



Republic of the Philippines  
**PROVINCE OF LEYTE**  
 Provincial Capitol  
 Tacloban City

-oOo-

**PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE**

Item No.: 32

Date: 19 2026 MAY

PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
 LEGAL OFFICE

RELEASED

By: [Signature]  
 Date: 5.8.26 Time: 9:24

Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
 Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

**2<sup>nd</sup> INDORSEMENT**  
 May 4, 2025

Date: MAY 08 2026  
 By: [Signature]

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 14 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Villaba, Leyte.

**Issues/concerns for review/recommendation/legal opinion is/are as follows:**

- Ordinance No. 14 entitled: **“Jose Rizal Monument Ordinance of 2026.”**

**REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:**

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Section 447(a)(1) <sup>1</sup> of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160) pursuant to Ocampo, et al. v. Enríquez, et al. (2016)<sup>2</sup> subject to availability of funds. Hence, we recommend for the declaration of its validity.

We hope to have assisted you with this request. Please note that the opinion rendered by this Office are based on the facts available and may vary or change when additional facts and documents are presented or changed. This opinion is likewise without prejudice to the opinions rendered by higher and competent authorities and/or the courts.

**ATTY. JOSE RAYMUND A. ACOL**  
*Provincial Legal Officer*


<sup>1</sup> ((a) The sangguniang bayan, as the legislative body of the municipality, shall enact ordinances, approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants pursuant to Section 16 of this Code and in the proper exercise of the corporate powers of the municipality as provided for under Section 22 of this Code, and shall:  
 (1) Approve ordinances and pass resolutions necessary for an efficient and effective municipal government,

<sup>2</sup> The **National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP)** is the primary agency for history and heritage, with authority to determine matters relating to official Philippine history and to manage, maintain, and administer national shrines, monuments, and historical sites. However, local monuments may be installed by LGUs, especially if not declared as national shrines or under NHCP direct administration.


Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
Palo, Leyte  
-000-

**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**

**1<sup>st</sup> Indorsement**  
28 April 2026

PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
LEGAL OFFICE  
**RECEIVED**  
By:   
Date: 4:20.26 Time: 2nd

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 14, s. 2026** of the **Municipality of Villaba, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance approving the installation of the Jose Rizal Monument at the Reclamation Area, Villaba, Leyte, appropriating funds therefor, and providing for environmental safeguards and heritage promotion measures.**

  
**FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian



April 28, 2026

**THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN MEMBERS**  
New Provincial Government Complex  
Campetic, Palo, Leyte

**Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
Province of Leyte**

**RECEIVED**

Date: APR 28 2026

By: [Signature]

Thru: **LEONARDO M. JAVIER, JR**  
Vice Governor/Presiding Officer

Hon. Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members:

We respectfully transmit herewith fourteen (14) original copies of:

**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 14, 2026** – entitled: “AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE INSTALLATION OF THE JOSE RIZAL MONUMENT AT THE RECLAMATION AREA, VILLABA, LEYTE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS AND HERITAGE PROMOTION MEASURE.”

For your review and approval.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,

**ATTY. MC QUIRIE P. UMPAD**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

**Copy Furnished:**

1. *Municipal Treasury Office*
  2. *Municipal Accounting Office*
  3. *Municipal Budget Office*
- LGU- Villaba, Leyte*

**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 14, S. 2026**

Date: APR 28 2026  
 By: [Signature]

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE INSTALLATION OF THE JOSE RIZAL MONUMENT AT THE RECLAMATION AREA, VILLABA, LEYTE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS AND HERITAGE PROMOTION MEASURES**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Sangguniang Bayan of Villaba, Leyte, in session duly assembled:

**SECTION 1. PREFATORY STATEMENTS AND LEGAL BASES.**

Pursuant to Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, granting local government units the authority to exercise powers necessary to promote the general welfare;

Pursuant to Section 17 of the same Code, empowers LGUs to provide facilities for the betterment of the community specifically Section 17(b) (2) (vii) public parks (including freedom parks) of the Municipality;

While RA7160 gives the authority, the installation of monuments must comply with guidelines from the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) which generally requires that monuments be placed in public places, maintained properly by the LGU and located in a way that respects the dignity of the hero.

Recognizing the enduring contribution of Jose Rizal as the National Hero of the Philippines whose life and works continue to inspire patriotism, civic virtue, and national unity;

Recognizing further that the establishment of a monument at the Reclamation Area of Villaba, Leyte shall enhance cultural identity, strengthen heritage appreciation, and contribute to local tourism development;


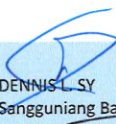
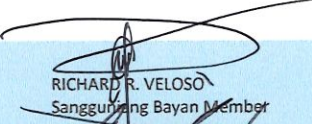

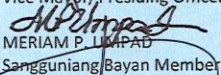
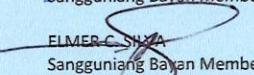
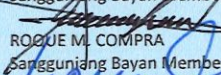

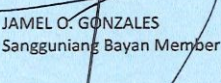
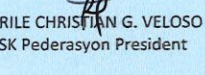
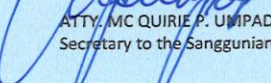
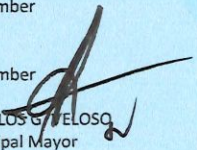
**NOW THEREFORE**, on motion by the Hon. Elmer C. Silva, duly seconded en masse, the following provisions are hereby enacted:

**SECTION 2. TITLE.**

This Ordinance shall be known as the “Jose Rizal Monument Installation Ordinance of 2026.”

**SECTION 3. DECLARATION OF POLICY.**

It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipality of Villaba to promote patriotism, historical consciousness, environmental responsibility, cultural preservation, and sustainable tourism development through the establishment of meaningful public landmarks.

 EDGAR T. VELOSO, M.D. Vice Mayor/ Presiding Officer	 DENNIS L. SY Sangguniang Bayan Member	 RICHARD R. VELOSO Sangguniang Bayan Member	 JULCA KATRINA L. CON-UI Sangguniang Bayan Member
 MERIAM P. UMPAD Sangguniang Bayan Member	 ELMER C. SILVA Sangguniang Bayan Member	 ROQUE M. COMPRA Sangguniang Bayan Member	 RANDEL TALOON Sangguniang Bayan Member
 JAMEL O. GONZALES Sangguniang Bayan Member	 RILE CHRISTINN G. VELOSO SK Pederasyon President	 ATTY. MC QUIRIE P. UMPAD Secretary to the Sanggunian	 ENGR. CARLOS G. VELOSO Municipal Mayor

**SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS.**

For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms are defined as follows:

- a. **Monument** – A permanent public structure or statue erected to commemorate a person of historical and national significance.
- b. **Life-sized Monument** -a full sized, standing statue depicting the complete human figure of the commemorated personality, and not limited to bust or partial representation
- c. **Project** – The installation, construction, landscaping, and all related civil works necessary for the establishment of the Jose Rizal Monument.
- d. **Reclamation Area** – The government-owned reclaimed land within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Villaba designated as the project site.
- e. **Implementing Offices** – The Municipal Engineering Office and other municipal offices tasked to execute and supervise the project.

**SECTION 5. APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT.**

The installation of the Jose Rizal Monument at the Reclamation Area, Villaba, Leyte, is hereby approved.

The monument shall be constructed as a life-sized statue and shall not be limited to a bust form, in order to preserve its dignity, prominence, and landmark value within the Municipal Park.

**SECTION 6. IMPLEMENTATION.**

The Municipal Engineering Office, in coordination with the Office of the Municipal Mayor and other concerned offices, shall:

- a. Prepare the Program of Works and Detailed Engineering Design;
- b. Ensure structural stability, public safety, and aesthetic quality;
- c. Integrate the monument within the existing and future phases of the Municipal Park development; and
- d. Ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

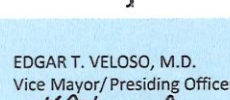
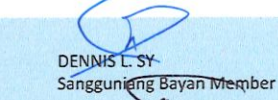
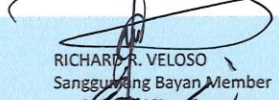
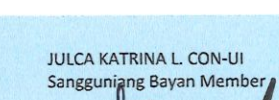
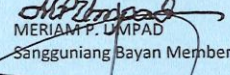
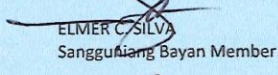
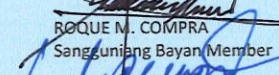
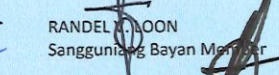
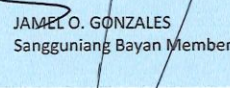
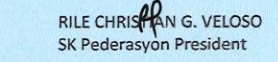
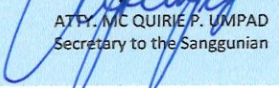
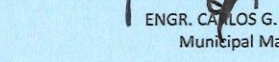
**SECTION 7. ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS.**

In the implementation of this Project, the following environmental measures shall be observed:

- a. The design shall incorporate green landscaping and tree planting consistent with local environmental policies;
- b. Construction activities shall minimize disturbance to coastal and marine ecosystems within the Reclamation Area;
- c. Waste generated during construction shall be properly managed and disposed of in accordance with environmental laws; and
- d. The Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO) shall monitor compliance with environmental standards.

**SECTION 8. HERITAGE AND TOURISM PROMOTION.**

The Municipality shall integrate the Jose Rizal Monument into its local tourism and cultural development programs by:

 EDGAR T. VELOSO, M.D. Vice Mayor/ Presiding Officer	 DENNIS L. SY Sangguniang Bayan Member	 RICHARD R. VELOSO Sangguniang Bayan Member	 JULCA KATRINA L. CON-UI Sangguniang Bayan Member
 MERIAM P. UMPAD Sangguniang Bayan Member	 ELMER C. SILVA Sangguniang Bayan Member	 ROQUE M. COMPRÁ Sangguniang Bayan Member	 RANDEL D. LOON Sangguniang Bayan Member
 JAMEL O. GONZALES Sangguniang Bayan Member	 RILE CHRISTIAN G. VELOSO SK Pederasyon President	 ATTY. MC QUIRIE P. UMPAD Secretary to the Sanggunian	 ENGR. CARLOS G. VELOSO Municipal Mayor

- a. Including the monument as part of official tourism circuits and promotional materials;
- b. Installing educational markers detailing the life and works of Jose Rizal;
- c. Coordinating with schools and civic organizations for commemorative activities during national celebrations; and
- d. Promoting the site as a venue for civic and patriotic events.

**SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION.**

The amount necessary for the implementation of this Project, as determined in the approved Program of Works, is hereby appropriated, chargeable against available municipal funds, subject to budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules and regulations.

**SECTION 10. PROCUREMENT COMPLIANCE.**

All procurement and project implementation shall strictly comply with Republic Act No. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

**SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.


**SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE.**


All ordinances, resolutions, or issuances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY.**


This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval and compliance with posting requirements under the Local Government Code of 1991.


This Ordinance was approved by the Sangguniang Bayan in its Regular Session on March 12, 2026.

ATTESTED:   
**EDGAR T. VELOSO, M.D.**  
 Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

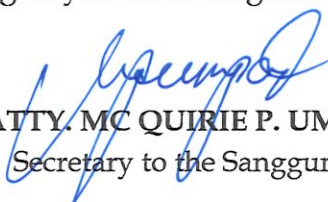
  
**DENNIS L. SY**  
 Sangguniang Bayan Member


**JULCA KATRINA L. CON-UI**  
 Sangguniang Bayan Member


  
**RICHARD R. VELOSO**  
 Sangguniang Bayan Member

  
**MERIAM F. UMPAD**  
 Sangguniang Bayan Member

  
**RILE CHRISTIAN G. VELOSO**  
 SK Pederasyon President

  
**ATTY. MC QUIRIE P. UMPAD**  
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

  
**ROQUE M. COMPRA**  
 Sangguniang Bayan Member

  
**ELMER C. SILVA**  
 Sangguniang Bayan Member

  
**RANDEL V. LOON**  
 Sangguniang Bayan Member

  
**JAMEL O. GONZALES**  
 Sangguniang Bayan Member

APPROVED:   
**ENGR. CARLOS G. VELOSO**  
 Municipal Mayor



## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE HEARING

### *COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE*

HELD ON FEBRUARY 24, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M. AT SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SESSION HALL, SITIO CAYANGIAN, BRGY. POB. DEL NORTE, VILLABA, LEYTE

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Committee Hearing was called to order at exactly 10:00 A.M. by *Hon. Elmer C. Silva, Chairman*, Committee on Public Works and Infrastructure.

#### **II. ATTENDANCE**

*Present:*

- Municipal Budget Officer – Mr. Manuel I. Rubillos
- Municipal Administrator – Dr. Merlita D. Veloso
- Municipal Engineer – Engr. Orlando L. Romero
- Staff from Municipal Accounting Office – Ms. Judith Catherine M. Sayson
- Members of the Sangguniang Bayan – Hon. Dennis L. Sy and Hon. Roque M. Compra
- Committee Secretariat SB JO – Claire P. Monsanto, Michelle S. Ruelan and Jean Dee Belle B. Alarde

#### **III. MATTER TAKEN UP**

Discussion on the Proposed Ordinance Approving the Installation of the Monument of Jose Rizal at the Reclamation Area, Villaba, Leyte.

#### **IV. DISCUSSION**

The Municipal Engineer informed the Committee that:

- The proposed monument site is already included in the development plan of the ongoing Phase 1 Municipal Park Project at the Reclamation Area.
- The installation of the monument may be implemented once funds are available.
- It may be included in Phase 2 of the Municipal Park Project or funded depending on budget availability as advised by the Municipal Budget Office.

The Municipal Administrator manifested that the Local Chief Executive has emphasized that the monument should be life-sized and not merely a bust, to ensure its prominence, dignity, and landmark value within the Municipal Park.

The Municipal Budget Officer stated that funding shall be subject to availability and proper appropriation consistent with government budgeting and auditing regulations.

Members of the Committee discussed the integration of the monument into the overall park development and its cultural and tourism significance.

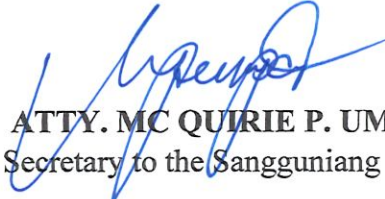
## V. ACTION TAKEN

After deliberation, the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the approval of the proposed ordinance and to elevate the same to the Sangguniang Bayan for plenary consideration.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other matters to discuss, the hearing was adjourned at exactly 11:00 A.M.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



**ATTY. MC QUIRIE P. UMPAD**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

ATTESTED:



**HON. ELMER C. SILVA**  
Committee Chairman



**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**COMMITTEE REPORT No. 1, Series of 2026**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2026**

**RE: *Proposed Ordinance Approving the Installation of the Dr. Jose Rizal Monument at the Reclamation Area***

The Committee on Public Works and Infrastructure, to which was referred the proposed ordinance approving the installation of the monument of Jose Rizal at the Reclamation Area, respectfully submits this report:

On February 24, 2026, at exactly 10:00 A.M., the Committee conducted a hearing attended by the following:

- Municipal Budget Officer – Mr. Manuel I. Rubillos
- Municipal Administrator – Dr. Merlita D. Veloso
- Municipal Engineer – Engr. Orlando L. Romero
- Staff from Municipal Accounting Office – Ms. Judith Catherine M. Sayson
- Members of the Sangguniang Bayan – Hon. Dennis L. Sy and Hon. Roque M. Compra
- Committee Secretariat SB JO – Claire P. Monsanto, Michelle S. Ruelan and Jean Dee Belle B. Alarde

During the hearing, the Municipal Engineer informed the Committee that the proposed location of the monument is already incorporated in the development plan of the ongoing Phase 1 Municipal Park Project at the Reclamation Area. The Municipal Engineer further stated that the installation of the monument may be implemented once funds become available, either through inclusion in Phase 2 of the Municipal Park Project or subject to funding advice and availability as determined by the Municipal Budget Office.

The Municipal Administrator likewise manifested that the Local Chief Executive has emphasized that the monument should be life-sized and not merely a bust, in order to preserve its dignity, visual impact, and symbolic significance as a landmark within the Municipal Park.

The Municipal Budget Officer manifested that funding shall be subject to availability and proper appropriation in accordance with budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules and regulations.

After due deliberation and consideration of the legal basis, site development plan, and funding mechanism, the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the approval of the proposed ordinance.

The Committee Hearing was adjourned at exactly 11:00 A.M.

WHEREFORE, the Committee on Public Works and Infrastructure respectfully recommends the approval of the proposed ordinance for consideration of the August Body.

  
**HON. ELMER C. SILVA**  
Committee Chairman

CONCURRING:

  
**HON. RANDAL V. LOON**  
Vice Chairman

  
**HON. MACARIO V. ESMAS**  
Member



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Leyte  
Municipality of Villaba  
Office of the Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING


Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be conducted by the Sangguniang Bayan Committee on Infrastructure, **February 24, 2026 at 10:30 in the morning** at **Sangguniang Bayan Conference Hall**, this Municipality regarding the **Proposed Municipal Ordinance Nos. 08, S-2026** authored by Sangguniang Bayan Member **Elmer C. Silva** entitled:


**“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE INSTALLATION OF THE JOSE RIZAL MONUMENT AT THE RECLAMATION AREA, VILLABA, LEYTE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS AND HERITAGE PROMOTION MEASURES”**

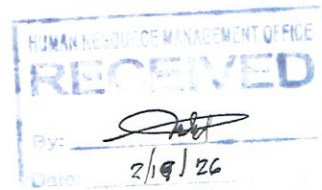
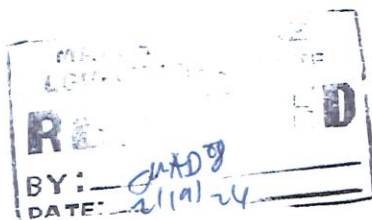
The **Municipal Administrator, Municipal Engineer, Municipal Budget Officer,** and all other interested parties are invited to attend.

Villaba, Leyte, February 19, 2026.

In public service,

  
**ATTY. MC QUIRIE P. UMPAD**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

  
02/19/2026





Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Leyte

Municipality of Villaba

# OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

## ATTENDANCE SHEET

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE INSTALLATION OF THE JOSE RIZAL MONUMENT AT THE RECLAMATION AREA, VILLABA, LEYTE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND HERITAGE PROMOTION MEASURES

DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2026

TIME: 10:30 AM

VENUE: SB CONFERENCE HALL

NO.	NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
1.	ELMER C. SILVA	SBM	
2.	RODOLFO M. COMPARA	SB MEMBER	
3.	JUDITH CATHERINE M. SAYSAN	ACCTG. STAFF	
4.	DENNIS L. S/	SBM	
5.	Merlita D. Veloso	Man. Ad.	
6.	DARWIN I. RUBINOSA	MEMO	
7.	GUENEO L. BOWERD	MAN. ENCL	
8.	CLAIRE P. MONSANTO	SB J-D	
9.	MICHELLE S. RUSLAN	SB J-D	
10.	JEAN DE BELLE B. ALARDE	SB J-D	
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