



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

-oOo-

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

2nd INDORSEMENT

October 6, 2026

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: OCT 09 2026
By: J. Am. Jr.

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 13 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Macarthur, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 13 entitled: “**Macarthur Watershed Protection Ordinance.**”

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)(vi)¹ and Section 447(5)(i)² of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160). 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

¹ (vi) Protect the environment and impose appropriate penalties for acts which endanger the environment, such as dynamite fishing and other forms of destructive fishing, illegal logging and smuggling of logs, smuggling of natural resources products and of endangered species of flora and fauna, slash and burn farming, and such other activities which result in pollution, acceleration of eutrophication of rivers and lakes, or of ecological imbalance;

² (i) Provide for the establishment, maintenance, protection, and conservation of communal forests and watersheds, tree parks, greenbelts, mangroves, and other similar forest development projects;

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Palo, Leyte
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1ST INDORSEMENT
06 October 2026

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE
RECEIVED
By:  Date: 10-7-20 Time: 11:20

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 13, series of 2026 of the Municipality of MacArthur, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance establishing the MacArthur Municipal Watershed Protection Area, declaring a five (5)-kilometer radius from the Municipal Water Source in Sitio Obo-ob, Brgy. San Vicente, MacArthur, Leyte, as a Watershed Protection Area, creating the Municipal Watershed Management Council and the Bantay-Kalikasan Watershed Protection Team, providing for their powers, functions and responsibilities, prescribing prohibited acts and penalties, providing for the implementation of watershed management programs, projects and activities, and for other purposes.**



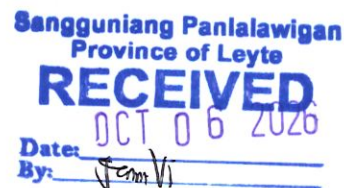
FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR

-----oOo-----

Office of the Sangguniang Bayan



ENDORSEMENT
October 6, 2026

Respectfully submitting to the Honorable Provincial Board for consideration and approval the herein Municipal Ordinance No. 13, Series of 2026 entitled "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MACARTHUR MUNICIPAL WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, DECLARING A FIVE (5)-KILOMETER RADIUS FROM THE MUNICIPAL WATER SOURCE IN SITIO OBO-OB, BRGY. SAN VICENTE, MACARTHUR, LEYTE, AS A WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, CREATING THE MUNICIPAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND THE BANTAY-KALIKASAN WATERSHED PROTECTION TEAM, PROVIDING FOR THEIR POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, PRESCRIBING PROHIBITED ACTS AND PENALTIES, PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES".


MARIE STEPHANIE DE LA CRUZ- PULGA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

Public Service Above Self



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR
-----oOo-----

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
Date: OCT 06 2026
By: Fern V.

Municipal Ordinance No. 13 Series of 2026

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MACARTHUR MUNICIPAL WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, DECLARING A FIVE (5)-KILOMETER RADIUS FROM THE MUNICIPAL WATER SOURCE IN SITIO OBO-OB, BRGY. SAN VICENTE, MACARTHUR, LEYTE, AS A WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, CREATING THE MUNICIPAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND THE BANTAY-KALIKASAN WATERSHED PROTECTION TEAM, PROVIDING FOR THEIR POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, PRESCRIBING PROHIBITED ACTS AND PENALTIES, PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR

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Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

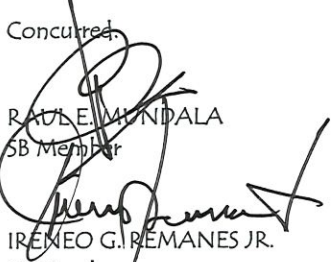
Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED

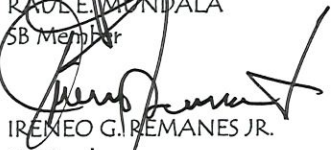
Date: OCT 06 2026
By: Jenny V.

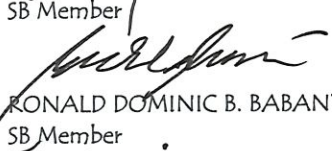
Attested:


JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

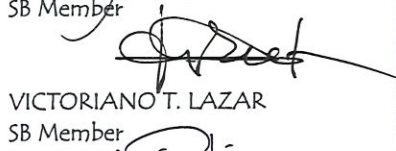

RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member


IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

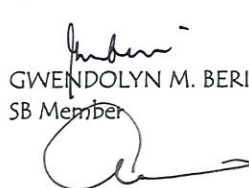

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member


TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

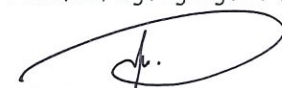

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member


VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member


XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member


GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member


JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 62ND REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN OF MACARTHUR, LEYTE HELD ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT THE MUNICIPAL SESSION HALL.

PRESENT:

Honorable Jesus A. Baranda

Honorable Raul E. Mundala

Honorable Ronald Dominic B. Babante

Honorable Ireneo G. Remanes Jr.

Honorable Trina C. Burawis

Honorable Jonathan T. Barquin

Honorable Victoriano T. Lazar

Honorable Xandrix P. Pantin

Honorable Gwendolyn M. Beriso

Honorable Jose A. Baranda

Honorable Ralph Martin P. Egos

Vice Mayor, Presiding

SB Member

SB Member

SB Member

SB Member

SB Member

SB Member

SB Member

SB Member

Ex-Officio Member

President, Liga ng mga Barangay

Ex-Officio Member

SKF President

ABSENT: None

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 13
Series of 2026

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MACARTHUR MUNICIPAL WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, DECLARING A FIVE (5)-KILOMETER RADIUS FROM THE MUNICIPAL WATER SOURCE IN SITIO OBO-OB, BRGY. SAN VICENTE, MACARTHUR, LEYTE, AS A WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, CREATING THE MUNICIPAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND THE BANTAY-KALIKASAN WATERSHED PROTECTION TEAM, PROVIDING FOR THEIR POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, PRESCRIBING PROHIBITED ACTS AND PENALTIES, PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SPONSORED BY : Honorable Gwendolyn M. Beriso

WHEREFORE, on motion of Honorable Gwendolyn M. Beriso duly seconded by en masse, be it

Public Service Above Self

Attested:

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member

IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member

TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member

VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member

GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member

JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:

RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

Ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of MacArthur, Leyte that:

ARTICLE I

TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the "MacArthur Watershed Protection Ordinance of 2026."

ARTICLE II - DECLARATION OF POLICY

Section 1. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipality of MacArthur, Leyte, to recognize watersheds as vital ecological systems that sustain life, promote environmental integrity, and support the social and economic development of the municipality. The Municipality acknowledges that the protection, conservation, rehabilitation, and sustainable management of its watershed resources are essential to ensuring the continuous availability of safe and adequate water resources, preserving biodiversity, mitigating the impacts of climate change, reducing the risks associated with natural hazards, and promoting ecological balance for the benefit of present and future generations.

Consistent with the constitutional mandate to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology, and pursuant to the general welfare powers of local government units, the Municipality shall adopt an integrated watershed management approach founded on sustainable development, ecosystem-based management, climate resilience, and active participation of communities and stakeholders. Accordingly, the Municipality shall pursue the following policy objectives:

- a. **Protection of the Municipal Potable Water Supply.** To protect and preserve the Municipality's principal water sources, recharge areas, springs, rivers, streams, and groundwater resources from degradation, pollution, over-extraction, and other activities that may adversely affect the quality, quantity, and sustainability of the municipal water supply for domestic, agricultural, commercial, institutional, and other lawful uses.
- b. **Conservation of Biodiversity and Forest Resources.** To conserve, protect, and restore natural forests, wildlife habitats, endemic and indigenous plant and animal species, riparian ecosystems, and other environmentally significant areas within the Watershed Protection Area, thereby maintaining ecological processes and biological diversity essential to environmental stability.
- c. **Reduction of Flooding, Soil Erosion, and Sedimentation.** To prevent and minimize flooding, landslides, soil erosion, riverbank degradation, and sedimentation of rivers, streams, irrigation systems,

and water bodies through appropriate watershed rehabilitation, sustainable land management practices, riverbank stabilization, forest protection, and vegetation restoration.

- d. **Enhancement of Groundwater Recharge and Hydrological Functions.** To conserve and rehabilitate watershed ecosystems that serve as natural groundwater recharge zones, regulate streamflow, improve infiltration, sustain spring discharge, and maintain the natural hydrological cycle necessary for long-term water security.
- e. **Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation.** To strengthen the Municipality's resilience against the adverse impacts of climate change by promoting reforestation, carbon sequestration, ecosystem restoration, nature-based solutions, disaster risk reduction, climate-resilient infrastructure, and sustainable environmental management practices.
- f. **Promotion of Ecological Balance and Environmental Sustainability.** To maintain the ecological integrity of the Municipality through the protection of natural ecosystems, sustainable utilization of natural resources, prevention of environmental degradation, and promotion of environmentally responsible development consistent with the principles of sustainable development.
- g. **Sustainable Water Resource Management for Future Generations.** To ensure the long-term availability, equitable allocation, efficient utilization, and sustainable management of water resources for the welfare of present and future generations through integrated watershed management, sound environmental governance, and active participation of government agencies, local communities, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders.
The Municipality shall ensure that all programs, projects, activities, policies, plans, and development initiatives within the Watershed Protection Area are consistent with the objectives of this Ordinance and shall be implemented in accordance with applicable environmental laws, land use policies, and principles of sustainable development.

ARTICLE III – LEGAL BASES

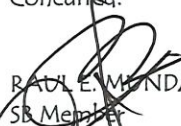
Section 1. Legal Authority. This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to the powers and authority vested upon the Municipality of MacArthur, Leyte by the Constitution, existing laws, and pertinent administrative issuances, including but not limited to the following:

- a. **The 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines**, particularly Article II, Section 15, which recognizes the State's duty to protect and promote the right to health of the people, and Article II, Section 16, which mandates the State to protect and advance the right of the

Attested:


JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

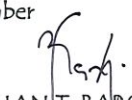
Concurred:


RAUL E. MENDALA
SB Member


IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member


RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member


TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

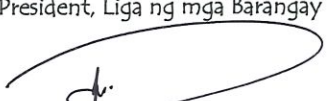

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member


VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member


XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member


GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member


JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor
Date Approved: OCT- 01, 2026

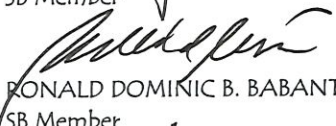
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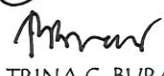

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

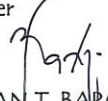
Concurred:


RAYL E. MUNDAYALA
SB Member


IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member


RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member


TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

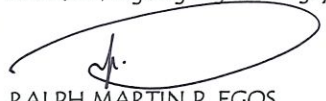

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VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

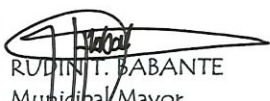

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member


GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member


JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

b. Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, particularly:

- Section 16 (General Welfare Clause), authorizing local government units to exercise powers necessary for the promotion of the general welfare, including environmental protection and ecological balance;
- Section 17, devolving environmental management and natural resource conservation functions to local government units;
- Sections 26 and 27, requiring consultation and prior approval for projects that may affect the environment and local communities;
- Section 444, defining the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Municipal Mayor in enforcing environmental laws and implementing development policies; and
- Section 458, authorizing the Sangguniang Bayan to enact ordinances necessary for the protection of the environment, regulation of land use, and promotion of sustainable development.

c. Presidential Decree No. 705, otherwise known as the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines, which provides for the protection, development, management, and conservation of forestlands, watersheds, and forest resources.

d. Republic Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992, as amended by Republic Act No. 11038 (Expanded NIPAS Act of 2018), recognizing the importance of conserving ecologically significant areas and promoting biodiversity conservation.

e. Republic Act No. 9275, otherwise known as the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, providing for the comprehensive protection, preservation, management, and rehabilitation of the country's water resources and water quality.

f. Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, promoting proper solid waste management practices to prevent pollution of watersheds, rivers, and other water bodies.

g. Republic Act No. 8749, otherwise known as the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999, promoting the protection and maintenance of air quality and regulating activities that contribute to environmental degradation.

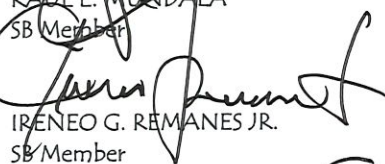
h. Republic Act No. 9147, otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, providing for the conservation and protection of wildlife species, their habitats, and biological diversity.

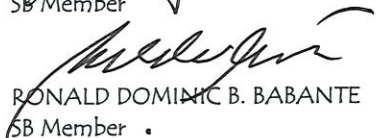
Attested:


JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

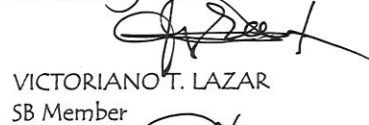

RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member


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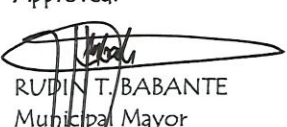

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
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GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member


JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

- i. Republic Act No. 9729, otherwise known as the Climate Change Act of 2009, as amended by Republic Act No. 10174, recognizing the importance of ecosystem-based adaptation, watershed protection, and climate-resilient development in addressing climate change.
- j. Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, promoting integrated disaster risk reduction, environmental protection, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable natural resource management as measures to reduce disaster risks.
- k. Republic Act No. 6716, otherwise known as the Forest Protection Law, which strengthens the protection of forest resources by increasing penalties for illegal logging and related forest offenses.
- l. Republic Act No. 9175, otherwise known as the Chainsaw Act of 2002, regulating the ownership, possession, sale, importation, and use of chainsaws to prevent illegal logging and unauthorized cutting of trees.
- m. Republic Act No. 9176, otherwise known as the Water Code of the Philippines (Presidential Decree No. 1067) and other applicable laws governing water rights, water resource utilization, and watershed management.
- n. DENR Administrative Orders, DENR-DILG Joint Memorandum Circulars, National Water Resources Board (NWRB) regulations, Department of Agriculture issuances, Department of the Interior and Local Government Memorandum Circulars, and other national policies governing watershed protection, forest management, environmental conservation, land use planning, biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable natural resource management.
- o. Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution No. 2020-624 dated August 27, 2020, entitled "A Resolution Approving the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) and the Corresponding Zoning Ordinance (ZO) of the Municipality of MacArthur, Leyte for Calendar Years 2018-2027," which serves as the official basis for the delineation of the Municipality's Watershed Protection Area and land use regulations within the affected barangays.

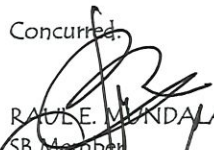
The Municipality shall exercise its powers under these laws in coordination with national government agencies, local stakeholders, and partner institutions to ensure the effective implementation of this Ordinance and the sustainable protection and management of the MacArthur Municipal Watershed Protection Area.

The Municipality shall exercise its powers under these laws in coordination with national government agencies, local stakeholders, and

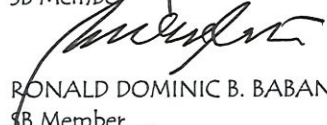
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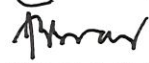

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

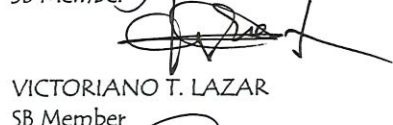

RAUL E. MONDALA
SB Member

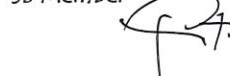

IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

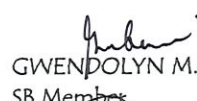

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member


TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

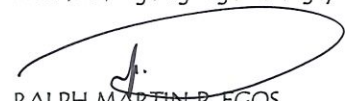

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
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VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
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SB Member


JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor
Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

partner institutions to ensure the effective implementation of this Ordinance and the sustainable protection and management of the MacArthur Municipal Watershed Protection Area.

ARTICLE IV – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MACARTHUR MUNICIPAL WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA

There is hereby established the MacArthur Municipal Watershed Protection Area (MWPA) for the conservation, protection, rehabilitation, and sustainable management of the Municipality's critical watershed resources and municipal water supply.

The Watershed Protection Area shall encompass:

- The area within a Five (5)-Kilometer Radius measured from the existing municipal water source serving the Municipal Water System of MacArthur, Leyte, which shall serve as the center point of the protection area;
- The forestlands, headwaters, recharge areas, river systems, springs, tributaries, riparian corridors, and environmentally critical areas located within said protection area.
- The portions of the following barangays situated within the watershed protection boundary:

- Barangay Lanawan
- Barangay San Vicente
- Barangay Oguisan
- Barangay San Antonio
- Barangay Sta. Isabel

These barangays are hereby declared as the Primary Watershed Protection Barangays of the Municipality.

The official boundary of the Municipal Watershed Protection Area shall follow the technical descriptions, coordinates, and maps contained in the approved Municipal Boundary Map forming part of the Municipality's Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) and Zoning Ordinance.

LEGAL DELINEATION OF THE WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA

The Municipal Watershed Protection Area is hereby declared consistent with the Municipality's Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) and Zoning Ordinance approved through Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution No. 2020-624 dated August 27, 2020, entitled:

"A Resolution Approving the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) and the Corresponding Zoning Ordinance (ZO) of the Municipality of MacArthur, Leyte for Calendar Years 2018–2027."

Accordingly:

Public Service Above Self

Attested:



JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

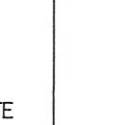
Concurred:



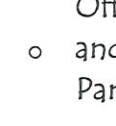
RAUL E. MINDALA
SB Member



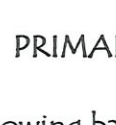
IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member



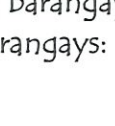
RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member



TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member



JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member



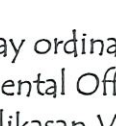
VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member



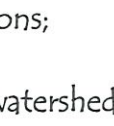
XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member



GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member



JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay



RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:



RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

1. The official boundary shall conform to the approved Municipal Boundary Map and the technical descriptions contained therein.

2. The coordinates, metes and bounds, and GIS shapefiles approved under the CLUP shall constitute Annex "A" of this Ordinance.

3. In case of any discrepancy between the 5-kilometer radius and the officially approved municipal watershed boundary reflected in the CLUP, the officially approved technical boundary shall prevail but the 5-kilometer radius shall remain strictly protected.

4. Any future amendment to the official watershed boundary shall require:

o recommendation of the Municipal Watershed Management Council;

o approval by the Sangguniang Bayan;

o endorsement by the Municipal Planning and Development Office;

o and, where required by law, approval by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.

PRIMARY WATERSHED PROTECTION BARANGAYS

The following barangays are hereby designated as the Primary Watershed Protection Barangays:

- A. Lanawan

B. San Vicente

C. Oguisan

D. San Antonio

E. Sta. Isabel

The Barangay Councils shall:

1. enact complementary barangay ordinances;

2. designate Barangay Environmental Officers;

3. organize Barangay Bantay-Kalikasan Volunteers;

4. conduct quarterly watershed inspections;

5. prevent illegal cutting of trees;

6. regulate land conversion within the watershed;

7. establish barangay nurseries;

8. participate in municipal reforestation activities;

9. regulate all forms of construction within the watershed;

10. submit quarterly reports to the Municipal Watershed Management Council.

Zoning System within the Watershed Protection Area:

Zone	Purpose	Permitted Activities
Strict Protection Zone	Around the water source and primary forest	Research, patrolling, watershed monitoring only
Buffer Zone	Protection against encroachment	Assisted natural regeneration, bamboo

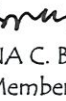
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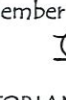

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:


RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member


IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member


RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member


TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member


JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member


VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
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RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor
Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

Zone	Purpose	Permitted Activities
		planting, limited eco-tourism
Sustainable Use Zone	Community-managed areas	Agroforestry, coffee, cacao, fruit trees, ecotourism, organic farming
Rehabilitation Zone	Degraded lands	Reforestation, riverbank stabilization, erosion control, assisted natural regeneration

This zoning framework aligns with DENR watershed management practices and helps clarify what activities are appropriate in different parts of the protected area.

ARTICLE V - OBJECTIVES

The establishment of the MacArthur Municipal Watershed Protection Area shall pursue the following objectives:

Section 1. Protection of the Municipal Water Source. To safeguard the Municipality's principal water source and its associated recharge areas from activities that may diminish the quantity, quality, and sustainability of water supplied for domestic, agricultural, institutional, commercial, and other lawful uses.

Section 2. Prevention of Water Contamination. To prevent the discharge, disposal, seepage, or introduction of solid waste, hazardous substances, chemicals, untreated wastewater, agricultural runoff, and other pollutants into rivers, streams, springs, groundwater recharge zones, and other water bodies within the Watershed Protection Area.

Section 3. Regulation of Land Use. To regulate land utilization within the Watershed Protection Area through appropriate zoning, permitting, and land management practices consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), Zoning Ordinance, Forest Land Use Plans, and other applicable environmental laws and regulations.

Section 4. Conservation of Forest Ecosystems. To conserve existing natural forests, secondary growth forests, riparian vegetation, wetlands, and other ecologically significant habitats by preventing illegal forest destruction, forest conversion, and unsustainable resource extraction.

Section 5. Enhancement of Forest Cover. To increase the municipality's forest cover through reforestation, assisted natural regeneration, agroforestry, enrichment planting, bamboo propagation, and community-based forest management initiatives.

Attested:


JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:


RAUL M. MUNDA
SB Member

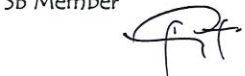

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SB Member


TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

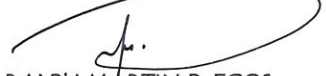

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SB Member


VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

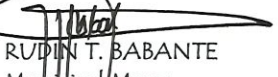

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member


GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member


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Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 9, 2026

Section 6. Improvement of Water Quality. To maintain and improve the physical, chemical, and biological quality of surface and groundwater resources through pollution prevention, watershed rehabilitation, regular monitoring, and proper environmental management.

Section 7. Reduction of Soil Erosion and Sedimentation. To minimize soil erosion, landslides, sediment transport, and river siltation through slope stabilization, vegetative cover, riverbank protection, sustainable farming practices, and appropriate engineering interventions.

