize your programs, I have adopted them as the city's priorities. Your alignment of provincial resources with our city's needs has greatly enhanced our initiatives across all sectors.

City Vice Mayor Hon. Alfonso S. Casurra and the Sangguniang Panlungsod: Simple ra kay Mayor Pons Cassura, pag ok na kay Mayor Pons, ok na! and to our beloved city councilors, we may be on different sides of the political fence, but nevertheless, I thank you for sharing the same vision for the betterment of our Surigaonons.

To the Punong Barangays of the 54 barangays: Thank you for always sharing and supporting the programs of the city. You know very well that your concerns and needs are always a priority.

Our department heads and all city employees, in our almost two years together, we have had a roller coaster of a ride. There have been so many changes, yet so much we have achieved as well. Like I always say, I would not be me if I did not disrupt things, and I could not thank you enough for supporting me in this style of leadership. We do our job the best we can because we have this burden that it is upon us to steer the future of this city.

To the heads and employees of the national government agencies, to the members of the academe, to the representatives of civil society organizations, and to the private sector, family, and friends, let us always continue this partnership for progress. Each of you has greatly contributed to the advancement of our city, even before this term, and may we do even more in the remaining time of our tenure.

Our intentions and priorities for the upcoming years are equally as essential as the highlights of our accomplishments that I have shared with you today. Last year, we made it our goal to recover and build better, working tirelessly to reconstruct and revitalize our beloved Surigao.

We are not just developing a city, but in essence a community and the opportunities for each and every Surigaonon. We work together to achieve growth and advancement for the benefit of future generations. Embracing servant leadership ensures our initiatives are inclusive and benefit all, particularly the vulnerable. Everything we do or policy we enforce is aimed at improving the city in which we live, with no other intention but to make our city a better place for all.

We shall face the problems ahead of us and transform them into opportunities. We shall capitalize on our accomplishments and draw lessons from our past acts.

Mga Surigaonons, sa kadugay na panahon sa ako pag himamat sa mga katawhan, mo laong sila, lajo ang ako panglantaw para sa Surigao, a visionary.

Sa tinood na storya, kita tanan jaoy ato taas og lajo na panglantaw para sa ato Surigao, jaon na mga panglantaw amo ray sad ako tag sunod, an ijo mga damgo para sa ato ciudad. Pero sa ini na damgo, hamok an mga kausaban na kinahanglan himoon, jaon na kausaban dili ra kon sa ato ciudad, pero apil sab ang ato kinaija. Usahay lisod, usahay taas na proseso, usahay maka guol.

Pero amo man gajud tanan kausaban. Kinahanglan man ang sakripisyo nato kada isa. Pero ibanan lamang nijo ako. Way lain ako tumong kun dili ang pagtuman sa ijo lajo og taas na panglantaw para sa ato tanan. Sa tanan ato nahimo sa niaging tuig, nakita nijo na para sa ato ini tanan, para sa tanan Surigaonon sanan sa ato ciudad.

Kay waya may lain ato ciudad, inin Surigao ra. Kita ra mismo ang maka pa asenso sa ato tanan. Kon waya kamo, waya sad ako, kung unoy ijo gusto amoy sad ako, kon mag hago kamo para sa ato ika asenso, labaw ako mag hago para sa ijo.

Sa serbisyong Pulido sanan Dekalidad, abante kita tanan sa pag kab-ot sa kalamboan para sa mga Batang Surigaonon!

God Bless Surigao! Mabuhay ang Surigaonon! Abante Surigao!

RULES ARE REINSTATED and a motion to enter into the records the State of the Local Governance Report of the Honorable City Mayor Pablo Yves L. Dumlao II was presented and approved.

REMARKS OF THE VICE MAYOR

HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA / PRESIDING OFFICER:

Ladies and gentlemen, before we adjourn this regular session today allow me first to express the gratitude of all who are here this afternoon. Your valuable presence indeed is a clear manifestation of your desire to be part of this journey of public service. Salamat karajaw sa tanan na kamo kabahin sa State of the Local Governance Report sa atong halangdon Mayor, Mayor Paul Dumlao. On the part of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, I assure the Hon. City Mayor of our continued steadfast support and cooperation for the plans, programs and activities line-up for 2025. As always the Sangguniang Panlungsod under my leadership and my stewardship is committed to fast track

request for the passage of resolutions and ordinances that our-tailored feet to alleviate the lives of every Surigaonon. After all, we believe that we are behold and more to the aspiration of every Surigaonon for a brighter Surigao than for any other consideration especially on the desires bounded on political affiliation.

We stand committed, to stand tall and proud of our individual and collective achievement in the halls of the Sangguniang Panlungsod that the end of the day we can face the God Almighty for him to say to us, "Well done, good and faithful servant". Salamat karajaw sa ijo tanan.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other matters discussed, the 25TH Regular Session was adjourned at 3:53 o'clock in the afternoon of June 27, 2024.

(As to what transpired in the discussion, the transcribed stenographic notes of the same are kept and filed in the SP Office for record purposes and reference.)

CLOSING PRAYER:

HON. JOSHUA EMILIO S. GELI:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We, thank You, Lord, for the success of this afternoon's State of the Local Governance Report by our City Mayor. Thank You, for leading us to work together toward the mutual benefit of all; working in the ways of righteousness and for the highest good of our beloved Surigao City. As we are about to go our separate in our respective places of abode, we pray, o Lord that You will continue to guide and protect us from any harm and danger. This we ask in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

APPROVED, this 4TH day of July 2024.

WE HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing statements, resolutions and the like were passed and approved by us, members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Surigao, Province of Surigao del Norte.

EDNA B. SIEGA
Sanggunian Secretary

SEBASTIAN RIC A. NAGAS
City Councilor

JOENIL B. ALDONZA
City Councilor

JOEL E. TINIO
City Councilor

JOSHUA EMILIO S. GELI
City Councilor

BALTAZAR C. ABIAN
City Councilor

NOEL CHRISTIAN G. CATRE, JR.
City Councilor

JOSEPH JOEY S. YUIPCO
City Councilor

KARL DUANE A. CASURRA
City Councilor

FLORENILLO B. RAVELO
Liga ng mga Barangay President

JENELYN EDULZURA
SK Federation President

964
965
966
967
968
969
970
971
972
973
974
975
976
977
978
979
980

ATTESTED BY:

ALFONSO S. CASURRA
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer