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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Baguio to file protest versus Cebu Pacific

BAGUIO CITY - The city government will file a protest against the management of Cebu Pacific, a local airline company, for the alleged inconvenience suffered by some of the city's athletes because of the company's reported failure to properly inform the members of the judo contingent changes in their boarding arrangement that their inability to board their flight for Puerto Princesa to join the recently concluded Batang Pinoy national championships.

City Administrator Bonifacio dela Peña said he will meet with the city's judo athletes and their coaches to discuss the intention of the city government to file a protest against the airline company to show that what happened to them was uncalled for and should have not happened in the first place if there was proper coordination with them.

He explained he will also discuss with the athletes and

coaches how to deal with the financial support committed to them by people who remedied their overnight stay in Metro Manila and the purchase of much expensive plane tickets the following day just to be able to catch up with the judo competitions in Puerto Princesa.

Based on the reports that reached the City Administrator's Office, the city's 11-person judo team with their coaches arrived at the terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) two hours before their scheduled flight to Puerto Princesa and were able to check in and waited for their flight in the designated boarding gate.

For still unknown reasons, the boarding gate for their flight was allegedly transferred without prior information and that they only knew of the said transfer at the last minute that caused them to rush to the new boarding gate.

However, the city's judo

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PWD OLYMPICS - Around 400 students with disability from different schools in Baguio City join the annual Olympics for PWD held at the Athletic Bowl on Thursday conducted by the City Government of Baguio through the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) and Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) in coordination with the different schools in the city catering to PWDs. - Glenn Pat-ogan/CMO photos

Mayat

ta pad-padasen ti Baguio nga mangi-push ti consumers' rights, ngem pakawanen dakami apo, we believe this won't prosper. Fix our laws on consumers' rights first.



PEZA-Baguio affirms continuing partnership with TESDA •page 7

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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Mere changing of leaders in Bilibid, useless

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



More on the GCTA

BY: SEN. LEILA DE LIMA

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LTFRB officials summoned by city council on September 16

BAGUIO CITY – The City Council issued an invitation to ranking officials of the Land Transportation Franchising Regulatory Board (LTFRB) to appear before its regular session on Monday, September 16, 2019 to shed light on the circumstances that caused the regulatory agency to grant the issuance of franchises to some 200 taxi units plying the city's route.

The local legislative body came out with the decision to first invite the LTFRB officials to shed light on the issuance of the franchises to the taxi units to check on whether or not the city needs the additional taxi units to cater to the growing transportation needs of both the residents and tourists alike.

Also pending action by the local legislative body is a proposed resolution opposing the implementation of Memorandum Circular No. 2019-016 of the LTFRB with the subject relative to the opening of additional taxi franchises for Baguio city and La Trinidad, Benguet to any point in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) and in Butuan City to any point of the CARAGA Region.

The local legislative body reminded the LTFRB that the moratorium on the issuance of franchises to applicants of the operation of public utility vehicles is still in effect, thus, whatever action that will be undertaken by the LTFRB should pass the endorsement of the city council.

Earlier, Mayor Benjamin B. Magalong expressed disappointment over the attempts of the LTFRB and concerned transport setors to circumvent the existing moratorium on the issuance of franchises to public utility vehicles by acting on the applications of those wanting to operate taxis plying the route La Trinidad to any point of the Cordillera but plying the routes inside the city.

The local chief executive argued that the eventual operation of the additional taxi units will further aggravate the prevailing traffic congestions in the different parts of the city that could significantly affect the stress-free and convenient travel of motorists inside and outside the city.

Local legislators agreed to invite the concerned LTFRB officials to explain the reason why the additional taxi fran-

chises were opened despite the pending moratorium that was issued by the same agency over two decades ago and for the LTFRB to come out with a justifiable reason to support the said issuance that seems to contradict the existing moratorium.

Based on the data of the LTFRB-CAR, there are over 3,200 taxi units with legitimate franchises that are operating in the city aside from the alleged increasing number of reported colorum taxi units.

The local legislative body expressed confidence that LTFRB officials will heed the invitation unlike in previous instances in the past that they refused to appear when they were given formal invitations for them to explain various issues surrounding the issuance of franchises to different public utility vehicles plying the city's route despite the implementation of the moratorium on the same.

The LTFRB reportedly issued 200 taxi franchises on fleet management and another 200 units in lieu of the taxi units that have already ceased to operate in the city./Dexter A. See



TRASH DEODORANT - Acting on the order of General Services Officer Eugene Buyucan, Marcos Highway Waste Transfer Station foreman Michael Innad sprays a chemical byproduct 6-10 times-a-day to ensure that all plastics and other non-biodegradable waste materials are disinfected and free from any foul smell to protect the health of residents and passing motorists. - By Bong Cayabyab

Fountain at Session Road proposed

vehicular traffic.
The ordinance stipu-

BAGUIO CITY – The City Council approved an ordinance designating the City Buildings and Architecture Office (CBAO), in coordination with the Tourism and Special Events Division of the City Administrator's Office, to provide for the design and construction of a fountain to be installed at the rotunda of Session Road to serve as a new tourism landmark in the city and allocating the amount of P400,000, or so much thereof, for the said purpose.

The ordinance authored by Vice Mayor Faustino A. Olowan and Councilor Elaine D. Sembrano states

the aforesaid offices may acquire the expertise of local architects and artists in the city in the designing of the fountain to conform with the branding to be adopted for the continuous promotion of the city as a prime tourist destination.

Under the proposed ordinance, the design of the fountain shall be first presented to the City Mayor and the members of the City Council for approval prior to the construction of the same at the available space at the rotunda and should not exceed the radius of the area to prevent it from posing obstruction to

lates the amount required for the project shall cover the cost for the design and construction if the same will be built by the concerned departments of the city government.

However, the ordinance added that the construction of the fountain could be bid out as may be authorized under existing law, rules and regulations and pursuant to the decision of the city's Bids and Awards Committee (BAC).

Republic Act (RA) 9593 or the Tourism Act of 2009 states the State shall seek to create a favourable image of the country thereby strengthening the

Cont. on page 6

No Saturday classes yet for students

BAGUIO CITY – The Division of City Schools of the Department of Education underscored that public and private schools in the city should await the issuance of an official division memorandum before scheduling Saturday classes for their students in lieu of the school days when classes were suspended due to bad weather conditions.

City Schools Division Superintendent Dr. Federico Martin disclosed there is still sufficient number of buffer days in the current school-year to offset the number of days that classes in both private and public schools in the city were suspended due to inclement weather.

Instructions through a division memorandum will be issued to the different

private and public schools in the city once the existing buffer days will be exhausted so that the affected students will have to hold make-up classes on Saturdays.

For the current school-year, the education official claimed there are still less than 10 buffer days left to offset the number of days when classes suspended thus students in both private and public schools will not yet undergo make-up classes as mandated by existing laws, rules and regulations.

"We are keeping our fingers crossed that the weather condition in the city will start improving so that there will be no declaration of suspension of classes in both private and public schools in the city that might affect the momentum of the students in the learning process," Martin stressed.

Based on existing policies of the education department, there are over 200 school days in a school calendar

Cont. on page 6

Giving alms to beggars in city, discouraged

on behalf
of Mayor
Benjamin

BAGUIO CITY – The public is advised not to give "palimos" or alms to vagrants or mendicants in the Summer Capital since this will only encourage them to be dependent on the kindness of strangers and go on begging, among others.

This was stressed by city social welfare and development office head Betty Fangasan during the Anti-Mendicancy Task Force meeting Thursday at the City Mayor's Office that tackled the group's reconstitution

to address the continuous proliferation of mendicants in the city's parks especially during Yuletide Season.

She suggested that instead of giving alms which would only perpetuate a culture of dependency, those wanting to help mendicants or vagrants can course their donations to accredited and reputable organizations whose mandates are to alleviate the plight of the latter.

Chaired by secretary to the Mayor Philip Puzon

Magalong who was out of the country on official business, the meeting was attended by heads and representatives of various local government offices, agencies, transportation companies, and other concerned organizations.

Those present also reviewed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) earlier entered into by the different groups that spells out their functions and responsibilities targeted to address

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DPWH-CAR proposes P3 B for Kennon Road slope protection

series of tunnel and bridges with a length of more than 19 kilometers estimated at

BAGUIO CITY - The Department of Public Works and Highways - Cordillera is proposing more than P3 billion for the slope protection of Kennon Road to ensure safety of motorists and residents.

DPWH-CAR Engineer Arnold Dacwag presented an updated plan for the rehabilitation of Kennon Road with placement of various slope protection methods that are appropriate and are needed for the slopes and terrain of the different sections of the 34-kilometer Kennon Road.

During the recent Cordillera Regional Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Council - Task Group Kennon Road, Dacwag presented that as of August 2019, there are 21 critical sections along Kennon Road covering Baguio City and Tuba, Benguet that need the proposed more than P3.7 B funding.

Of the 21 critical sections, at least 14 sections have been identified as first priority or areas that need immediate action due to the imminent danger while the seven sections are in the second priority.

Dacwag explained that

the critical areas need rock netting with slope trimming, retaining walls, crib walls, and soil nailing. These slope protection interventions which are being done in some portions of Kennon Road and other road networks in the Cordillera ensure stability of the road terrains.

He added that at least five sections of the first priority areas need bigger intervention such as building of rock sheds because of the perceived rock mass that tend to erode.

Dacwag said that these slope protection measures do not necessarily make Kennon Road into an "all-weather road" but this would make Kennon Road as a safer road for residents and non-residents who would be passing the scenic road.

Of the proposed more than P3.7 B proposed funding, at least P640, 000 has been funded and to be implemented this 2019 which includes rock netting with retaining wall and slope trimming.

Aside from the immediate slope protection methods for Kennon Road, Dacwag presented another future proposal for the road line which is the building of

P38 B.

Meanwhile, during the CRDRRMC- Task Group meeting, CRDRRMC Chair OCD-CAR Regional Director Albert Mogol presented the Task Group Kennon Road to Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalong and explained the role of the task group which aims to provide a framework for cooperation among member agencies for a safe and efficient movement of road users along Kennon Road through well-coordinated administration and regulation of access and incident management activities.

Mogol said the various member agencies signed a memorandum of understanding that provides the role and commitment of each agency and LGUs down to the barangay level for the implementation of the serious control of vehicles passing through Kennon Road.

During the meeting, DPWH-CAR Regional Director Tiburcio Canlas reminded that Kennon Road is open to residents only and remains closed to non-residents as recommended by the Task Group. (JDP/RMC-PIA CAR)



DPWH-CAR Engineer Arnold Dacwag presents an updated plan for the rehabilitation of Kennon Road during the CRDRRMC - Kennon Road Task Group meeting at the OCD-CAR in Baguio City. (RMC-PIA CAR)

Comelec brings voter registration to PMA cadets, soldiers

tion document like birth, baptismal or marriage

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City -- The Commission on Elections (Comelec) brought on Thursday its off-site voter registration to the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) here to accommodate the cadets and soldiers of the top military school.

"First we went to the BCPO [Baguio City Police Office] to register our policemen, now we are here in PMA to give service to our partners from the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] through the PMA," said lawyer John Paul Martin, Baguio city election officer.

"We are inviting all employees of PMA, the officials, cadets to come and register as a voter," Martin said who also urged residents in nearby communities to avail of ongoing registration and avoid the inconvenience of queuing.

He said for the whole month of September, the last month of registration for the 2020 barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan

(SK) election, they have several on-site registrations to include more people to be voters.

"We try as inclusive as possible by going out and encouraging all organizations, all groups- the students, officers, cadets to join in the process, making themselves count in the democratic process," Martin said.

For August alone, more than 4,000 voters have been registered.

However, this is not expected to increase the number of voters because, in Baguio alone, there have been around 30,000 voters who were delisted for failure to cast their votes in the last two elections.

"From 164,000, our list was trimmed to 130,000," Martin said.

Those who prefer to proceed to the Comelec office can do so from Monday to Saturday starting at 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Comelec official said.

Registrants must bring with them an identifica-

certificate and valid ID, if possible.

PMA information officer Maj. Reynan Afan said the academy has about 2,000 personnel, including the cadets.

He said they always have the cadets register as voters in Baguio considering that they will stay in the academy for four years.

To date, there are 1,100 cadets in the PMA.

"We also want to pursue the interest of PMA, we would like to have a greater voice in the governance of the local government and national government through our right of suffrage," Afan said.

First-time voter

Seaman 2nd Class Han Jerrick Javier, 25, who was among the more 2,000 expected to register at the PMA off-site registration, said he looks forward to casting his vote for the first time.

"Ngayon pa lang ako nag-parehisto at sana maka-boto rin

Cont. on page 6

Baguio Water District, social clubs move to save forest

Club, Benguet Optometrist

BAGUIO CITY--The Baguio Water District (BWD) and the various Lions Clubs in the city are joining forces to protect the watersheds where the majority of the city's water supply is sourced.

The 13 Lions Clubs in

Baguio are Baguio City Host Lions Club, Baguio Everlasting Lions Club, Baguio Magnolia Lions Club, Baguio Sunflower Lions Club, Baguio Chrysanthemum Lions Club, Cordillera Adivay Lions Club, Baguio Kindasan Lions

Lions Club, Baguio Pines City Lions Club, Metro Baguio Lions Club, Baguio Burnham Lions Club, Baguio SLU Medicine Campus Lions Club, and Baguio Family and Friends Lions Club have signed a memorandum of agreement adopting the

Cont. on page 6

of P40,000 which represents almost one half of the total expenses they shelled out just for them to be able to reach their destination in time for the games that were scheduled for the national championships.

The city administrator expressed his sincerest gratitude, in behalf of the local government, to the kind-hearted people who raised some funds to help the athletes, saying that the matter will also be discussed during their meeting. (Dexter A. See

Baguio to file protest...

from page 1

athletes and coaches were not allowed to board their flight amidst their persistent appeals for them to be allowed to board as they were able to check in much earlier than scheduled but their pleas landed in deaf ears.

Through the effort of their coaches, the judo athletes stayed overnight in Metro Manila and were able to purchase much expensive plane tickets to Puerto Princesa the following day to be able to catch up with their scheduled competitions.

The said incident went viral in social media when it was posted by the embattled judo athletes and their coaches and the same got the attention of kind-hearted individuals locally and overseas who reportedly pledged financial support to them to be able to recover the losses they incurred due to the said unfortunate incident.

Dela Peña claimed Cebu Pacific reportedly promised to reimburse to the members of the city's delegation the amount

Giving alms to beggars...

from page 2

concerns and issues regarding mendicants and vagrants in the Summer Capital.

Their suggestions and recommendations will be incorporated by the CSWDO into the strengthening of the MOA to be signed by the parties concerned next week and presented to the Mayor for approval.

The agreement claims that the proliferation of mendicants here, particularly those coming from nearby provinces and municipalities has allegedly alarmed and created fear among local residents. It states that PD 1563 or the "Anti-Mendicancy Law" calls for the establishment of an Integrated System for the control and eradication of mendicancy.

"In order to achieve the objectives of acceler- →

ating the participation of the community towards the eradication of mendicancy and increasing public awareness on the role of the family, different sectors of society in their contribution to mental health, there is a need for the city to reactivate and strengthen the City Task Force on Anti-Mendicancy to be participated by government agencies, non-government agencies and the private sector," the MOA states. / Gaby Keith

Sal Panelo's sleight of hand

By: Teddy A. Casiño (www.rappler.com)

Chief Presidential Legal Counsel and Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo is in hot water for dipping his hands into the failed attempt to grant clemency for convicted rapist and killer Antonio Sanchez earlier this year.

The Senate investigation on the aborted early release of Sanchez showed that Panelo had referred a request of the Sanchez family to the Board of Pardons and Parole (BPP) to grant executive clemency to the former mayor. Panelo later admitted that he met with the members of the family thrice in his office.

Panelo insists that he did nothing wrong or unethical. He says his actions were merely ministerial and that as a public official, he was duty bound to meet with and act on the request of the Sanchez family.

This is, of course, untrue.

When I was in Congress, I would receive many requests to facilitate this or that action from another government agency. There were requests for me to ask some agency or official to do their jobs. There were requests seeking recommendations for certain government posts. Some would ask help for their transactions to be acted upon favorably, and some would ask me to simply inquire about the status of their permits or applications.

The power of your office

EDITORIAL

In all cases, the objective was to have a powerful official, in my case a congressman, express interest or intervene in their dealings to elicit some favorable action. The thinking behind this was that no agency or government official could refuse a member of Congress, especially since we could make things hard during the budget hearings.

I would have two basic options on these kinds of requests:

One, if the request were self-serving, dubious, involved any conflict of interest, or was not related to my function as a congressman, I would simply inform the requesting party that I am not in a position to act on their request or that it is not my office's policy to act on such requests. End of discussion.

Two, if the request was valid, I would write a letter to the concerned agency referring the matter for appropriate action, monitor and even follow it up if needed.

In Panelo's case, it is important to note that he served as Sanchez' lawyer in the rape and homicide case that landed his client in jail. This immediately puts him in a conflict of interest situation. As defense lawyer, he argued that his client was innocent and did everything he could to avoid a jail sentence. A grant of clemency for his former client would certainly be in his and his client's interest.

Panelo says that he lawyered for Sanchez a long time ago. It does not matter. Take note that judges are often asked to inhibit in cases involving lawyers who were their law school classmates even 30 years ago.

Moreover, Panelo is the legal adviser to the President. His opinion would most likely be sought in any grant of clemency by the President. Thus, prudence dictates that he avoids prematurely acting on a matter that would most likely end up on his desk.

Was Panelo obliged?

Was Panelo duty bound to refer Sanchez's request for clemency to the BPP? Would he be legally or administratively liable for not sending such a referral? Of course not.

To be sure, he was required by law to answer the email

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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

**Mere changing of leaders in
Bilibid, useless**

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "...Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will..." (Romans 12:2, the Holy Bible).

-000-

MERE CHANGING OF LEADERS IN BILIBID IS USELESS:

Here we go again, with our ranking government officials rambling once more on how they would solve the scandal currently rocking the National Penitentiary (Bilibid) in Muntinlupa City involving convicts being released prematurely on account of the law on "good conduct and time allowance" (GCTA). Indeed, they never learned. Indeed, it is clear they have no inspiration coming from our God and Savior whose Name is Jesus.

Why am I saying this? Well, led by Justice Secretary Meynardo Guevarra himself, our officials are mightily pushing once again the replacement of the current bureaucracy---from its leaders down to its lowliest employees---in Bilibid, with a new set of functionaries, allegedly as an antidote to the corruption and anomalies arising from what is now known infamously as "GCTA for sale".

Oh well! This was already tried before, but corruption and anomalies continued to hound the national penitentiary. Recall that at the height of an earlier scandal that dragged high ranking prison officials as being part of drug syndicates operating right inside the detention facility, the Duterte government sacked all Bilibid officials then, and replaced them with elements of the Special Action Force (SAF) of the Philippine National Police (PNP)? Did that change anything?

-000-

RP GOV'T OFFICIALS HAVE NO DISCERNMENT FROM GOD:

Isn't it a fact that corruption and anomalous transactions at the Bilibid prisons continued unabated despite the entry of Special Action Force (SAF) elements there? Proof of this is the raging scandal gripping the national penitentiary at present where convicts are said to be released on account of the good conduct time allowance law, after paying hefty sums to unscrupulous prison officials.

If our readers here in Kakampi Mo Ang Batas will recall, we have been repeatedly saying here, when the scandal about drug syndicates continuing with their nefarious trade inside Bilibid broke out, that mere replacement of prison officials and personnel will not solve anything. No matter how many times officials and personnel of the facility are changed and replaced, nothing will change if the replacements have also no fear and love of our God and Savior whose Name is Jesus.

Which is what is actually happening, right? I am **Cont. on page 6**

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Kakampi mo ang batas*from page 4*

tempted to tell the Duterte government “I already told you so, but you did not believe me”, but I guess it doesn’t matter anymore. What is truly sad for the country and our people here is the undeniable truth that many of our ranking officials in government have no discernment from God or about God’s commands, so that they have been total failures in achieving something beneficial for the country, not even the change that President Duterte promised in 2016.

-000-

TALAGANG MASAMANAANG MARAMI SA NGAYON: Lets read once more what we wrote here in Kakampi Mo Ang Batas on July 27, 2017: “I am tempted to say, ‘I told you so’, but then, let me repeat the truth: what I have been saying about evil and criminality in our midst are not really mine. They come from the Christian Bible. This book says many people will become truly sinful and bad and evil during our time.

“The reason given for this phenomenon is that, man (and, yes, Filipinos in particular) will leave the faith, and will no longer listen to sound teaching or instruction, and will instead take fancy of deceiving thoughts and doctrines from the devil. They will care about nothing except themselves. They will be wild, slanderous, and will have no fear and love of God. In fact, many will even deny God and His human incarnation, Jesus.

“Consequently, it would be very easy for almost everyone to commit heinous acts---from raping and killing even mere babies and octogenarian women, to stealing billions in government funds in more ways than one, to dispensing uneven justice, acquitting the guilty and persecuting and jailing the innocent...”

-000-

REACTIONS? Call 0977 805 9058, 0918 574 0193, 0933 8251308, or my Messenger account in Facebook, Melanio Lazo Mauricio Jr. Or you could email me at batasmauricio@yahoo.com, mmauriciojr11@gmail.com, or send your comments or queries at www.facebook.com/attybatas.

Editorial*from page 4*

request of the Sanchez family within 15 working days. But he could have just emailed the family back, informing them that he could not act on their request. That would have been enough to comply with the law.

But no. He referred the request to the BPP in his official capacity as chief presidential legal counsel.

On its face, there is nothing irregular or illegal in the wordings of Panelo’s referral. What the letter implies, though, is that the presidential legal counsel finds the request valid, thus the positive action of referring it to the concerned agency for appropriate action.

In my experience as a congressman, I only

DISPATCH FROM CRAME*More on the GCTA***BY: SEN. LEILA DE LIMA**

Sa oras ng laglagan sa Administrasyong Duterte, iisa lamang ang palaging palusot ng mga opisyaes nito, ang ituro ang nakaraang Administrasyong Aquino. Ito ang pahayag ng tagapagsalita nito na si Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador Panelo pagkatapos na mabuking sila pareho ni Faeldon – si Panelo sa kanyang sulat sa Board of Pardons and Parole na bigyan ng “preferential” na tugon ang hiling ni ex-Mayor Sanchez na mapalaya na siya at si Faeldon naman ay sa kanyang pag-amin na siya nga ang lumagda sa Memorandum of Release para kay Sanchez na klarong hindi karapat-dapat gantimpalaan ng GCTA. Ang kakapal ng mga apog nila!

Sila ang mga pumapalpak, sila ang mga nambabastos sa batas, at sila ang gabundok na ang mga kasalanan sa taumbayan, kami pa rin ang sinisisi.

Unbelievably shameless!

o0o

I humbly appeal to my colleagues in both Chambers of Congress to dredge, foremost, into our collective consciousness, the merits of the GCTA Law (both the original and amendatory provisions) as rooted in the restorative philosophy or principles that underlie our modern criminal justice and correctional systems.

Let not the legitimacy and the well-settled wisdom of the law be clouded or demolished by its misapplication, abuses in enforcement or wrongdoings on the part of the designated implementors of the law.

Let’s improve the law and/or the IRR, if we must. But, please, let’s not abrogate it. To junk this law is to retrogress from hard-won triumphs in the legal universe.

To paraphrase a line from a movie which tackles, in part, the fluid majesty of Law, “we ought not to be affected by the weather of the day,” but should be by the “climate of the era.”

o0o

Just to be clear. Good Conduct Time Allowance (GCTA) is not a new concept or creation of RA 10592 enacted in 2013. The latter amendatory law merely increased the periods of the deductible GCTA already provided for under Act No. 3815, or the Revised Penal Code, circa 1932.

In fact, a much older statute, Act No. 1533 of the Philippine Commission, which took effect in 30 Aug. 1906, also mandated a similar benefit of diminished period of sentence

referred requests which I found just and reasonable because I knew my referral, however benign, carried some weight owing to my office.

Panelo should know

That’s why it was not surprising that to BPP chief Reynaldo Bayang, Panelo’s letter constituted a positive recommendation for clemency. Because that’s how it is with these “referrals” from people higher than

for convicts who have “not been guilty of a violation of discipline or any of the rules of prison, and [have] labored with diligence and fidelity upon all such tasks as have been assigned to [them].”

All this time, as far as I know, no controversy has erupted from the GCTA issue. Ngayon lang, dahil sa kapalpak o posibleng kalokohan o korapsyon sa panig ng mga tagapagpatupad ng RA 10592.

Cont. on page 6**SALE OF PUBLIC LAND**

Notice is hereby given that the Patent and Deeds, DENR-CAR at PENRO Benguet, Wangal, La Trinidad, Benguet will sell through oral bidding at exactly 10 o’clock (10:00) A.M. on December 23, 2019 the tract of land described below:

Location:	Res. Sec. “L”, Irisan, Baguio City
Description:	RESIDENTIAL LAND
Area:	232 Square Meters
Appraised Value of Land:	Php 1,775.00 per square meter
Improvements:	Php 1,950,000.00
Reference:	TSA 131102-2230
	HILARIO REGNER DIOQUINO

No bid shall be accepted that does not equal at least two-thirds (2/3) of the appraised value of the land. In order that a person may be entitled to participate in the bidding, he must, before the commencement thereof, make a deposit of at least ten percent (10%) of his bid. A person bidding in representation of another may do so under a duly executed power-of-attorney and presentation of any authorized identification card. During the bidding, the bidder has to make an additional deposit every time his bid is raised to complete the 10% of his raised bid; otherwise, such bid as raised shall not be accepted. The chairman of the Bidding Committee reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Only deposits in cash, postal money order, certified check, cashier’s check and manager’s check can be accepted.

All persons interested to participate in the scheduled public auction sale shall submit pre-qualification requirements and subjected to pre-qualification screening on or before fifteen (15) days prior to the day of the auction sale as provided for under the provisions of DENR Memorandum Circular No. 2007-11, series of 2007.

Any bidder must possess all the qualifications and none of the disqualifications to acquire a parcel of land in consonance with the provisions of law; he or his spouse should no be an owner of any home lot within the City of Baguio; he must be equipped with a Certificate of No-Home lot to be secured at the City Assessor’s Office and a Voter’s I.D. (to verify citizen); marriage contract; and birth certificate, which ever is applicable to be presented to the Bidding Committee before the start of the bidding. non-compliance thereof will be an outright ground for disqualification of any interested bidder.

The successful bidder, if other than the applicant, shall reimburse the latter within a period of 120 days from the date of bidding of the total value of the improvements, the expenses for the publication of the notice of auction sale and the survey cost of the land.

DENR-CAR, Wangal, La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, 18 JULY 2019.

(SGD) CARLOS S. ARIDA, SR., PHD
PENR Officer

Aug. 17, 24, 31 & Sept 7, 14, 21, 2019

your pay grade.

Panelo knows this, I’m sure. He wasn’t exactly born yesterday. And that’s probably why he kept mum despite repeated questions from Palace reporters about his involvement in the Sanchez affair.

To the credit of the BPP, it stuck to its earlier decision junking Sanchez’s plea for executive clemency. Between the dire implications of reversing its ruling and earning the goodwill of high officials like Panelo and Imelda Marcos, perhaps they put greater consideration on the former.

And to be fair to Panelo, maybe sending a referral was his way of effectively denying the Sanchez family’s request without hurting their feelings, being their former lawyer. But imagine if the BPP reversed itself and granted clemency on account of his referral? Then he would really be in deep shit.

The BPP’s action notwithstanding, Panelo’s actions could still be considered unethical and, should I say, an attempt to use the power of his office to favor a former client. – **Rappler.com**

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT,
BRANCH 9
(FAMILY COURT FOR BENGUET PROVINCE)
FIRST JUDICIAL REGION
La Trinidad, Benguet

IN RE: PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF THE MINOR PETER JOSH GABRIEL PORTE PLACIDO,

SPOUSES PERRIE NINA ANGELIE P. RAMOS AND MICHAEL D. RAMOS,

-Petitioner

-versus-

LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF BAGUIO CITY, PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY, AND AURELIO G. PLACIDO JR.,

-Respondents,

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS CASE NO. 19-SP-1992

X-----X

ORDER

Petitioners, through counsel, filed a verified Petition for Adoption, praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, judgement be rendered declaring minor Peter Josh Gabriel Porte Placido the child of petitioner Michael D. Ramos and that the adoptee shall be known for all purposes and registered in the Civil Registry of Baguio City as PETER JOSH GABRIEL PORTE RAMOS.

WHEREFORE, finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the petitioners are directed to meet and confer with the Court Social Worker for the conduct of the Child and Home study in relation to this Petition. The Court Social Worker therefore is directed

to conduct a Child and Home Study and submit to this court her REPORTS, incorporating therein her findings and recommendations, and furnishing copies thereof to the Office of the Solicitor General and to the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet. The said offices may or may not file the Comment to said REPORTS.

The REPORT of the Court Social Worker should be submitted to this court at least fifteen (15) days before the initial hearing of this Petition, which shall be on October 9, 2019 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.

Let this ORDER be published at the expense of the Petitioner in the THE JUNCTION, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province and the Cordillera Administrative Region, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks. The first publication to be made not later than August 25, 2019. All interested persons may come to court and show cause, if any, why this Petition should not be granted.

Furnish copies of this ORDER, together with copies of Petition and its annexes, to the Office of the Solicitor General; the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; the Local Civil Registrar of Baguio City; the Philippine Statistics Authority; and the Court Social Worker. Furnish copies of this ORDER to THE Junction and the petitioners and counsel.

SO ORDERED.

IN CHAMBER, this 14th day of August 2019, at La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines.

(SGD) MARIETTA S. BRAWNER - CUALING
Judge

August 17, 24 & 31, 2019

Last year, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 54, series of 2018 approving the request of the CBAO for the payment of the cost of clothing material used for the tinatik art Christmas tree installed at the rotunda at the top of Session Road but unfortunately, the same was removed after a portion of it was burned by vandals.

The ordinance pointed out

Baguio Water District...

from page 3

protect, continue reforestation and nurture.

There are about 400 lions club members in Baguio, 200 of which are actively involved in club projects.

"We opted to join forces as a regional group for a bigger impact," Jefferson Ng, Cordillera region chairman told the Philippine News Agency (PNA) on Tuesday.

The BWD protects and maintains several watersheds, as a primary source of water for the residents and the commercial establishments.

Among them are the Camp 8, Buyog, Busol, partly that of Santo Tomas and the Forbes Park which they have endeavored to also protect. These watersheds support the production of water for the underground aquifers which are also sourced by the water distribution utility. Several pumping stations have been established aside from impounding facilities within the watersheds as a source for the city's needs.

The agreement with the Lions clubs is a renewal of the commitment of the private organizations through its regional chairman making them all "muyong" holders of the watershed, committing to help protect and preserve the reservations.

"Muyong" is an indigenous practice in Ifugao province where the holder protects the area designated as his forest.

The MOA will be for a period of three years that will primarily focus on Busol watershed, Buyog, Camp 8 and Sto. Tomas.

Among the activities that will be done are tree planting held during the planting months while nurturing activi-

Cont. on page 7

No Saturday classes yet...

from page 2

are mandated to attend at least 180 school days for them to complete the school year while part of the school days have been reserved by the agency as buffer days to offset the number of days when classes are suspended because of declared official holidays and suspension of classes due to the prevalence of bad weather condition, especially in various parts of the country where bad weather prevails during some parts of the school year.

According to him, the conduct of make-up classes on Saturdays should be sanctioned by the education department, thus, administrators of private and public schools should wait for pronouncements from the education department on the said matter to avoid unnecessary confusion among students and parents.

Martin revealed that more than 10 buffer days have already been used up for the first two months of classes due to regular and special holidays and the declaration from local chief executives on the suspension of classes in certain levels during the prolonged monsoon rains last month but there are still sufficient buffer days that could offset other special and regular holidays among other instances when classes will be suspended in the coming months.

He appealed to parents and students to understand the decisions that will be handed down by the agency once the buffer days will be exhausted as what is important is for the learning process not to be unduly interrupted by unexpected declaration of suspension of classes./Dexter A. See

Fountain at session road...

from page 2

tourist destination and eventually pave the way for other benefits that may result from a positive global view of the Philippines. According to the proposed ordinance, the tourism industry in the Philippines has become broader, changing rapidly, and is now more competitive, thus, local government units push to stand out to draw the interest and attend to the demands of tourists for new attractions and highlights from present and future tourist destinations around the archipelago.

there is a need to install a more permanent structure that would be an all-year feature at the area and that the same could be provided with other features such as dancing lights; Christmas music during the Yuletide season; or even the theme song of the Baguio flower festival during the months of February and March.

The proponents expressed the view that putting an added attraction at the rotunda of Session road will definitely help in sustaining the promotion of the city as one of the prime tourist destinations in the country amidst the innovations being introduced by other local governments to lure tourists to visit their places./Dexter A. See

different watersheds, to

where students

nation's attraction as a

Extrajudicial Settlement of the Estate of the late Delia Aquino Campomanes

Notice is hereby given that the estate of Delia Aquino Campomanes who died on October 7, 2016 at Notre Dame Hospital, Baguio City involving BPI Saving Account number 0573-2379-86 had been the subject of an extrajudicial settlement among the heirs as per Doc. No. 99, Page No. 60; Book no. XXXVII; Series of 2019 dated August 22, 2019 of the notarial registry of Robles G. Calabias of Baguio City

August 24, 31, & Sept 7, 2019

Notice of Extrajudicial Settlement

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of VICENTE ROSARIO, who died on January 22, 2009 in Dagupan City was extrajudicially settled by the heirs on September 6, 2019 as evidenced by Doc. No. 135; Page No. 28; Book No. X; Series of 2019 before the Notary Public Vicente Jose M. Angeles.

Sept. 7, 14, & 21, 2019

Comelec bring voter...

from page 3

(This is my first time to register as a voter and hopefully to cast my vote during an election)," he said.

The native of Cavite, who entered the Philippine Navy at age 21, was never enticed to register because of the difficult and tedious process. But the off-site registration will afford him the chance to exercise his right to suffrage.

Javier said he decided to avail of the off-site registration for a change.

"For a change, para mapabilang din ang boto ko sayang naman (so that my vote will be counted)," he said.

Aside from registering voters, the Comelec is also simultaneously doing an information campaign and lectures to encourage the public to participate in the elections.

The lectures also include the Comelec's anti-vote-buying drive.

"We need to let the people know that we are serious in conducting an election. It will generate awareness in them that they need to register and be able to choose the right leader. For them to know the importance of choosing the right leader and receive the best service from the government," Martin said.

"This is just a small step to achieve a greater goal to inform one person who will inform the others, his peers, the community and achieve the goal of having educated voters," he said. (PNA)

Dispatch from Crame

from page 5

May mga umangal ba dati na ang GCTA Law (Act No. 1533; Sec. 97, RPC, as amended by RA 10592 which was unanimously passed in the 15th Congress) ay isang masamang batas?

Maling mali yung mga nagpapanukala ngayon na alisin na ang GCTA Law. These people are so misguided and unenlightened!

PEZA-Baguio affirms continuing partnership with TESDA

BAGUIO CITY, Aug. 31 (PIA) - The Philippine Economic Zone Authority -Baguio affirms continuing partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Cordillera Regional Office in training skilled workers that are globally competitive and responsive to the present need of industries.

PEZA Baguio Officer in Charge and Deputy Zone Administrator Allan Datahan assured this in his keynote message during the TESDA - CAR 25th Anniversary Awarding Ceremony at Fortune Hotel Wednesday as he congratulated the men and women of TESDA for their continuing work commitment and dedication that are vital in the development of the country's workforce and in helping improving the lives of out of school youth (OSYs), the unemployed, and the underemployed, by providing them skills training towards better work opportunities.

Datahan shared that PEZA has been a long partner of TESDA in their endeavors by bringing in

work opportunities for Technical - Vocation-

al Education and Training (TVET) graduates inside the economic zone; forging partnerships with economic zone locators for on the job skills training in their respective industry, and in adopting scholars for TVET training or skills upgrading of industry workers inside the economic zone.

In affirming PEZA's commitment for a continuing partnership with TESDA, Datahan disclosed that soon they will be bringing the endeavor to the next level, with the PEZA plan of establishing Special Economic Zone Institute.

"TESDA will be our crucial partner in skills training related to economic zone industry activities and in the design and development of eco zone industry - based training curriculum that is responsive to the emerging industry needs and new investment opportunities", he said.

PEZA - Baguio, along with Philippine Information Agency Cordillera and Regional Technical Education and Skills Development Council chairperson (Baguio Councilor) Betty

Lourdes Tabanda were given recognition as outstanding partners of TESDA - CAR in achieving their mandate in the Cordillera.

The Provincial Government of Mountain Province and Ifugao State University were also recognized as "Kabalikat" awardees for being outstanding partners in the promotion and enhancement of technical education and skills development in the region.

Glenda Acevedo of Baguio City School of Arts and Trade and Jay - Anne Laureta of Data Center College of the Philippines - Abra received the "Tagsanay" award for their exemplary performance as TVET Trainers while Joshua Lizardo (a BCSAT graduate) also received the "TESDA Idol" award for his outstanding feat in provincial, regional and national skills competitions.

In line with TESDA - CAR 25th anniversary, institutional awards were also given to their outstanding regional/provincial officials and personnel for excellence work performance and for loyalty service for those who have been with TESDA - CAR for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years. (JDP/CCD-PIA CAR)

positive change that these additional funds will bring to our communities."

We welcome this MOA as it signifies the stream-

lined process by which host communities are able to secure funds for important projects in areas such as health and livelihood. We thank the DOE and SNAP-Benguet for facilitating this MOA signing," said Governor Melchor Diclas in the ceremony held at the Benguet Provincial Capitol in La Trinidad.

SNAP Group is a joint venture between SN Power of Norway and Aboitiz-Power. It supplies clean, renewable and dependable energy through the operation of the 360- to 388-MW Magat Hydroelectric Power Plant (HEPP) on the border of Isabela and Ifugao,



TESDA - CAR officials headed by regional Director Manuel Wong (2nd from left), in a photo opportunity with their outstanding partner awardees, namely Mountain Province PLGU with Governor Bonifacio Lacwasan, Regional TESD Council chairperson Betty Lourdes Tabanda, PIA Cordillera Regional Director Helen Tibaldo, PEZA - Baguio with deputy Zone Administrator Allan Datahan and Ifugao State University with Sandra Irish Marquez (4th from right). (CCD-PIA CAR)

City to be part of...

from page 8

the monitoring of the ongoing rehabilitation works of the facility so that appropriate corrective measures could immediately instituted on defects so as not to waste public funds.

The rehabilitation of the city-owned Baguio Convention Center cost the public works department P180 million under the 2018 national budget to undergo a significant facelift starting March 2018 and was supposed to have been completed by February this year.

However, the unnecessary delays and suspension of works due to numerous issues that were traced to the mis-

understanding between the technical personnel of the local government and the DPWH-CAR caused the implementation of the multi-million project to drag on to date and until December this year depending on the compliance of the contractor to the remaining programmed works./Dexter A. See

Baguio Water District...

from page 6

ties will be on other months of the year. There will also be cleaning and clearing activities to allow the trees planted to

the 8.5-megawatt (MW) Maris Main Canal HEPP as well as the 105-MW Ambuklao HEPP and the 140-MW Binga HEPP in the province of Benguet.

PHOTO 1 CAPTION: SNAP, led by Chief Finance Officer Eleanor Blomdahl (seated, 5th from right) and local chief executives from the Province of Benguet led by Governor Jerry Dalipog (seated, 4th from right), attended the ceremonial signing of the Memorandums of Agreement for the implementation of the amended Energy Regulations No. 1-94 (ER 1-94), signaling the start of a streamlined process of releasing financial benefits from power generators to local governments.

grow freely.

Ng said they hope to be perpetual partners of BWD's Adopt-A-Watershed program.

"We are thankful that we are able to continue this partnership with BWD. The Lions clubs will persistently help in whatever way it can to support BWD and to help protect the city's watersheds," Ng said.

The Adopt-a-Watershed program aims to preserve the watersheds in Baguio City through partnerships with government and non-government organizations, civic organizations, and schools through tree planting, nurturing, and other related activities.

Under the Adopt-A-Watershed program, the clubs have signified their continuous support to the environmental endeavor of Baguio's sole water producer and distributor.

Aside from the adoption of the watersheds, Ng said at the club level, they have adopted parks, which they maintain, beautify and protect as part of the contribution to the greening and beautification effort for the city.

"As advocates of environmental preservation, we thank the Lions clubs for their continued support to our cause. This partnership will help us sustain our goals to preserve or better yet improve the condition of Baguio City's remaining forest covers," BWD general manager Salvador Royeca in a said.

Royeca said the protection of the city's watersheds requires a collective effort from all of its stakeholders.

He said the renewal of the MOAs will ensure that the BWD will be able to sustain its task in protecting the watersheds under its jurisdiction and continue providing potable water to the public.

To date, there are 40 various groups that have MOAs with the BWD. (PNA)

SNAP, host beneficiaries...

from page 8

Energy Resources and/or Energy Generating Facilities. These host communities will get a share of one centavo for every kilowatt-hour (Php 0.01 / kWh) sold by power generation plants operating in their areas.

Of the one centavo per kilowatt-hour, fifty percent (P0.005/kWh) will be used in the electrification of the community; twenty five percent (P0.0025/kWh) will be earmarked for the Development and Livelihood Fund (DFL); and the other twenty five percent (P0.0025/kWh) will be allocated for Reforestation, Watershed Management, Health and/or Environment Enhancement Fund (RWMHEEF).

Through the DOE Department Circular 2018-08-0021, power generation companies can now directly download the ER 1-94 funds related to DFL and RWMHEEF to their host communities. Streamlining the release of funding will ease the process of relevant implementing projects that benefit the host communities.

"We thank the Department of Energy for being steadfast in their commitment to streamline the implementation of ER 1-94. Through this improved process, host communities may now immediately reap their share of the company's revenue from hosting generation facilities," remarked SNAP President and CEO Joseph S. Yu. "We are excited to witness and to continuously partner for the conscious and consistent

Operation of Olympic-sized swimming pool ready anytime

BAGUIO CITY – The city government is in the process of evaluating the status of the newly rehabilitated Olympic-sized swimming pool at the Baguio Athletic Bowl compound to ensure all systems are working for its eventual full blast operation anytime.

City Administrator Bonifacio dela Peña said the city government's technical personnel will be assessing the status of the existing two pumps to ascertain whether the swimming pool will be feasible for the upcoming full blast operation after undergoing the required rehabilitation and the installation of solar panels that will serve as the major power source to heat up the water of the pools.

He pointed out the city government was already able to fill up the pool with fresh water and that its heating system was also subjected to test run using a single pump showing the same can work even with a single pump, thus, the capacity of the two existing pumps will still be

subjected to assessment to serve as a guide for decision makers for opening of the swimming pools to the public.

"The city will be showcasing the solar-powered heating system of its swimming pools as part of the efforts of the city government to significantly reduce its expenses on power. Initially, the installed solar power panels are working to the advantage of the city in providing renewable energy source for the facility," dela Peña stressed.

Earlier, the city government allocated the amount of over P40 million in the city's annual budget for the installation of solar power panels and the upgrading of the Baguio swimming pool to ensure the city will save on its power expenses instead of using power from the Benguet Electric Cooperative to heat up the pools.

Part of the conditions imposed by the previous administration to the winning contractor of the project is to ensure the solar panels can heat up the water of the swimming pools for

the benefit of the people using the facility for recreation and training, among other purposes.

Patrons of the Baguio swimming pool have time and again requested the city government to improve the heating system of the pools with power from the sun and convert it to energy to help heat up the huge volume of water in the swimming pools.

The Olympic-sized swimming pool was constructed in the early 2000 to improve the sports facilities within the Baguio Athletic Bowl and provide the facilities where upcoming swimmers could train and hone their skills and knowledge in swimming considering that local swimmers are often left behind in regional, national and international swimming competitions.

The city administrator expressed optimism the completed solar power project of the Baguio swimming pool will help improve the performance of local swimmers in various competitions and bring honor and pride to the city/
Dexter A. See

City to be part of acceptance of convention center rehab

BAGUIO CITY – The city government is exploring the possibility that it be part of the accepting party on the rehabilitation of the city-owned Baguio Convention Center (BCC) as the end-user, and not only the Department of Public Works and Highways as implementing agency, once the contractor shall have completed the remaining works by the end of this year or early next year.

City Administrator Bonifacio dela Peña underscored the plans and specifications of the rehabilita-

tion of the city-owned convention facility were not the ones that were submitted by the technical working group (TWG) created by the city government for the said purpose thus it is best for the city to be part of the party that will formally accept the completed project to ensure that all the programmed works have been accomplished by the contractor.

He disclosed that after the city government used the convention facility for the 110th Baguio Charter Day main program last

September 1, 2019, the same was closed to allow the contractor to complete all unimplemented works inside the structure for it to be opened by the 4th week of the month for conduct of the activities lined up for the Search for Miss Baguio 2019 and the general assembly of the Baguio Tourism Council.

"We call on the individuals and groups wanting to use the Baguio Convention Center to look for other venues because the city-owned convention center will not yet be ready until December as

the contractor has to complete the remaining works inside and outside the structure," dela Peña stressed.

The city administrator admitted there had been numerous comments on the state of the convention center when it was first opened to the public during the Baguio Charter



ECO-WALK - Forester Walter Aguirre of the City Environment and Parks Management Office teaches the students of SLU-Laboratory High School the proper way of planting seedlings at the Forbes Park forest reservation during the school's tree planting activity under the Eco-Walk children's environmental awareness program of the Baguio Public Information Office coordinated by the Baguio City Guide under Vincent Tabor. The program was started in 1992 by the late environmentalist and Aguirre's fellow dialysis patient Ramon Dacawi who passed on last July. - **Rosa Moresto photo**

SNAP, host beneficiaries

Magat, Ifugao Gov. Jerry Dalipog, Isabela

ink ER1-94 MOAs

Renewable energy company, SN Aboitiz Power (SNAP), signed the Memorandums of Agreement for the implementation of the amended Energy Regulations No. 1-94 (ER 1-94), signaling the start of a streamlined process of releasing financial benefits from power generators to local governments. SNAP is set to turn over more than P10.5 million to their its

host communities based on the total attributable energy sales of its Ambuklao, Binga, Magat, and Maris hydro facilities.

Local chief executives from the provincial, municipal, and barangay levels were present during the MOA signing ceremonies held last September 5, 2019. For SNAP-Benguet, the delegation was led by Governor Melchor Dicalas. Meanwhile, for SNAP-

Board Member Edward Isidro, and Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Carlos Padilla also showed their support for the program.

The ER 1-94 program is a policy under the Department of Energy Act of 1992 and Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001 (EPIRA). The program seeks to recompense for the contribution made by the communities hosting

Cont. on page 7

Day program, especially the kind of seats that was installed, thus, the need for the city government to be included as accepting party of the completed works to ensure the quality of work of the whole facility once it is turned over to the city after the completion of the programmed rehabilitation.

According to him, it is important for the city government's technical personnel to be actively involved in

Cont. on page

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