Section 8. Promotion of Biodiversity Conservation. To protect native flora and fauna, conserve wildlife habitats, maintain ecological connectivity, and preserve the biological diversity of the municipality in accordance with national biodiversity conservation policies.

Section 9. Strengthening Climate Change Resilience. To enhance the adaptive capacity of communities and ecosystems against the impacts of climate change by promoting ecosystem-based adaptation, watershed rehabilitation, carbon sequestration, disaster risk reduction, and climate-resilient development practices.

Section 10. Sustainable Water Resource Management. To ensure the long-term availability, equitable allocation, and sustainable utilization of water resources for present and future generations through integrated watershed management and community participation.

ARTICLE VI – MUNICIPAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Section 1. Creation. There is hereby created the Municipal Watershed Management Council (MWMC) which shall serve as the primary policy-making, planning, coordinating, and oversight body for all watershed conservation, protection, rehabilitation, development, and management programs within the Municipality of MacArthur.

Section 2. Composition. The Municipal Watershed Management Council shall be composed of the following:

Chairperson – The Municipal Mayor

Vice-Chairperson – The Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator

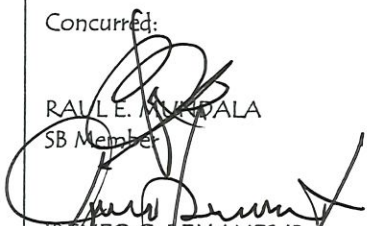
Regular Members

- Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer or designated Environment Officer
- Municipal Agriculturist
- Municipal Engineer
- Municipal Health Officer
- Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer
- Municipal Assessor

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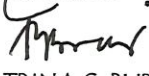

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

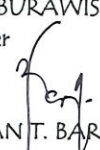
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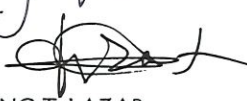

RAUL E. MARDALA
SB Member

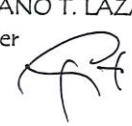

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SB Member


RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member


TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

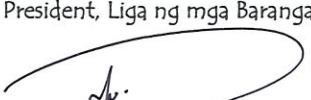

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member


VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

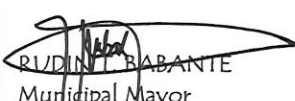

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member


GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member


JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUIDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor
Date Approved: OCT 01, 2026

- Municipal Budget Officer
- Municipal Treasurer
- Municipal Water System Manager
- Chief of Police
- Bureau of Fire Protection Municipal Fire Marshal
- DENR-CENRO Representative
- Barangay Chairpersons of Lanawan, San Vicente, Oguisan, San Antonio, and Sta. Isabel
- Department of Education Representative
- Representative from Accredited People's Organizations
- Representative from Accredited Civil Society Organizations
- Indigenous Peoples Representative, where applicable
- Youth Sector Representative
- Farmers' Organization Representative
- Women's Organization Representative

Secretariat - The Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office shall serve as the Secretariat of the Council.

FUNCTIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

The Council shall perform the following functions:

1. Formulate policies, guidelines, and strategies for watershed protection and sustainable resource management.
2. Prepare, adopt, periodically review, and update the Municipal Watershed Management Plan.
3. Formulate the Annual Watershed Investment Program and recommend its integration into the Annual Investment Program of the Municipality.
4. Coordinate with DENR, DA, DILG, DPWH, NIA, BFAR, LWUA, NWRB, DOST, and other government agencies for technical and financial assistance.
5. Recommend the allocation of municipal funds and facilitate access to grants and external financing.
6. Recommend the declaration of environmentally critical areas requiring special protection.
7. Establish watershed zoning, buffer zones, river easements, and conservation areas.
8. Review and evaluate proposed development projects within the Watershed Protection Area.
9. Conduct annual watershed assessments and environmental performance evaluations.
10. Monitor compliance with this Ordinance and other environmental laws.
11. Recommend the filing of administrative, civil, or criminal cases against violators.
12. Promote community participation through People's Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, schools, and volunteer groups.

Attested:

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

RALPH E. MURDALA
SB Member

IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member

TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
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VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

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GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member

JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:

RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

13. Submit an Annual Watershed Status Report to the Sangguniang Bayan.

ARTICLE VII – MUNICIPAL BANTAY-KALIKASAN WATERSHED PROTECTION TEAM

Section 1. Creation. There is hereby created the **Municipal Bantay-Kalikasan Watershed Protection Team**, which shall serve as the operational arm of the Municipal Watershed Management Council in implementing protection, monitoring, surveillance, and enforcement activities.

Functions

The Team shall:

1. Conduct regular foot patrols, river patrols, and surveillance activities.
2. Inspect reported illegal logging, illegal quarrying, wildlife hunting, charcoal making, illegal settlements, and other prohibited activities.
3. Apprehend violators whenever authorized by law and coordinate with the Philippine National Police and DENR.
4. Assist the DENR in forest law enforcement operations.
5. Conduct quarterly water quality monitoring.
6. Install and maintain watershed boundary monuments, markers, and informational signages.
7. Conduct Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaigns.
8. Assist in tree-growing and reforestation programs.
9. Assist in forest fire prevention, suppression, and emergency response.
10. Document encroachments using GPS, GIS, drone surveys, and photographic evidence.
11. Prepare incident reports and recommend appropriate legal action.
12. Maintain a Watershed Monitoring Database.

ARTICLE VIII – PROHIBITED ACTS

Within the Watershed Protection Area, the following acts are strictly prohibited unless expressly authorized by law:

1. Illegal cutting, gathering, transporting, or possession of timber and forest products.
2. Charcoal production using timber or forest vegetation.
3. Quarrying, extraction of sand and gravel, or earth-moving without the required permits.
4. Illegal mining or mineral extraction.
5. Kaingin or slash-and-burn farming.
6. Dumping of garbage, construction debris, hazardous waste, sewage, or other pollutants.
7. Discharging untreated wastewater or chemicals into water bodies.

Attested:

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member

IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member

TRINA C. BURAWIS
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JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
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SB Member

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SB Member

JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:

RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2024

8. Destruction of vegetation through clearing, burning, uprooting, or conversion.
9. Hunting, capturing, collecting, or disturbing wildlife.
10. Cutting of trees without permits from the DENR and the Municipality, where applicable.
11. Unauthorized occupation, cultivation, fencing, or development within protected areas.
12. Construction of roads, buildings, resorts, or other structures without the required permits and environmental clearances.
13. Open burning of vegetation and solid wastes.
14. Use of pesticides, herbicides, or chemical fertilizers within designated buffer zones that may adversely affect water quality.
15. Grazing or confinement of livestock within areas immediately surrounding springs, streams, and water sources where contamination is likely.
16. Defacing, destroying, or removing watershed boundary monuments, signs, or markers.
17. Unauthorized extraction, diversion, or impoundment of water.
18. Any other activity that significantly degrades the ecological integrity of the Watershed Protection Area.

ARTICLE IX – PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND ACTIVITIES

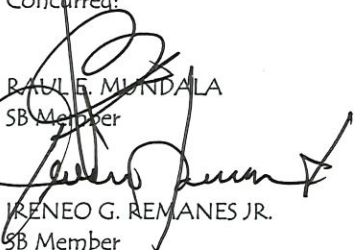
The Municipality, through the Municipal Watershed Management Council, shall implement a comprehensive watershed management program that includes, but is not limited to:

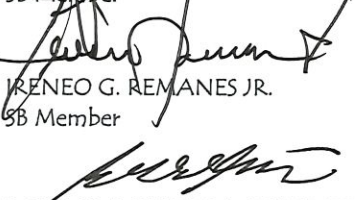
Programs / Projects / Activities (PPAs)	Expected Outputs	Estimated Funding Requirement (₱)	Year of Implementation	Responsible Office/Agency	Remarks
FOREST CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION					
Municipal Reforestation Program	At least 200 hectares reforested using indigenous tree species	8,000,000	2026–2030	MENRO/MPDO /DENR/Barangays	Priority watershed rehabilitation project
Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR)	300 hectares of degraded forest rehabilitated	3,500,000	2026–2030	MENRO, DENR-CENRO	Community participation required
Bamboo Development Program	50,000 bamboo seedlings planted along rivers and slopes	2,500,000	2026–2029	MAO, MENRO, DENR	Flood and erosion mitigation
Riparian Forest Rehabilitation	25 km of riverbanks rehabilitated	3,000,000	2026–2030	MENRO, Engineering Office	Supports river protection
Indigenous Tree Species Propagation	Municipal nursery producing 100,000 seedlings annually	2,000,000	2026–2030	MENRO, MAO	Supports all tree planting activities

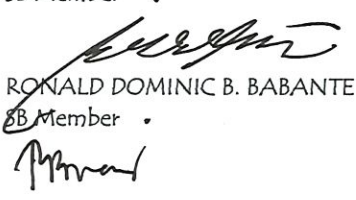
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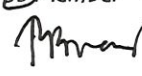

 JESUS A. BARANDA
 Municipal Vice Mayor

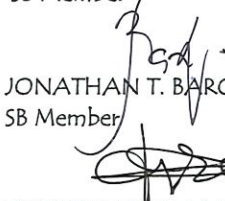
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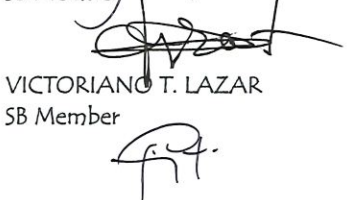

 PAUL E. MUNDAYA
 SB Member

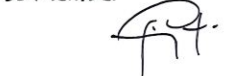

 IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
 SB Member


 RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
 SB Member

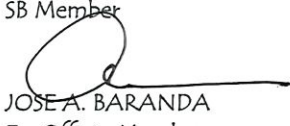

 TRINA C. BURAWIS
 SB Member


 JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
 SB Member


 VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
 SB Member

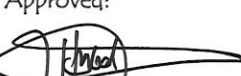

 XANDRIX P. PANTIN
 SB Member


 GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
 SB Member


 JOSE A. BARANDA
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Liga ng mga Barangay


 RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
 Ex-Officio Member
 SKF President

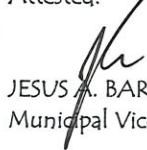
Approved:


 RUDIN T. BABANTE
 Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

Programs / Projects / Activities (PPAs)	Expected Outputs	Estimated Funding Requirement (P)	Year of Implementation	Responsible Office/Agency	Remarks
Community-Based Forest Protection	Community Forest Protection Groups organized in five barangays	1,500,000	Annual	MENRO, Barangays	Includes incentives for volunteers
WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT					
Spring Protection and Development	10 springs protected and developed	4,000,000	2026-2028	Engineering Office, Water System	Improves potable water supply
Water Quality Monitoring Program	Quarterly water quality reports for all major rivers and springs	2,000,000	Annual	Municipal Health Office, MENRO	Laboratory testing included
Riverbank Stabilization	15 km of riverbank stabilized	7,000,000	2026-2030	Engineering Office, DPWH	Structural and vegetative measures
Watershed Hydrological Monitoring	Installation of hydrological monitoring stations	2,500,000	2026-2027	MPDO, DENR	Supports climate monitoring
Sediment and Erosion Control	Installation of check dams and erosion control structures	5,000,000	2027-2030	Engineering Office	Priority erosion-prone areas
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION					
Wildlife Habitat Protection	Wildlife protection zones established	1,500,000	2026-2030	MENRO, DENR	Habitat conservation
Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring	Comprehensive biodiversity database completed	2,000,000	2026-2028	DENR, Academe	Every three years
Habitat Restoration	150 hectares restored	3,000,000	2027-2030	MENRO	Native vegetation restoration
Invasive Species Management	Invasive species mapped and controlled	1,000,000	Annual	MENRO	Monitoring and removal
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT					
Agroforestry Development	300 farmer-beneficiaries practicing agroforestry	5,000,000	2026-2030	MAO, DENR	Livelihood enhancement
Organic Agriculture Promotion	Organic farms established in watershed barangays	3,000,000	Annual	MAO	Supports sustainable farming
Community-Based Ecotourism Development	Ecotourism sites developed and managed	5,000,000	2027-2030	Tourism Office, MPDO	Lake Bito and watershed attractions

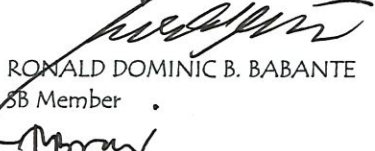
Attested:


 JESUS A. BARANDA
 Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

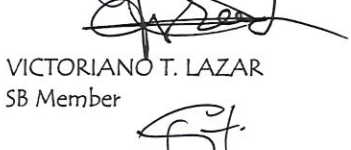

 RAUL E. MUNDALA
 SB Member

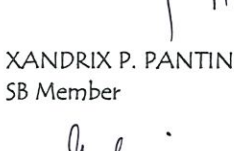

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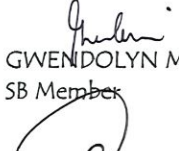

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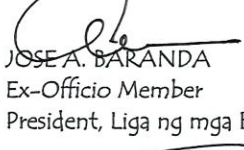

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 VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
 SB Member

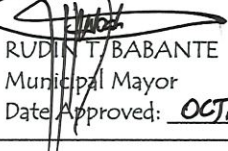

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 Ex-Officio Member
 SKF President

Approved:


 RUDIN T. BABANTE
 Municipal Mayor
Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

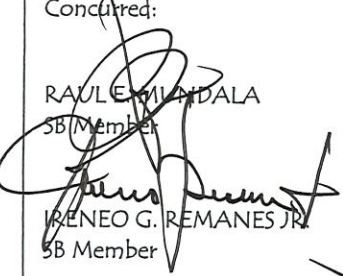
Programs / Projects / Activities (PPAs)	Expected Outputs	Estimated Funding Requirement (P)	Year of Implementation	Responsible Office/Agency	Remarks
Sustainable Livelihood Projects	Alternative livelihoods provided to 200 households	4,000,000	Annual	MSWDO, PESO, MAO	Reduces forest dependency
Community Nurseries	Five operational barangay nurseries established	1,500,000	2026-2028	MENRO, Barangays	Seedling production
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION					
Environmental Awareness Campaigns	IEC conducted in all barangays annually	1,000,000	Annual	MENRO, PIO	Includes IEC materials
School-Based Watershed Education	Environmental modules implemented in schools	1,200,000	Annual	DepEd, MENRO	Environmental education
Youth Environmental Leadership Program	Youth environmental organizations strengthened	1,000,000	Annual	LYDO, MENRO	Youth engagement
Arbor Day, Earth Day and Environment Month Activities	Annual environmental activities conducted	800,000	Annual	MENRO	Community participation
ENFORCEMENT AND MONITORING					
Regular Patrol Operations	Monthly watershed patrols conducted	2,500,000	Annual	Bantay-Kalikasan, PNP	Forest law enforcement
Environmental Checkpoints	Checkpoints established during high-risk periods	1,000,000	Annual	PNP, MENRO	Prevent illegal transport
GIS-Based Watershed Mapping	Updated GIS database completed	3,500,000	2026-2027	MPDO	Supports planning
Drone-Assisted Monitoring	Two operational drones acquired	3,000,000	2026	MPDO, MENRO	Forest surveillance
Forest Fire Prevention Program	Firebreaks established and volunteer brigades trained	2,000,000	Annual	BFP, MENRO	Dry season preparedness
Environmental Law Enforcement Training	At least two trainings annually	1,000,000	Annual	MENRO, DENR	Capacity building
CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION					
Carbon Sequestration Projects	Carbon sequestration areas established	3,500,000	2026-2030	MENRO	Climate mitigation
Rainwater Harvesting Systems	Rainwater facilities installed in public buildings	2,500,000	2026-2028	Engineering Office	Water conservation

Public Service Above Self

Attested:


 JESUS A. BARANDA
 Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

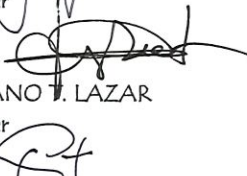

 RAUL E. MANDALA
 SB Member


 IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
 SB Member


 RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
 SB Member


 TRINA C. BURAWIS
 SB Member


 JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
 SB Member


 VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
 SB Member


 XANDRIX P. PANTIN
 SB Member


 GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
 SB Member


 JOSE A. BARANDA
 Ex-Officio Member
 President, Liga ng mga Barangay


 RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
 Ex-Officio Member
 SKF President

Approved:


 RUDIN T. BABANTE
 Municipal Mayor
Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

Programs / Projects / Activities (PPAs)	Expected Outputs	Estimated Funding Requirement (P)	Year of Implementation	Responsible Office/Agency	Remarks
Nature-Based Solutions	Ecosystem-based adaptation projects implemented	3,000,000	2027-2030	MPDO, MENRO	Climate resilience
Climate Resilience Programs	Communities trained in climate adaptation	2,000,000	Annual	MDRRMO	Capacity building
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT					
Watershed Resource Inventory	Comprehensive watershed resource database completed	2,000,000	2026-2027	MPDO, MENRO	Baseline information
Hydrological Assessment	Hydrological studies completed	1,500,000	2027	DENR, MPDO	Water resource planning
Climate Vulnerability Assessment	Climate vulnerability maps prepared	2,000,000	2026-2027	MDRRMO, MPDO	Planning tool
Land Use Change Monitoring	Annual land use monitoring reports prepared	1,500,000	Annual	MPDO	GIS-based monitoring
Environmental Monitoring and Evaluation	Annual State of the Watershed Report published	2,000,000	Annual	MWMC	Basis for policy decisions

ARTICLE X - FUNDING

The implementation of this Ordinance shall be financed through annual appropriations of the Municipality and other lawful funding sources, including:

1. The Local Development Fund under applicable budgeting laws and regulations, including appropriations for eligible environmental and watershed management projects.
2. The Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund for activities that qualify as disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, or climate adaptation under RA No. 10121 and applicable DBM and DILG guidelines.
3. The Municipal General Fund.
4. Any Special Environmental Fund established by ordinance.
5. Grants, donations, and technical assistance from development partners, academic institutions, private organizations, and international agencies, subject to applicable laws.
6. Financial and technical assistance from national government agencies, including but not limited to the DENR, DA, DILG, DPWH, BFAR, NIA, LWUA, NWRB, DOST, and other agencies with watershed-related mandates.

Attested:

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

PAULA MUNDALA
SB Member

IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member

TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member

VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

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SB Member

GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member

JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:

RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

7. The People's Survival Fund, where the proposed projects satisfy the requirements of Republic Act No. 10174 and its implementing rules.
8. Other lawful sources authorized by existing laws, rules, and regulations.

ARTICLE XI – INCENTIVES

To encourage active participation in watershed conservation and environmental stewardship, the Municipality may grant incentives to barangays, people's organizations, civil society organizations, schools, private institutions, volunteers, and individuals who demonstrate exemplary contributions to the protection and rehabilitation of the Watershed Protection Area.

Such incentives may include, among others, certificates of recognition, environmental awards, seedlings and planting materials, livelihood assistance, technical assistance, capacity-building opportunities, and other forms of lawful support, subject to the availability of funds and applicable government accounting and auditing rules.

ARTICLE XII – PENALTIES

Any person, partnership, corporation, association, or other entity found violating any provision of this Ordinance shall be subject to the following administrative penalties, without prejudice to prosecution under applicable national laws:

First Offense

- Fine of One Thousand Pesos (₱1,000.00);
- Mandatory attendance in an environmental awareness seminar accredited by the Municipality; and
- Community service consisting of environmental rehabilitation or clean-up activities, as determined by the Municipal Watershed Management Council.

Second Offense

- Fine of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (₱1,500.00);
- Mandatory restoration or rehabilitation of the damaged area, where feasible;
- Community service as determined by the Municipality; and
- Suspension or revocation of any applicable municipal permit or clearance, subject to due process.

Third and Succeeding Offenses

- Fine of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (₱2,500.00), consistent with the maximum fine authorized for municipal ordinances under

Public Service Above Self

Attested:

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member

IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member

TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member

VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member

GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member

JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:

RODOLFO BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: OCT. 01, 2026

the Local Government Code, unless another law authorizes a higher amount;

- Imprisonment of not more than six (6) months, upon conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction, in accordance with Section 447(a)(1)(iii) of Republic Act No. 7160;
- Cancellation or revocation of municipal permits, licenses, or business authorizations, where applicable; and
- Payment of the full cost of restoring or rehabilitating any damaged natural resources, where authorized by law.

If the prohibited act also constitutes a violation of national environmental laws, including but not limited to the Revised Forestry Code, the Clean Water Act, the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, the Clean Air Act, or other applicable statutes, the Municipality shall refer the case to the appropriate national agencies for investigation and prosecution, in addition to the penalties imposed under this Ordinance.

ARTICLE XIII

SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision is declared unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain valid.

ARTICLE XIV

REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

ARTICLE XV

EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect after the approval of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan and the requirement of posting prescribed by RA 7160 is complied with.

ENACTED by the Sangguniang Bayan in session assembled on September 28, 2026, at the Municipal Session Hall, Legislative Building, MacArthur, Leyte, Philippines.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

MARIE STEPHANIE DE LA CRUZ- PULGA
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR
-----oOo-----

Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that Municipal Ordinance No. 13, Series of 2026 of the Sangguniang Bayan of MacArthur, Leyte, duly enacted on 28 September 2026 and approved last 1 October 2026 has been posted since 5 October 2026 at the bulletin board of the Legislative Building, at Poblacion Public Market, and at Palale I Outpost pursuant to Section 511 of R.A. 7160.


MARIE STEPHANIE DE LA CRUZ- PULGA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

Public Service Above Self



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR
-----OoO-----

Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

Minutes of the Public Hearing of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Protection, Tourism and Culture last Thursday, August 27, 2026, at the Municipal Gymnasium.

PRESENT:

Honorable Gwendolyn M. Beriso	Chairman, Presiding Officer
Honorable Victoriano T. Lazar	Co-Chairman
Honorable Trina C. Burawis	Member
Honorable Ireneo G. Remanes Jr.	Member

ABSENT:

NONE

CALL TO ORDER:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 9:44 in the morning.

AGENDA:

Review and discuss provisions stated under the following proposed Municipal Ordinances:

- MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 12, SERIES OF 2026 "AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE USE OF PLASTIC BAGS AS PACKAGING EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY IN MACARTHUR, LEYTE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF"
- MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 13, SERIES OF 2026 "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MACARTHUR MUNICIPAL WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, DECLARING A FIVE (5)-KILOMETER RADIUS FROM THE MUNICIPAL WATER SOURCE IN SITIO OBO-OB, BRGY. SAN VICENTE, MACARTHUR, LEYTE, AS A WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, CREATING THE MUNICIPAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND THE BANTAY-KALIKASAN WATERSHED PROTECTION TEAM, PROVIDING FOR THEIR POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, PRESCRIBING PROHIBITED ACTS AND PENALTIES, PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

The Public Hearing started after the adjournment of the hearing of Committee on Infrastructure Development, Transformation, Communication. Honorable Beriso seated as the Presiding Officer.

The Secretary to the Sanggunian read the proposed Municipal Ordinance No. 12, Series of 2026 entitled, AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE USE OF PLASTIC BAGS AS PACKAGING EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY IN MACARTHUR, LEYTE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

Afterwards, the Presiding Officer stated the need for reduction of the single-used plastic. She added that the Ordinance aims to lessen the use of the plastic gradually. She then reiterated that the main focus of the Ordinance are the plastics. This also aims for a gradual transition for the public and the business establishments in prohibiting the use of such materials. The Presiding Officer then opened the floor for suggestions and clarifications.

Ms. Abegail, a store owner, inquired with regards to the packaging of coconut milks and oils. The Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office Designate—Engr. Norly Lanza responded that under *Section 7. Exemptions* of the Ordinance, it was mentioned that packaging for wet goods, meat, fish and food that pose sanitation risks are exempted. Since the coconut milk and oil are included in this category, they are exempted as well but, Engr. Lanza added that if there is a possible alternative, then it would be better.

Moreover, Ms. Piga, representative of Brenelou Enterprise, had an observation with regards to the laundry packaging. She added that they usually use plastic packaging because if paper bags were used, it won't hold the laundry. She then asked if it would be possible to include such packaging under exemptions.

The Presiding Officer responded that it can be included under *Section 7. Exemptions* under the third provision which states that, *such other items as may be determined by the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office*.

Engr. Lanza added that with his previous work at Quezon City, they have a strict implementation of the "No Plastic Day". When they have their laundry washed, they still have the plastic packaging, but they mostly use the eco-bags. He then gave an information that most of the municipality already have this Ordinance and that the municipality of MacArthur is gradually implementing the same. In addition, he added that since there are products that really requires the use of plastic packaging, they include the other items as may be determined by the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office.

Along this line, Engr. Lanza stated that at the end of the hearing, with all the suggestions gathered, they will create an implementing rules and regulations for further specifications. Ms. Piga then agreed to have an IRR for a clearer classification.

Another question was raised by Mr. Romel Rosal, a store owner of dry goods, as to when would be the implementation of the Ordinance. The Presiding Officer responded that the Ordinance will be implemented upon approval of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, and would first go through series of readings. She added that they would be given copies once the Ordinance is approved.

In addition, Engr. Lanza stated that after the approval from the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, there would be a 60-day information campaign. The 60-day campaign would

also serve as the transition period. If they still have the plastic packaging, they are still allowed to use those during the days not prohibited. During the 60-day campaign they would be informing the consumers and establishment about the prohibition of using plastic packaging, giving out flyers, posting of tarpaulins for the awareness. They would not be imposing penalties yet during those said days. It would be only for the education and information of the public.

There being no clarifications and suggestions for the proposed Municipal Ordinance No. 12, the Secretary to the Sangguniang proceeded to read the proposed Municipal Ordinance No. 13, Series of 2026 entitled, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MACARTHUR MUNICIPAL WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, DECLARING A FIVE (5)-KILOMETER RADIUS FROM THE MUNICIPAL WATER SOURCE IN SITIO OBO-OB, BRGY. SAN VICENTE, MACARTHUR, LEYTE, AS A WATERSHED PROTECTION AREA, CREATING THE MUNICIPAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND THE BANTAY-KALIKASAN WATERSHED PROTECTION TEAM, PROVIDING FOR THEIR POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, PRESCRIBING PROHIBITED ACTS AND PENALTIES, PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Presiding Officer stated that the Ordinance was created through the help of an attorney, the Sangguniang Bayan members, the Secretary to the Sanggunian, and different agencies and offices. She added that the Ordinance mainly focuses on the five (5) barangays namely, Barangay Lanawan, San Vicente, Oguisan, San Antonio, and Sta. Isabel. The basis for the said Ordinance came from national laws, provincial ordinances, and approved municipal ordinances.

Furthermore, the Presiding Officer stated that the purpose of the Ordinance is to provide protection to the water sources consumed by the municipality. She then opened the floor for clarifications and suggestions.

Engr. Lanza stated that one of the purposes of the creation of the watershed in the municipality of MacArthur, as observed, not all barangays are covered by the MCWASS and there is still scarcity of water. He added that the design of the water system cannot supply and sustain the demand of the increasing number of households and institutional infrastructures.

In addition, Engr. Lanza stated that in order to have a sufficient supply of water, the water source which is located in Sitio Obo-ob of Barangay San Vicente. There is a proposal for expansion of additional water source. He added that the present water source is a spring which has a tendency to dry up especially on hot seasons. Another factor that also affects is the cutting and burning of trees. He also stated that there are already structures constructed along the water source in Sitio Obo-ob such as piggery which why he asked if they would like a water system that is contaminated. He then reiterated the importance of the Ordinance to protect the water source and to impose sanctions to violators.

A query was raised by Ms. Piga about the basis for the 5-kilometer radius of the water source and asked if it can somehow be expanded to a 10-kilometers for the safety and protection of the water source.

Honorable Lazar responded that the bottom line of the Ordinance is the people and the water. There is a need to protect the people that live on that area, as well as the water the municipality is consuming. He added that the 5-kilometer radius comes from the source of

the water, and that they are not against the people living on the area. The Ordinance is mainly for the protection of the water source and for the regulation of prohibited activities.

Honorable Lazar went back to the query of Ms. Piga. He stated that the 5-kilometer radius is for the water source. There is another for the protected area such as the Lake Bito for its biodiversity and environmental protection. He stated that if for instance the radius will be made to 10-kilometers, there would be a lot of complaints for there are a lot of prohibitions such as the construction of toilets and piggeries. He stated that the 5-kilometer will be for the water source, but another one can be made for another area.

Furthermore, Honorable Lazar stated that, from the water source, there is a 20-40-meter buffer zone and there are prohibited activities on those areas.

In conclusion, the Presiding Officer stated the suggestions would be of huge help for the improvement of the Ordinances for the benefit of the community.

ADJOURNMENT:

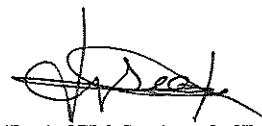
There being no more business to be discussed, Hon. Burawis declared the meeting adjourned at 11:52 in the morning.

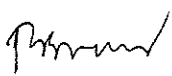
I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing minutes.


ARIANNE M. MERILO
Temporary Secretary

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Protection, Tourism and Culture


HONORABLE GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
Sangguniang Bayan Member
Chairman/Presiding


HONORABLE VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
Sangguniang Bayan Member
Co-Chairman


HONORABLE TRINA C. BURAWIS
Sangguniang Bayan Member
Member


HONORABLE IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
Sangguniang Bayan Member
Member



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR

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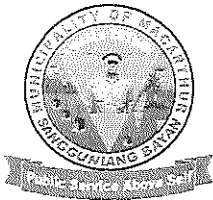
Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

ATTENDANCE

PUBLIC HEARING
(AUGUST 27, 2026 @9:00 AM)
MACARTHUR GYMNASIUM

SB MEMBERS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

	NAME	DESIGNATION	OFFICE	SIGNATURE
1.	VICTORIANO T. LAZAR	SB MEMBER	LEGISLATIVE OFFICE	
2.	GWENDOLYN M. BERISO	SB MEMBER	LEGISLATIVE OFFICE	
3.	MA-VICTORIA E. MUNDALA	MIBO	LCM	
4.	JONATHAN T. BARON	SB MEMBER	LEGISLATIVE OFFICE	
5.	HORLY LANZA	MEMRO DES.	MAJORS OFFICE	
6.	IRENEO G. REMANE	SB MEMBER	LEGISLATIVE	
7.	Henry D Barilla	POIC	PCG	
8.	TIFFANY V. LUMPAS	ME	MED	
9.	TRINA C. SURAJA	SB member	Legislative	
10.	MR. CARMEN P. LARIBA		Ces	
11.	XANDRIX P. PATAN	CS MEMBER	LEGISLATIVE	
12.	PCP Jennette Poble	PNP Inver	PNP	
13.	MARIE STEPHANIE DE LA CRUZ-PULGA	SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG	LEGISLATIVE	
14.	CLARISS B. BRAD	SB STAFF	LEGISLATIVE	
15.	JUDELYN L. EUSEBIO	SB STAFF	LEGISLATIVE	
16.	HANNAH G. ENCLINA	SB STAFF	LEGISLATIVE	
17.	AILAH A. MEDINA	SB STAFF	LEGISLATIVE	
18.	ARIANNE M. MERILO	SB STAFF	LEGISLATIVE	
19.	JOHN MARK D. ARELA	SB STAFF	LEGISLATIVE	
20.	GRACE T. MATOL	SB STAFF	LEGISLATIVE	



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR

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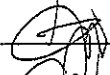
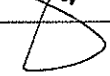
Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

ATTENDANCE

PUBLIC HEARING
(AUGUST 27, 2026 @9:00 AM)
MACARTHUR GYMNASIUM

REGISTERED BUSINESS OWNERS

	NAME	DESIGNATION	BUSINESS NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	FRANCIS MARK NADERA	BRANCH HEAD	ASA PHILIPPINES FOUNDATION INC	
2.	ROMMEL S ROSAL	MARKET	AL NOOR DRY GOODS	
3.	SALVADOR ALONSO JR.	OWNER	SALVADOR GENERAL MERCHANTS	
4.	OPHELIA M. JAVOSALEN	OWNER	OPHEL - OTHERS FRUIT & VEGETABLE STALL	
5.	SARAH DERECHO	CREW	CRISPY KING	
6.	JIMREY PAGUIPO	CREW	PANGAON RESTAURANT	
7.	ARNOLD JAVOSALEN	OWNER	TRIPLEX MEATSHOP	
8.	JOHNA LOU V. ALCANDO / GABRIEL PHARMACY	SALES STAFF	GABRIEL PHARMACY	
9.	KIRSTINA LYNN CATAVAN	OWNER	4 A DRY GOODS STORE	
10.	Jelly Ann O'Caanic	Sales staff	Pintura Paint Trading	
11.	KOCHOULE M. KANGAS	PA / CASHIER	HEALTH DIRECT PHARMACY	
12.	Jerwin Damaras	Vendors	Food	
13.	Regil Sabares	VENDOR	11	
14.	GENTRINA EFRON	STORE PRESENT	ULING ROBERTA	
15.	Engr. Mateo			
16.	Thelma B. Scolicol	owner	JAMESY STORE	
17.	michelle Gracia	owner	RUM HUB	
18.	SHANNIE ROSE DY	STAFF	VERIAN ENTERTAINMENT	
19.	Raliding, Rivelyn	OWNER	TAIKOYAKITAN FOODSTALL	
20.	VERONICA, EDGAR	NON IDENTIFIED	EXALAT MEATSHOP	

	NAME	DESIGNATION	BUSINESS NAME	SIGNATURE
21.	~~RENDERLY~~ ARRIBE	Representative	LANISHKA BAKERY	Arribe
22.	Carmelita V. Enso	Owner	Sunlight Eatery	enso
23.	GLORIA L. ROBA	OWNER	CHICKEN STALL	
24.	AJIE T. AQUINO	OWNER	MILKSHAKE & KAKANIN	Aquino
25.	Marvic Mae N. Adonis	Representative	Undercuts Salon	Adonis
26.	TEODORO N. LAPA	OWNER	FISH VENDOR	Teodoro Lapa
27.	NEL D. DAYOC	OWNER	TIKBOY MEDITATION	Dayoc
28.	JONADIN C ESTUOLAN	OWNER	CANAX ANKA	
29.	JONADIN C ESTUOLAN	REPRESENTATIVE	EOP GALL	
30.	MICHAEL VELASCO	OWNER	CHIBUGAN	
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Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR

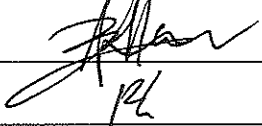
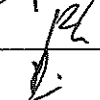
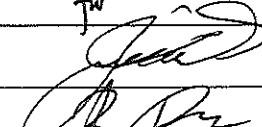
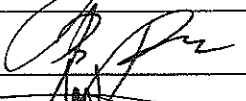
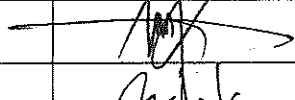
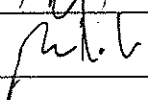
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Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

ATTENDANCE

PUBLIC HEARING
(AUGUST 27, 2026 @9:00 AM)
MACARTHUR GYMNASIUM

BARANGAY OFFICIALS

	NAME	DESIGNATION	BARANGAY	SIGNATURE
1.	Rolly D. Tagapunt	P.B.	SAN ISIDRO	
2.	Henry D. Barilla	POIC	PCG	
3.	Franc G. Lora	P.B.	PACUAC 1	
4.	Rommel A. Belleza	P.B.	VILLA DONALDO	
5.	Tom Nello Sirohig	P.B.	SALVARI	
6.	JARRED R. MILAR	P.B.	DANAO	
7.	REYNEL C. RUIZ	REGY. SECRETARY	PDB. DIST. 1	
8.	PERID Q. WIMARAN	P.B.	MAYA	
9.	BEDD E. MUNDALA	P.B.	ROMUALDOZ	
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Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR
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Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

ATTENDANCE

PUBLIC HEARING
(AUGUST 27, 2026 @9:00 AM)
MACARTHUR GYMNASIUM

REGISTERED SAND AND GRAVEL CONCESSIONAIRES &
HARDWARE OWNERS

	NAME	DESIGNATION	BUSINESS NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	SALVADOR ALERA JR	OWNER	SALVADOR GENERAL MERCHANDISE	
2.	DELA U. PIGA	BRINELON Enterprises Representative:	BRINELON Enterprises	
3.	DULCE LAZAR	OWNER	AML BUILDERS & LOGS. SUPPLIES	
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Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR

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Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

DOCUMENTATION

Public Hearing
(Thursday, August 27, 2026)



Galaxy S24 Ultra

*Public Hearing
August 27, 2026*

