



Republic of the Philippines  
**QUEZON CITY COUNCIL**  
Quezon City  
22<sup>nd</sup> City Council

PO22CC-454

113<sup>th</sup> Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 3449, S-2025

*AN ORDINANCE BANNING THE USE OF VAPOR PRODUCTS, SMOKING AND IDLING VEHICLES WITHIN 100 METERS OF SCHOOL ZONES TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY AROUND SCHOOLS AND PROTECT CHILDREN'S HEALTH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES*

*Introduced by Councilors ALBERT ALVIN "Chuckie" L. ANTONIO III, BERNARD R. HERRERA, TATAY RANNIE Z. LUDOVICA, ALY MEDALLA and IRENE R. BELMONTE*

*Co-Introduced by Councilors Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Nikki V. Crisologo, Charm M. Ferrer, Candy A. Medina, Dave C. Valmocina, Godofredo T. Liban II, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Geleen "Dok G" G. Lumbad, Don S. De Leon, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Atty. Anton L. Reyes, Imee A. Rillo, Raquel S. Malañgen, Nanette Castelo-Daza, Marra C. Suntay, Joseph Joe Visaya, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Ram V. Medalla, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Aiko S. Melendez, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Eric Z. Medina, Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Vito Sotto Generoso, Victor "Vic" Bernardo and Jhon Angelli "Sami" C. Neri*

*WHEREAS, under Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, local government units are mandated to promote the general welfare, particularly by ensuring and supporting measures to improve public health and protect the environment;*

*WHEREAS, Quezon City is one of the most densely populated cities in the Philippines and is home to numerous schools located in high-traffic areas, making it imperative to adopt measures that reduce air pollution in these vulnerable zones;*

*WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), exposure to air pollution is a leading risk factor for premature death, accounting for approximately 4.2 million deaths annually worldwide, with children being disproportionately affected due to their developing respiratory systems;*

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WHEREAS, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has reported that over 90% of children globally are exposed to air pollution levels that exceed WHO guidelines, leading to significant health risks, including asthma, cognitive impairments, and stunted lung growth;

WHEREAS, according to the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, air pollution accounted for 8.1 million deaths globally in 2021, becoming the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading risk factor for death, including children under five (5) years;

WHEREAS, in a research conducted by the Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air, air pollution is the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest risk factor driving death and disability due to non-communicable diseases (NCDs); it is also the leading environmental risk to health;

WHEREAS, in Quezon City, the leading causes of morbidity are respiratory infection, pneumonia, hypertension, asthma, and heart disease which can be worsened by poor air quality;

WHEREAS, hospital data gathered from Quezon City-owned hospitals and the Quezon City Health Department show that pneumonia and respiratory infections occur mainly in children who are nine (9) years old and below;

WHEREAS, a 2021 study published in *The Lancet Planetary Health* highlighted that urban greenery, such as trees and shrubs, can effectively reduce particulate matter (PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2) concentrations, thereby mitigating the adverse effects of vehicular emissions;

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB) has emphasized the need for localized air quality monitoring systems to gather real-time data and support evidence-based policy decisions;

WHEREAS, Quezon City has strategically deployed 40 non-reference air quality sensors in the City; ten (10) of which are installed near school zones;

WHEREAS, active transport, including walking and cycling, as promoted by the National Framework on Active Transport, reduces vehicular emissions and improves public health outcomes by encouraging physical activity and reducing traffic congestion;

WHEREAS, the Quezon City Government has enacted Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-1420, S-2004 which modified Quezon City Ordinance No. NC-73, S-89 entitled "Banning Smoking in Public Places in Quezon City and Imposing Penalty for Violation thereof" and expanded the coverage thereof to implement the intent and spirit contemplated in Republic Act No. 9211, otherwise known as the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003;

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WHEREAS, the enactment of Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-1420, S-2004 expanded the coverage on the absolute ban on smoking in public places including playschools, preparatory schools, elementary schools, high schools, colleges, and universities among others;

WHEREAS, given the significant rise in vaping, particularly among the youth, and emerging evidence suggesting its potential risks such as exposure to harmful chemicals similar to those found in traditional cigarettes, there is a need to include vaping to the list of banned products in public spaces, including schools among others, to curb the exposure of students to these harmful aerosols within school zones;

WHEREAS, there is a need to adopt measures that mitigate air pollution within school zones to ensure a safe and conducive environment for learning and development.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. TITLE. – This Ordinance shall be known as the “Clean Air for Schools Ordinance.”

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. – It is hereby declared the policy of Quezon City to protect and promote the health and safety of its residents, especially children, by reducing air pollution around schools and ensuring clean air in educational environments.

SECTION 3. COVERAGE. – This Ordinance shall apply to all public and private schools, colleges and universities within Quezon City.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following are defined as follows:

- a. **Active Transport** – mode of transportation that involves physical activity, such as walking or cycling, as alternatives to motorized vehicles;

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- b. **Air Quality Monitoring System** – equipment designed to measure pollutants such as PM2.5, PM10, and NO2 in the air to assess air quality;
- c. **Idling Vehicles** – motor vehicles with engines running which burn fuel or emit exhaust while stationary and not in traffic;
- d. **School Zone** – the area within a 100-meter radius from the perimeter of a school;
- e. **Smoking** – the act of carrying a lighted cigarette or other tobacco products, whether or not it is being inhaled or smoked;
- f. **Urban Greenery Programs** – initiatives that involve planting and maintaining trees, shrubs and other vegetation within school premises; and
- g. **Vapor products (often referred to as electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes)** – devices that use electronic means to deliver nicotine or other substances to the user through inhalation of vapor. These devices are commonly powered by batteries and can take various forms including, but not limited, to e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pens and electronic nicotine delivery systems.

SECTION 5. PROHIBITED ACTS. –

- a. Use of vapor products and smoking within 100 meters of any school zone is strictly prohibited.
- b. Idling of vehicles within 100 meters of any school zone is prohibited except for emergency or law enforcement vehicles.

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**SECTION 6. INSTALLATION OF LOW-COST AIR QUALITY MONITORING SYSTEMS. –**

- a. *The Quezon City Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Department (CCESD) shall include the installation and maintenance of air quality monitoring systems in its annual budget allocation.*
- b. *The CCESD shall strategically install air quality monitoring systems in locations that maximize their utility for community air quality assessments, including schools, public parks, and high-traffic areas.*

**SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTATION OF URBAN GREENERY PROGRAMS. –**

- a. *Schools shall participate in urban greenery programs by planting and maintaining native trees, shrubs, and vegetation on their premises.*
- b. *The Quezon City Government shall provide technical assistance, seedlings, and other resources to schools.*
- c. *Schools may also implement other clean air initiatives such as, but not limited to:*
  - 1. *Promoting waste reduction and recycling programs;*
  - 2. *Conducting air quality awareness campaigns; and*
  - 3. *Organizing tree-planting and environmental education activities.*

**SECTION 8. ACTIVE TRANSPORT PROMOTION. –**

- a. *Schools shall encourage students, parents, and personnel to use active transport, such as walking or cycling.*
- b. *Schools are required to provide parking areas to support active transport initiatives.*

**SECTION 9. ROLES OF THE QUEZON CITY TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (TTMD). –**

- a. *The TTMD shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance, particularly the prohibition of idling vehicles within school zones by issuing Ordinance Violation Receipts (OVRs) to violators.*

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- b. *The TTMD may deputize other Quezon City Government agencies such as, but not limited to, the QCHD, CCESD, the Barangays and the Sangguniang Kabataans, in order to assist them in issuing OVRs to violators pursuant to their rules and regulations.*
- c. *The TTMD shall conduct regular inspections and enforcement operations in coordination with the Tricycle Regulatory Unit and the Tricycle Franchising Board.*
- d. *The TTMD shall implement traffic management measures to minimize congestion in school zones and reduce vehicular emissions.*
- e. *The TTMD, in coordination with other agencies such as the Quezon City Health Department (QCHD) and the CCESD, shall assist in awareness campaigns on the adverse effects of vehicular idling and smoking near school zones.*
- f. *The TTMD shall endorse habitual offenders to the Land Transportation Office (LTO) for possible revocation of driver's licenses or to relevant franchising boards for franchise penalties.*

**SECTION 10. ROLES OF THE QUEZON CITY CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DEPARTMENT (CCESD). –**

- a. *The CCESD shall oversee the implementation, monitoring and reporting of air quality improvement programs under this Ordinance.*
- b. *The CCESD shall develop guidelines for the strategic installation of low-cost air quality monitoring systems.*
- c. *The CCESD shall collaborate with other departments, schools and private entities to enhance the efficiency and reach of air quality programs.*
- d. *The CCESD is also hereby authorized to seek additional support, as needed, such as but not limited to donations or funding opportunities, through partnerships with private entities and non-governmental organizations.*
- e. *The CCESD shall submit an annual report to the Sangguniang Panlungsod and the Office of the City Mayor on the status and effectiveness of air quality initiatives.*

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SECTION 11. PENALTIES. –

- a. Any individual found smoking or operating an idling vehicle within a school zone shall be issued an Ordinance Violation Receipt (OVR) and shall be fined as follows:
1. First Offense: Php500.00;
  2. Second Offense: Php1,000.00;
  3. Third and Subsequent Offenses: Php2,000.00;
  4. The TTMD shall endorse to the Land Transportation Office (LTO) the revocation of the driver's license of the habitual offender;
  5. The TTMD shall endorse to the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) or the Tricycle Franchising Board (TFB) the revocation of the franchise of the public vehicle of the habitual offender; and
  6. For the purposes of this Ordinance, a habitual offender shall be defined as any individual who commits three (3) or more violations of this Ordinance within a 12-month period, as evidenced by OVRs issued for smoking, vaping or idling of vehicles within school zones.
- b. Government employees who shall violate this Ordinance shall be subjected to administrative penalties, upon due process.

SECTION 12. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The CCESD and the TTMD, in coordination with the QCHD, the Schools Division Office – Quezon City and the Quezon City Education Affairs Unit, in consultation with the various stakeholders, shall formulate the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) within 60 days from the effectivity of this Ordinance.

SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If any provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall not be affected and shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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*SECTION 14. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All ordinances, resolutions or local issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.*

*SECTION 15. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Ordinance shall take effect after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation, and after posting of copies in conspicuous locations within Quezon City.*

*ENACTED: March 25, 2025.*

  
GIAN G. SOTTO  
City Vice Mayor  
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

  
MARILYN JANET B. BUL-LALAYAO  
Legislative Staff Officer VI  
OIC, City Council Secretary

APPROVED: JUN 27 2025

  
MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE  
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

*This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on March 25, 2025 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading under Suspended Rules on the same date.*

  
MARILYN JANET B. BUL-LALAYAO  
Legislative Staff Officer VI  
OIC, City Council Secretary

 