



Republic of the Philippines
Quezon City
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

3rd Flr. Bulwagang Amoranto
High Rise Building,
Quezon City Hall Compound
Diliman, Quezon City
Trunkline: 8988-4242 loc. 8195

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 32
Series of 2020

**CREATING A TASK FORCE ON FOOD SECURITY TO
PROMOTE URBAN AGRICULTURE AND DEVELOP
AGRICULTURE ZONES AND FOOD ZONES**

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, IATF-MEID Resolution No. 11, S-2020, as approved by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, declared the entirety of Metro Manila under a community quarantine;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Quezon City Council, in a special session, adopted Resolution No. 8141, S-2020, which declared Quezon City under a state of calamity due to the pandemic;

WHEREAS, the restrictions on transportation, movement, and business due to the pandemic and the community quarantine have impacted the labor force and created logistical problems for the steady supply of food products;

WHEREAS, some form of pandemic-related restriction may necessarily persist until at least the next year, and give rise to the possibility of long-term disruption of the food supply;

WHEREAS, under Sec. 16 of the Local Government Code, provides that every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of general welfare;

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2020, the Quezon City Government entered a partnership with the Department of Agriculture as a measure to address stability of food supply, alleviate poverty, foster social integration among communities, and protect the environment through eco-friendly methods and other alternative and innovative gardening methods;

WHEREAS, the Quezon City Government supports the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The identified priority SDGs for 2020 are SDG#1 No Poverty, SDG#2 Zero Hunger, SDG#3 Health & Wellness, SDG#4 Education, SDG#5 Gender Equality, SDG#8 Decent Work & Economic Growth, SDG#12 Responsible Production & Consumption, SDG#13 Climate Action and SDG#17 Partnerships for the Goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE, Mayor of Quezon City, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do order:

SECTION 1. Creation and Objectives. The Quezon City-Food Security Task Force (QC-FSTF) is hereby created with the following city-wide objectives:

- a) Ensure availability, access, stability, and utilization of food¹
- b) Augment and/ or complement Livelihood and Economic Recovery of supply chains²
- c) Promote consumption of Nutritious Food & better mental health for Quezon City (QC) citizens³
- d) Create inroads for Climate Change Adaptation/ New Normal practices for QC food production and processing⁴

SECTION 2. Definition. Food Security is defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as follows:

*Food security exists when all people at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.*⁵

SECTION 3. Composition. The QC-FSTF shall be composed of representatives from the following offices or departments

Chairperson: City Mayor

Co-Chairperson and Sustainable Development Affairs Officer
Action Officer:

- Members:
- 1) Local Economic Investment Promotions Officer
 - 2) Small Business Cooperative Development Promotions Office
 - 3) Public Employment Service Office
 - 4) Environmental Protection and Waste Management Department
 - 5) City Health Department
 - 6) City Veterinary Department
 - 7) Parks Development and Administration Department
 - 8) City Planning and Development Office
 - 9) Barangay and Community Relations Department
 - 10) Market Development and Administration Department
 - 11) Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Business and Entrepreneurship of the city council
 - 12) Committee on Parks and Environment of the city council

¹ United Nations Sustainable Development Goals SDG#2, Zero Hunger

² United Nations Sustainable Development Goals SDG#8, Decent Work & Economic Growth

³ United Nations Sustainable Development Goals SDG#3, Health & Wellness

⁴ United Nations Sustainable Development Goals SDG#13, Climate Action

⁵ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2006 Policy Brief on Food Security

- 13) Agri-Business Sector
- 14) Farmer's Organization Sector
- 15) Civil Society Organization
- 16) And such other members that the City Mayor will designate.

The representatives of the Agri-Business Sector, Farmer's Organization and Civil Society shall be nominated by the other members of the Task Force.

The Task Force shall likewise invite other concerned implementing department, offices or operating units to introduce comments, recommendations and assistance to the activities of the Task Force.

SECTION 4. Functions. The QC- FSTF shall have the following functions:

