



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
23rd City Council

PO23CC-162

41st Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 3494, S-2026

AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING THE QUEZON CITY ANIMAL WELFARE PROGRAM UNDER THE CITY VETERINARY DEPARTMENT, RATIONALIZING THE DEPARTMENT'S COLLECTION OF FEES AND CHARGES UNDER QUEZON CITY ORDINANCE NO. SP-2854, S-2019, AS AMENDED, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Councilor KRISTINE ALEXIA MATIAS, RN

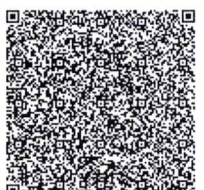
Co-Introduced by Councilors Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Bernard R. Herrera, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Charm Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD, Nicole "Nikki" V. Crisologo, Mikey F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Atty. Voltaire Godofredo "Bong" Liban III, Aly Medalla, Dave C. Valmocina, Ranulfo "Tatay Rannie" Z. Ludovica, Geleen "Dok G" Lumbad, Atty. Christoffer Allan "Tope" Liquigan, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Don S. De Leon, Luigi D. Pumaren, Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr., Edgar "Egay" G. Yap, Nanette Castelo Daza, Imee Rillo, Atty. Jesus Miguel Suntay, Raquel S. Malañgen, Joseph Joe Visaya, Aiko Melendez, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Karl Edgar Castelo, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Victor "Vic" D. Bernardo, Vito Sotto Generoso, Erwin Rey "Cocoy" A. Medina, Jose Maria "Mari" M. Rodriguez, and Jhon Angelli "Sami" C. Neri

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them, as well as protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, mandates local government units (LGUs) to promote the health and safety of their constituents and exercise such powers, which are necessary, appropriate, and incidental to the promotion of the general welfare;

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WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8485, otherwise known as the Animal Welfare Act of 1998, mandates the protection and promotion of the welfare of animals by, among others, making it unlawful for any person to neglect to provide adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat any animal;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9482, otherwise known as the Anti-Rabies Act of 2007, establishes a system for the control, prevention of the spread, and eventual eradication of human and animal rabies, by establishing the need for responsible pet ownership;

WHEREAS, Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9482 requires all pet owners to, among others, have their dog regularly vaccinated against rabies, submit their dogs for mandatory registration, and be a responsible owner by providing their dogs with proper grooming, adequate food, and clean shelter;

WHEREAS, the Quezon City Government has enacted important local measures at the intersection of public health and animal welfare, including Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-2413, S-2015 entitled "An Ordinance Creating the Veterinary Services Division into City Veterinary Department, Expanding its Functions and Providing for its Annual Appropriations," Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-2389, S-2015 entitled "An Ordinance Adopting the Quezon City Veterinary Code and for Other Purposes," and Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-2505, S-2016 entitled "An Ordinance Adopting the Revised Quezon City Veterinary Code, and for Other Purposes";

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Ordinance No. SP-2854, S-2019 entitled "An Ordinance Establishing A Public Veterinary Clinic which will Provide Affordable Health Care Services For Domesticated Pets/ Animals Within The Territorial Jurisdiction Of Quezon City," which provides for the establishment of the Quezon City Public Veterinary Clinic, prescribes and authorizes a schedule of fees and charges to give low-income pet owners access to affordable veterinary services;

WHEREAS, Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-3023, S-2021 entitled "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. SP-2854, S-2019, otherwise known as the Quezon City Public Veterinary Clinic Ordinance Providing for a Definition of Terms, Updating Schedule of Fees and Charges and Including the City Legal Department as part of Implementing Committee" amended and updated the schedule of fees and charges set forth in Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-2854, S-2019 and has since served as the prevailing rate for such services;

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WHEREAS, the Quezon City Veterinary Department has been at the forefront of implementing these national and local policies to enhance, support, and promote animal health, animal welfare, public health, and food security, recognizing that veterinary services are indispensable and form part of the basic services for the protection of our communities;

WHEREAS, for its landmark efforts in animal welfare, the Quezon City Government and the Quezon City Veterinary Department have been recipients of multiple awards and recognitions, among them, the recent Distinguished Award for Advancing Animal Welfare, given in January 2026 by the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Animal Industry;

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Animal Industry cited numerous initiatives of the Quezon City Government, including its pet evacuation centers, rapid rescue operations, massive public health programs, its "Stray Animals as Service Dogs" program, its modern facilities such as the Quezon City Animal Care and Adoption Center in Barangay Payatas, and its digital innovation through the pet e-registration and microchipping to aid in pet identification and health monitoring;

WHEREAS, the Quezon City Government affirms its commitment to the World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Organization for Animal Health, and the Global Alliance for Rabies Control's efforts to end human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030, also known as the "Zero by 30" initiative;

WHEREAS, the "Zero by 30" initiative outlines three objectives: to effectively use vaccines, medicines, tools, and technologies, thereby reducing human rabies risk; to generate, innovate, and measure impact, thereby providing guidance and data; and to sustain commitment and resources, thereby harnessing multi-stakeholder engagement;

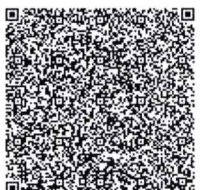
WHEREAS, strengthening the efforts of the Quezon City Veterinary Department and accelerating the Quezon City Government's efforts to achieve the objectives of the global "Zero by 30" initiative will require the review and rationalization of the Quezon City Veterinary Department's schedule of fees and charges and, in the interregnum, the suspension of its imposition to catalyze service provision and ensure, as far as practicable, universal access for all responsible pet owners in the City.

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NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. TITLE. – This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the
“Quezon City Universal Access to Public Veterinary Services Ordinance.”

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. – It shall be the policy of
the Quezon City Government to promote sustainable and responsible
pet ownership; to invest in rabies elimination to save lives and strengthen
both human and veterinary health systems; and to support global, national,
and sub-national efforts towards the elimination of human deaths from
dog-mediated rabies by 2030 and beyond.

Towards this end, the Quezon City Government shall support the
progressive enhancement of the services and programs provided by the
Quezon City Veterinary Department and sustain its commitment and
resources for multi-stakeholder engagement in animal welfare, with focus on
rabies elimination.

SECTION 3. STRENGTHENING OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE
PROGRAM. – The Quezon City Veterinary Department shall adopt the World
Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization, World Organization
for Animal Health, and Global Alliance for Rabies Control’s Zero by 30
objectives and strategies, as part of its programmatic and policy framework
in its services for all QCitizens, insofar as these are consistent with national
and local laws.

SECTION 4. PROGRESSIVE UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO PUBLIC
VETERINARY SERVICES. – In furtherance of the City’s policy to strengthen
animal welfare and rabies elimination efforts, the Quezon City Veterinary
Department shall progressively expand access to its public veterinary
services and, subject to the availability of appropriations and sound fiscal
management, prioritize the provisions of such services free of charge for
Quezon City citizens living within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City.

SECTION 5. RATIFICATION OF PRIOR NON-COLLECTION OF
FEES. – The prior non-collection of fees and charges for public veterinary
services under Section 4 of Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-2854, S-2019, as
amended by Section 2 of Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-3023, S-2021,
during periods preceding the effectivity of this Ordinance, is hereby ratified
and confirmed as a valid exercise of administrative discretion in furtherance
of public health, animal welfare, and rabies control objectives.

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No refund shall be due to any person who previously paid the applicable fees, and no claim shall arise against the Quezon City Government.

SECTION 6. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION. – The City Veterinary Department, in coordination with the Public Affairs and Information Services Department (PAISD) shall develop and implement a communications and social media plan aimed at disseminating accurate and effective information regarding the programs and projects conducted in relation to this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – This Ordinance shall be self-executory and shall not require the issuance of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for its enforcement and implementation.

However, when deemed necessary for purposes of operational clarity, administrative coordination, or effective program implementation, the City Veterinary Department, in coordination with relevant Quezon City Government departments and offices, and in consultation with appropriate stakeholders, may promulgate supplemental implementing rules or guidelines, subject to the approval of the City Mayor.

Such supplemental rules and guidelines shall be consistent with the provisions of this Ordinance and shall not expand, amend, or diminish its substantive provisions.

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION. – The implementation of this Ordinance shall be funded from the existing appropriations of the City Veterinary Department under the approved Annual Budget of the Quezon City Government for the current fiscal year.

Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the Annual Investment Program (AIP) and appropriated in the succeeding Annual Budgets, subject to existing budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws, rules and regulations. In no case shall the implementation of this Ordinance be construed as authorizing expenditures beyond available appropriations.

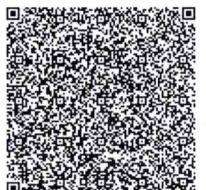
SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – Should any provision of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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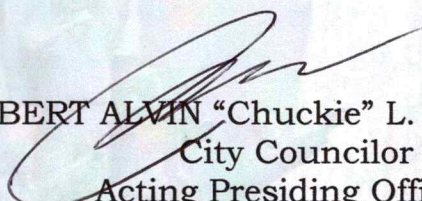
SECTION 10. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All Quezon City ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, memorandum circulars, and administrative regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED: April 13, 2026.

CERTIFICATION

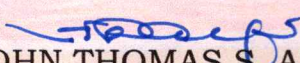
This is to certify that this Ordinance was ENACTED by the City Council on Second Reading on April 13, 2026 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on April 22, 2026.


ALBERT ALVIN "Chuckie" L. ANTONIO III
City Councilor
Acting Presiding Officer

APPROVED: JUL 06 2026


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

ATTESTED:


ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III
City Government Department Head III
(Secretary to the Sanggunian)