- a. Formulate a QC Food Security Plan, in consultation with stakeholders, and oversee its implementation, monitoring and evaluation; the time frame of implementation shall be to dedicate the balance of 2020 to assessment and immediate response, including measurable performance indicators; 2021 for capacity building and transformation; and 2022 to institutionalize nutrition sustainability and stability.
- b. Encourage and promote integrated urban farming; Identify and recommend suitable open spaces or idle land, in rooftops, vacant lots, balconies or backyards; Develop community/neighborhood gardens and nursery gardens in barangays, villages, parks, schools and government buildings for vegetables and fruits, edible and medicinal plants, and animals;
- c. Study and make recommendations for the repurposing of open and enclosed spaces (i.e. abandoned factories and warehouses) for the promotion of food security, UA and food trade/processing.
- d. Encourage and promote Urban Aquaculture, Aquaponics/ Hydroponics, and select backyard farming animal production permitted by urban laws on land use, environment, and health and sanitation.
- e. Develop and recommend for local legislation the appropriate incentive mechanisms for food security and Agriculture Zones for a) Food and Agri-Input Production (e.g. seedlings, natural/organic fertilizer inputs and the like); and b) Food Zones (e.g. Fresh Trade and Value-added Food Items) in collaboration with the barangays and Civil Society Organizations involved which may include assistance with urban farm inputs, crop insurance, access to financing, access to markets and other appropriate support systems for the promotion of UA;
- f. Enlist the assistance of other concerned sectors that could provide advice on matters pertaining to UA and conduct capability-building initiatives to practitioners;
- g. Organize educational seminars/ webinars/ learning fora, online and offline, and assist interested groups in implementing the QC Food Security Plan;
- h. Facilitate the application and awarding of grants from the Department of Agriculture and any available financing or grant-giving institutions including but

not limited to international non-government/ non-profit organizations; corporate foundations, and other private entities;

- i. Promote research, development and propagation of appropriate, innovative and viable urban farming technologies; Enjoin the private sector (business and academe) to support urban agriculture and engage in potential public-private partnerships to accelerate food security and city self-sufficiency;
- j. Facilitate and organize the collective production, use and distribution of natural feeds and organic fertilizers & inputs.
- k. Assist, organize and cluster UA practitioners into locally registered and empowered associations and cooperatives.

SECTION 5. UA Models / Demo Urban Integrated Farm. The QC-FSTF shall expand and enhance the city's urban farming project and develop other UA Models (e.g. integrated urban farming systems, roof top gardens, aquaponics/aquaculture and the like) in the Quezon City Hall and other government properties (e.g. Public Parks, Government Buildings, Barangays), suitable for UA Purposes. The QC-FSTF shall develop and select Demo Urban Integrated Farms that shall provide facilities for persons that wish to start their own micro farm. These demo farms shall also provide instructional resources for those that want to learn or experience UA. Also, the demo farm shall interact with city health & city schools to educate health workers, teachers and students on UA and nutrition benefits of UA.

SECTION 6. Food Trade and Processing. The QC-FSTF shall recommend guidelines to strengthen and enhance new normal food supply chains and improve value-adding efforts of food products. These may include but are not limited to the establishment and promotion of mobile/ online-based platforms of markets, food suppliers, and/ or other related efforts to ease the flow of food products from producer/retailer to city residents.

SECTION 7. Seed Bank and Kits. The QC-FSTF shall develop start-up kits for aspiring urban farmers composed of farming tools, seedlings, organic fertilizers, inputs, and soil. The QC-FSTF shall help establish a seed bank for producing and supplying seeds to urban farming practitioners.

SECTION 8. Coordination with Interested Institutions. The QC-FSTF shall coordinate with the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Finance (DOF), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and other government and non-government stakeholders, lending institutions to assist UA practitioners through the provision of adequate financial, technical, marketing and other services and resources.

SECTION 9. Promotion and Award System. The QC-FSTF shall develop and recommend incentives and award systems for UA. These award systems may include the following components:

- a. annual search, recognition and awards for model farmers and farmer organizations practicing UA in barangay and city level;
- b. support for access to agriculture inputs for interested farmers to encourage their entry /involvement in urban farming;

c. institutionalization of certification by self-regulating organizations of small holder groups of farmers; and

d. linkage to markets, including provision of display area for local agriculture produce in the Quezon City Hall Complex and other QC government facilities; and local produce as food supply preference for QC feeding programs, catering, token gifts and other QC related activities and events.

SECTION 10. Compliance. The QC-FSTF's agriculture production and food processing activities shall remain compliant with any applicable Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) requirements, zoning ordinances, health and safety regulations, climate change and environmental ordinances and other applicable legislation. The Task Force may recommend to the City Council any necessary legislation or amendment of zoning ordinances to carry out the purposes of this Order.

SECTION 11. Secretariat. The Sustainable Development Affairs Unit, Office of the City Mayor, Office of the City Administrator and the City Planning Office shall provide staff to act as the Secretariat of the Task Force.

SECTION 12. Funding. Funding requirements shall be drawn from the Office of the City Mayor and such other sources as may be later identified.

SECTION 13. Dissemination. A copy of this Executive Order shall be furnished to the Office of the President and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) for information and guidance pursuant to Section 455(1)(xii) of RA 7160, as amended, and shall be posted at the official website of the Quezon City Government.

SECTION 14. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, ___ May 2020, Quezon City.


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor