



PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

"An Advocacy Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation"
No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City
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SEC Reg. No. 2023010082317-06

24 June 2025

HON. ARNEL M. AGABE

Regional Director

Department of the Interior and Local Government – Region VIII
Tacloban City

Subject: **Endorsement of Letter to DILG City Director Giva and Request for Regional Oversight on Tacloban City's Non-Compliance with CFCMP Mandate**

Dear Director Agabe,

Warm greetings!

We respectfully submit for your information and appropriate regional action the attached letter addressed to DILG Tacloban City Director Engr. Visitacion V. Giva, CESE, concerning the continued failure of the Tacloban City Government to formulate and adopt a legally mandated Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP), in violation of multiple national laws and issuances.

As documented in our enclosed correspondences with the City Government from March to June 2025, **this protracted inaction despite Tacloban's status as a Highly Urbanized City and its long-standing vulnerability to extreme weather events raises urgent concerns about local governance, public safety, and compliance with the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, the Climate Change Act, and relevant DILG and DPWH directives.**

Given the seriousness of the issues involved and the implications for disaster preparedness and community resilience, we respectfully request your good office's close oversight and support in **ensuring the immediate initiation of a formal compliance review and audit, and the imposition of appropriate enforcement actions where warranted.**

We also respectfully ask: Will the DILG Regional Office consider undertaking a broader review of the compliance of all cities and municipalities in Region VIII with respect to the formulation and adoption of their respective flood control and disaster risk reduction master plans? Given the vulnerability of our region to typhoons, flooding, and climate-related hazards, a region-wide compliance audit would serve as a timely and strategic intervention to strengthen local resilience and uphold the public's right to safety, information, and responsive governance.

We trust in your leadership to uphold the rule of law and safeguard the welfare of Tacloban's most vulnerable citizens. We likewise reaffirm our commitment to work collaboratively with your office and other concerned agencies in the pursuit of inclusive, science-based, and accountable local governance.

DILG Regional Office VIII
Tacloban City

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JUN 25 2025

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PA' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and CEO
PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.

Enclosure:

Letter to DILG City Director Visitacion V. Giva, CESE, dated 24 June 2025
Letters to Mayor Alfred S. Romualdez

Cc: Hon. Jonvic Remulla, DILG Secretary
PH Haiyan Partners



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SEC Reg. No. 2023010082317-06

24 June 2025

ENGR. VISITACION V. GIVA, CESE

City Director
Department of Interior and Local Government
Tacloban City

Subject: **Transmittal of Letters and Request for DILG Intervention and Enforcement Action on Tacloban City's Continued Failure to Formulate a Legally Mandated Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP)**

Dear Director Giva,

Warm Greetings!

In accordance with the Department of Interior and Local Government's (DILG) constitutional and legal mandate to supervise local government units (LGUs), we respectfully submit to your office the enclosed documents, including our formal correspondences with the City Government of Tacloban from March to June 2025, in relation to its continued failure to formulate and adopt a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) a core requirement for disaster risk reduction and climate resilience.

These correspondences reflect sustained efforts by PH Haiyan Advocacy, Inc. and its partner stakeholders to urge the City Government to fulfill its duty to protect lives, properties, and the future of the most vulnerable sectors of Tacloban. The legal basis for the CFCMP is unequivocal, grounded in the following national laws and administrative issuances:

- a. Republic Act No. 10121 – Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010
- b. Republic Act No. 7160 – Local Government Code of 1991
- c. Republic Act No. 9729 – Climate Change Act of 2009
- d. Department of Public Works and Highways Department Order No. 41, s. 2016
- e. DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2021-068

Despite these mandates and the city's own vulnerability to extreme weather events as dramatically demonstrated by Super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) Tacloban City remains without an adopted flood control master plan. This is an inexcusable failure of governance and an abdication of public duty.

We are constrained to underscore that the current Mayor of Tacloban is now serving his 16th year in office, having first assumed office in 2007. Tacloban has also held Highly Urbanized City (HUC) status since 2009. Yet after more than a decade and a half of administrative tenure and elevated city status, there is still no comprehensive, science-based roadmap to mitigate flooding and reduce risks to life and property. This prolonged inaction appears to reflect not merely neglect, but either willful disregard of statutory duties or gross administrative incompetence. In either case, we believe, it constitutes a breach of public trust.

Accordingly, and in the interest of transparency, accountability, and the safety of Tacloban's citizens, we respectfully ask the following:

1. **Why does Tacloban City, in its 15th year as an HUC and under a long-serving Mayor, still have no finalized and adopted Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan despite repeated episodes of life-threatening flooding?**
2. Why has it taken a non-governmental organization and civil society volunteers not the City Government or the DILG to surface, document, and escalate this non-compliance, when national directives clearly vest the DILG with authority to monitor, regulate, and enforce compliance?

The danger of continued inaction cannot be overstated. Without a CFCMP, public infrastructure planning remains fragmented, reactive, and prone to inefficiency and corruption. Moreover, the lives and livelihoods of thousands of families living in flood-prone barangays remain at daily risk. The consequences of climate change demand proactive, science-based solutions—not excuses or political evasion. **Must we wait for another tragic event especially one involving the loss of lives before this long-overdue plan is finalized and implemented? The price of neglect is far too high.**

In view of the urgency and the public interest involved, we respectfully call on your good office to:

1. **Immediately initiate a formal review and audit** of the City Government's compliance with the cited national laws and issuances on disaster preparedness and flood control planning;
2. **Issue a directive to the City Government requiring full disclosure of the current status of the CFCMP, including relevant budget allocations, technical consultants, and timeline for completion;**
3. **Enforce penalties or administrative action** where appropriate under law for non-compliance or negligence, and ensure accountability mechanisms are in place;
4. Facilitate public access to information and engage local stakeholders and technical experts in ensuring the plan, once drafted, meets scientific, environmental, and social safeguards.

In the interest of transparency and public participation, we further request that PH Haiyan Advocacy, Inc. be furnished an official copy of the results of the review and audit once completed, and be kept informed of all relevant findings, actions, and developments.

consistent with the public's right to information on matters affecting public safety, environmental governance, and disaster resilience.

Director Giva, we believe that your leadership and decisive action at this time can prevent future loss of life and set a vital precedent for LGU accountability and climate resilience nationwide.

We remain fully committed to collaborating with your office, the City Government, and all concerned agencies in forging a safer, more responsive, and climate-prepared Tacloban City.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and CEO
PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.

Cc:

Hon. Jonvic Remulla, DILG Secretary.
Hon. Arnel M. Agabe, DILG VIII Regional Director
PH Haiyan Partners

Enclosures:

(See attached Letters from March 2025 to June 2025)



24 March 2025

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
Local Chief
Executive Kanhuraw
Hills Tacloban City

TUPAZ ROSEJA T.

11:05
MAR 25 2025
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ATTENTION: Engr. Dionisio O. De Paz
City Engineer
City Engineers Office
Tacloban City

ENP Janis Claire S. Canta
City Planning and Development Office
Tacloban City

Subject: Endorsement and Urgent Formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City

Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Warm greetings!

Tacloban has made significant progress in building resilience, and we firmly believe that through unity and decisive action, we can realize a flood-resilient future. In line with this, we partnered with Eastern Visayas State University (EVSU) to convene the Flood Control & Mitigation Forum on March 7, 2025, bringing together key stakeholders to discuss sustainable flood mitigation strategies.

During this forum, representatives from the City Planning and Development Office and the City Engineer's Office presented ongoing flood control initiatives. However, it was concerning to learn that Tacloban City has yet to adopt a legally mandated Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP), a crucial blueprint for long-term flood mitigation.

Legal Basis for the CFCMP

The formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan is not only a necessity but a legal obligation under the following national laws, policies, and directives:

1. **Republic Act No. 10121 (Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010)** – Mandates LGUs to develop disaster risk reduction and management plans, including flood control measures, to mitigate the impact of climate-induced disasters.
2. **Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991)** – Assigns LGUs the

3. **Republic Act No. 9729 (Climate Change Act of 2009)** – Requires LGUs to integrate climate adaptation and flood mitigation measures into local development plans.
4. **DPWH Department Order No. 41, s. 2016** – Directs LGUs to integrate flood control master plans into their respective development plans, ensuring systematic and sustainable urban planning.
5. **DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2021-068** – Instructs LGUs to adopt science-based flood control and water management strategies in compliance with the National Climate Change Action Plan.

Endorsement of the CFCMP and Proposed Timeline

Recognizing the urgency of this matter, the participants of the forum—composed of government agencies, academic experts, civil society organizations, and professional engineers—have collectively signed a Manifesto endorsing the immediate formulation of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan for Tacloban City. We are attaching this signed Manifesto for your consideration and action.

To ensure an inclusive, transparent, and effective process, we propose the following timeline for the development and adoption of the CFCMP:

- **March-April 2025** – Creation of a Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of representatives from the LGU, DPWH, NEDA, DOST-PAGASA, EVSU, and other relevant agencies.
- **May-June 2025** – Conduct of public consultations and technical studies, including flood risk mapping, hydrological modeling, and infrastructure assessments.
- **July-August 2025** – Drafting of the CFCMP, incorporating stakeholder inputs and technical recommendations.
- **September 2025** – Presentation of the draft CFCMP in a public hearing for validation and further refinements.
- **October 2025** – Endorsement of the finalized CFCMP to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for adoption through a City Resolution.
- **November 2025** – Elevation of the adopted CFCMP to Congress and the Office of the President for national-level support and budget allocation.

Call for Immediate Action

To move forward with this initiative, we respectfully request:

1. The immediate formation of the Technical Working Group to spearhead the CFCMP formulation.
2. The scheduling of a public hearing where the EVSU Engineering Department and the Metro Tacloban Civil Engineers Association can present technical recommendations.
3. Formal adoption of the CFCMP through a City Resolution by October 2025.
4. Coordination with national agencies to secure funding and implementation support.

We firmly believe that with your leadership and the commitment of all stakeholders, Tacloban can serve as a model for climate resilience and flood mitigation. We remain eager to collaborate with your office to ensure the realization of this crucial initiative.

We look forward to your response and remain available for further discussions.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "Pete" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
M-0917-846-1299



DR. DENNIS. DE PAZ
President, EVSU

Cc: All Forum Speakers and Participants

BITUM GALAPON
09397689006
EXEC ASST.



PH-HAIYAN
ADVOCACY, INC.

PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

"An Advocacy Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation"

No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City

Email: phhaiyanadvocacy8500@gmail.com

15 April 2025

RECEIVED BY

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ

Local Chief Executive

Kanhuraw Hills, Tacloban City

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ALL CC FOR CITY RECEIVED

Subject: Meeting on the Endorsement and Urgent Formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City

Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Greetings of peace and resilience.

On behalf of PH Haiyan Advocacy, Inc., we express our sincere thanks for the meeting held on April 15, 2025, concerning the endorsement and urgent formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City.

While we were glad to be part of this important dialogue, allow us to respectfully express both our appreciation and concern.

We were **saddened** that:

1. Despite the importance of the meeting, Your Honor was not present to preside over it;
2. No explanation was given by any of your department heads regarding your absence;
3. There appeared to be a lack of coordination between the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO) and the City Engineer's Office (CEO);
4. Both offices candidly admitted that the City does not have the technical capacity to prepare the CFCMP and that only the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) can do so;
5. Unfortunately, DPWH was not invited to participate in the meeting despite its crucial role.

Nevertheless, we were also **glad** that the following positive steps were agreed upon:

1. That an Executive Order will be issued to create a Technical Working Group to lead the CFCMP formulation;
2. That a second meeting has been scheduled for April 30, 2025;
3. That the DPWH will be formally invited to this second meeting;
4. That PH Haiyan will be furnished a copy of the City's letter-invitation to DPWH.

We commit to assist in ensuring the presence of the DPWH Regional Director at the upcoming meeting.

Finally, we earnestly **request Your Honor's presence** at the April 30 meeting to provide decisive leadership in moving forward with the long-overdue and life-saving formulation of the CFCMP for Tacloban City.

Thank you once again for your continuing commitment to a safer and more resilient Tacloban.

Respectfully yours,

PETRONILO L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President



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An Advocacy Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation
No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City
Email: phhayanadvocacygroup@gmail.com

21 April 2025



HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
Local Chief Executive
Kanhuraw Hills, Tacloban City

Subject: Follow-Up on April 30, 2025 Meeting and Reiteration of Request for Your Presence to Lead CFCMP Formulation

Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Warm greetings of peace and continued resilience.

We write to respectfully follow up on our letter dated April 15, 2025, and to once again express our sincere appreciation for convening the initial dialogue on the urgent formulation of a **Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP)** for Tacloban City held on the same day.

As the second meeting on this critical matter is scheduled for **April 30, 2025**, we earnestly reiterate our request for **Your Honor's presence and leadership** to personally preside over the proceedings. The CFCMP is not only a long-overdue strategic response to the City's increasing vulnerability to flooding — it is also a **legal obligation** under national planning and climate resilience frameworks for **Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs)** like Tacloban. Most importantly, it is a matter **imbued with profound public interest**, directly affecting the safety, welfare, and future development of our communities.

While we understand that this is an election campaign period and that Your Honor is seeking reelection for a third term, we firmly believe that your presence at this meeting would be a powerful affirmation of your enduring commitment to serve Tacloban and its people in the best way possible.

Your leadership will be instrumental in:

- Strengthening inter-agency collaboration, particularly with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), whose technical role is essential to the CFCMP's success;
- Mobilizing key city departments to contribute to the planning process;
- Demonstrating the City Government's firm resolve to protect lives, infrastructure, and economic activities through long-term solutions.

To enrich the discussions, we respectfully request that you **direct the City Engineer's Office (CEO) and the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO)** to present the **existing and historical Drainage Master Plan of Tacloban City**. This recommendation was raised during the April 15 meeting by **Engr. Dennis Tajo**, Immediate Past President of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers (PICE) Tacloban Chapter. The presentation will help identify planning gaps and technical needs in the presence of DPWH representatives, who are expected to attend.

We, at PH Haiyan Advocacy, Inc., remain committed to supporting this process and are actively assisting in ensuring the participation of the DPWH Regional Office.

We respectfully look forward to Your Honor's participation in this critical undertaking for a **safer, flood-resilient, and future-ready Tacloban**.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.
M-0917-846-1299

Cc: Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
Engr. Dennis Tajo, IPP Metro Tacloban Chapter
ENP Janis Claire Canta, CPDO – Tacloban
Engr. Dennis De Paz, City Engineer's Office – Tacloban
Atty. Annaliza A. Quliope, City Administrator's Office – Tacloban
RD Edgar Tabacon – DWPH Region VIII
Forum Speakers and Participants



PH-HAIYAN
ADVOCACY, INC.

PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

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25 April 2025

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
Local Chief Executive
Kanhuraw Hills, Tacloban City

APR 25 2025
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Subject: Acknowledgment of Notice of Meeting and Recommendations on the Formulation of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP)

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Dear **Mayor Romualdez**,

Warm greetings of peace and resilience.

On behalf of PH-Haiyan Advocacy, Inc. and Eastern Visayas State University (EVSU), we wish to express our sincere appreciation for the official **Notice of Meeting** dated April 24, 2025, inviting us to the second session on the **Urgent Formulation of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP)** for Tacloban City, scheduled on **April 30, 2025 at 1:00 P.M.** in the CADMO Boardroom.

We welcome this development and recognize that it builds on the outcomes of the **March 7, 2025 Flood Control and Mitigation Forum**, the resulting **March 24 stakeholder letter**, and the **April 15 initial meeting**. These successive engagements signal the growing urgency and shared commitment to address the city's long-standing vulnerability to flooding.

Points of Appreciation and Concern:

While we acknowledge the efforts of your office to begin institutionalizing this process through an Executive Order, allow us to respectfully share a few concerns and recommendations:

1. On the April 15 Meeting:

- We regret that Your Honor was unable to attend the meeting, and that no explanation for your absence was provided.
- It was also observed that there appeared to be limited coordination between the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO) and the City Engineer's Office (CEO).
- Both offices acknowledged that the City lacks the technical capacity to independently draft the CFCMP, and that the **Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)** is the only agency with the necessary capability—yet DPWH was not present nor invited.

Despite this, we are grateful that the following were agreed upon:

- The issuance of an Executive Order to establish a Technical Working Group (TWG);
- The scheduling of the April 30 follow-up meeting;
- The formal invitation to be extended to DPWH;
- The commitment to furnish PH-Haiyan a copy of the letter to DPWH.

2. **On the Executive Order No. 2025-04-25 and Process:**

- The copy of Executive Order, as mentioned in the meeting notice, **does not reflect or reference** the collective efforts initiated through the **March 7 forum, March 24 stakeholder roadmap, or the April 15 meeting resolutions.**
- We believe these risks overlooking valuable groundwork already done by local stakeholders, professionals, and advocacy groups.

Recommendations Moving Forward:

To ensure that the process is both **legitimate and sustainable**, we respectfully recommend the following:

1. **TWG Composition Reflective of Mandate:**

That the Technical Working Group (TWG), as created by the Executive Order, be composed solely of **City Government personnel**—as it is fundamentally an internal mechanism of the City LGU under Your Honor's mandate. We understand that the work required of the TWG, as described in the E.O., involves technical and administrative functions that can only be officially carried out by duly designated LGU officers.

2. **Role of Civil Society, Academe, and Engineers:**

That the participation of **academic institutions, civil society organizations, and professional engineering bodies** such as PICE, remain focused on **evaluating, providing feedback, and contributing technical insights**—especially when the City's preliminary flood control plans and studies are ready for review. This was the consensus role outlined during the **March 7 Flood Control Forum**, where their input was intended to complement—not replace—the official planning process of the city.

3. **Reference to Stakeholder-Led Roadmap:**

That the Executive Order make reference to the **March 24 stakeholder proposal**, which lays out a suggested roadmap for the CFCMP formulation—from technical scoping, baseline gathering, to plan development and validation—toward formal adoption by November 2025. This roadmap could serve as a helpful guidepost for accountability and community engagement.

4. **Interagency and Legislative Integration:**

That the TWG be directed to collaborate with the **Sangguniang Panlungsod** and key national agencies such as **DPWH** to ensure that the CFCMP is technically robust, politically supported, and fundable at both local and national levels.

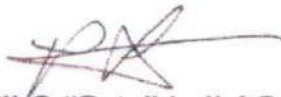
5. **Decisive Leadership from the Mayor:**

Finally, we earnestly reiterate our request for Your Honor to personally attend the April 30 meeting and lead this critical effort. Your presence will set the tone for urgency, unity, and institutional resolve—especially as we begin formulating what could become a legacy initiative for a safer and flood-resilient Tacloban.

We remain fully committed to contributing to this effort and helping ensure the presence of the DPWH Regional Office and other key technical stakeholders at the meeting. We believe that, with your leadership, Tacloban can finally move from reactive response to a proactive and science-based flood resilience agenda.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to building a safer Tacloban City.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "Pete" L. ILAGAN

Chairman and President
PH Haiyan Advocacy
Mobile: 0917-846-1299

Cc: Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
Engr. Dennis Tajo, MTCEA
City Planning Development Office – Tacloban City
City Engineer's Office – Tacloban City
City Administrator's Office – Tacloban City
RD Edgar Tabacon – DWPH Region VIII



THE HEYAN ADVOCACY INC.
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28 May 2025

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
Local Chief Executive
Kanhuraw Hills, Tacloban City

Subject: Request for Update on the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP)

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SIGNATURE

Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Warm greetings!

At the outset, we wish to extend our heartfelt **congratulations on your reelection for a third and final term** as Local Chief Executive of Tacloban City. We are confident that your renewed mandate will empower your administration to pursue transformative programs, and we sincerely hope that this final term will become one of the most **meaningful and fulfilling chapters of your public service legacy for the Taclobanons.**

We write to respectfully reiterate our sustained interest in supporting the development of Tacloban City's Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP). While we understand that the April 30, 2025 meeting did not proceed as initially scheduled, we acknowledge and respect the City Government's decision to proceed with the formulation of the CFCMP through a Technical Working Group (TWG) composed solely of LGU department heads, in cooperation with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

In this regard, we wish to request a brief update on the current status of the CFCMP formulation process. As one of the advocacy groups actively involved in convening the March 7 Flood Forum and facilitating initial stakeholder inputs, we have continued to receive inquiries and expressions of interest from our academic, civil society, and professional engineering partners who remain eager to contribute to this vital city-wide initiative.

We hope to share any update you may provide—including any new timelines, milestones, or opportunities for stakeholder engagement—with our partners, in order to sustain their support and alignment with the City Government's direction.

We also respectfully seek your assurance that the timeline initially discussed—aiming for the CFCMP's adoption by **November 2025**—is being followed. This target is critical in maintaining public trust, sustaining momentum, and ensuring that long-overdue solutions to Tacloban's flood vulnerabilities are brought to fruition in a timely and inclusive manner.

- We remain fully committed to working collaboratively and respectfully within the City's institutional framework, and we trust that our shared goal of a **flood-resilient Tacloban** will continue to unite our efforts.

Thank you once again for your leadership and commitment to building a safer future for all Taclobanons.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
M-0917-846-1299

Cc:

City Planning Development Office – Tacloban City
City Engineer's Office – Tacloban City
City Administrator's Office – Tacloban City
Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
RD Edgar Tabacon – DWPH Region VIII



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SEC Reg. No. 2023010082317-06

24 June 2025

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ

City Mayor

Kanhuraw Hill, Tacloban City

Subject: **URGENT FOLLOW-UP ON COMPREHENSIVE FLOOD CONTROL MASTER PLAN (CFCMP): Request for Updates from the Technical Working Group (TWG)**

Dear **Mayor Romualdez**,

Warm greeting!

We write once again to follow up on the status of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City, as previously raised in our formal correspondences dated March 25, April 15, April 21, April 25, and May 28, 2025.

As you are aware, Tacloban remains one of the most climate-vulnerable cities in the country, with large portions of its population and infrastructure exposed to recurrent flooding and sea-level rise. The formulation and adoption of a comprehensive, science-based, and community-informed flood control master plan is not merely a technical or planning exercise—it is an urgent public safety and climate resilience imperative. The CFCMP is vital not only to protect lives and property but also to guide long-term investments, land use planning, and inter-agency coordination for disaster risk reduction.

We acknowledge and commend the issuance of **Executive Order No. 2025-04-25** creating a Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of LGU department heads, as well as the initial steps undertaken in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). However, given the magnitude of risk involved and the initial timeline discussed aiming for adoption by November 2025, we respectfully and urgently request an official update on the TWG's current progress, milestones achieved, ongoing activities, and projected next steps.

We further invoke the provisions of:

- Republic Act No. 11032 (Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018), which mandates that government offices and local government units must act on complex transactions within fifteen (15) working days from receipt of complete submissions, unless otherwise justified and formally communicated; and

- Republic Act No. 6713 (Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees), which enjoins all public servants to uphold the highest standards of professionalism, responsiveness, and commitment to public interest, particularly in matters directly affecting the welfare and safety of constituents.

Timely and transparent updates on the TWG's work are not only a legal obligation—they are a matter of public trust and a cornerstone of accountable governance.

In this regard, and considering that all our previous submissions and proposals are already on record with your good office, we respectfully reiterate our formal request for an official update from the TWG. For transparency and proper documentation, we have also submitted all related materials to the City Director of Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Region VIII for appropriate monitoring and guidance under its supervisory mandate.

We remain ready and willing to constructively support the City Government and its partners in this critical endeavor.

Thank you once again for your continued leadership, and we look forward to your positive response in the spirit of climate resilience, transparency, and public service.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and CEO
PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.

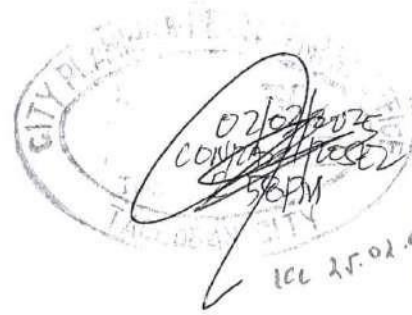
Cc:

- City Planning Development Office – Tacloban City
- City Engineer's Office – Tacloban City
- City Administrator's Office – Tacloban City
- Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
- RD Edgar Tabacon – DPWH Region VIII
- City Director, DILG Region VIII



3 February 2025

JANIS CLAIRE S. CANTA
City Planning and Development Coordinator
City Government of Tacloban



Dear City Planner Cant,

Greetings!

Our organization, PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc., a group of Super Typhoon Yolanda survivors, is actively engaged in environmental activities in Tacloban City and the province of Leyte. From 2017-2018, we partnered with DENR Region VIII to conduct mangrove reforestation on 46 hectares of Tacloban coastline. We are currently undertaking even more ambitious projects to reforest up to 300 hectares of mountain areas within the Tacloban watershed to mitigate the effects of future calamities.

In partnership with Eastern Visayas State University, PH Haiyan is employing intensified strategies to enhance climate resiliency measures. One such strategy is the Flood Control and Mitigation Forum on March 7, 2025, at the 2nd Floor EVSU GS Function Hall, Tacloban City. The theme of the forum is **"Building Resilience Together: Advancing Sustainable Flood Control Solutions for Tacloban City."** This forum aims to develop engineering solutions and a draft manifestation of support from various stakeholders, particularly the different barangays in the city, to lobby for a city ordinance to implement and monitor a sound flood control program.

Thus, we would like to invite the **City Planning and Development Officer to present Tacloban City's Flood Control Program and its current status** at this event.

This activity aligns with our vision for Tacloban to become a climate resiliency model. We aim to garner support from concerned agencies and civil society for their active involvement in discussing and implementing an acceptable flood control program. The

forum is a collaborative effort with NEDA, DENR, DA, DAR, Department of Human Settlement and Urban Development, OCD, and DPWH, along with civic organizations such as Civil Engineers Association, United Architects, Mechanical Engineers Association, PICPA, IBP, Rotary Clubs, Kusog Sinirangan Eagles Club and JCI Tacloban Kankabatok, religious groups, and the student councils of the University of the Philippines, EVSU, and Leyte Normal University. The main presenter will be the City Planning and Development Office of Tacloban City.

The program flow for the event is attached. For queries, please contact Hector Grama, at 09519312186 or hbgrama4031@gmail.com. You may also contact Prof. Mia Gretz Abapo-Ramirez, External Affairs Director of EVSU, at miagretz.abapo@evsu.edu.ph.

We kindly request you to confirm your participation by February 20, 2025, so we can finalize the program.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to your positive response.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "Pete" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
M-0917-846-1299



DR. DENNIS. DE PAZ
President, EVSU



PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

"An Advocacy Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation"

No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City

Email: phhaiyanadvocacy6500@gmail.com Website: phhaiyan.com

Mobile no: +639 05-497-9574 / +639 62-105-9173

SEC Reg. No. 2023010082317-06

24 June 2025

ENGR. VISITACION V. GIVA, CESE

City Director

Department of Interior and Local Government

Tacloban City



Subject: **Transmittal of Letters and Request for DILG Intervention and Enforcement Action on Tacloban City's Continued Failure to Formulate a Legally Mandated Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP)**

Dear Director Giva,

Warm Greetings!

In accordance with the Department of Interior and Local Government's (DILG) constitutional and legal mandate to supervise local government units (LGUs), we respectfully submit to your office the enclosed documents, including our formal correspondences with the City Government of Tacloban from March to June 2025, in relation to its continued failure to formulate and adopt a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) a core requirement for disaster risk reduction and climate resilience.

These correspondences reflect sustained efforts by PH Haiyan Advocacy, Inc. and its partner stakeholders to urge the City Government to fulfill its duty to protect lives, properties, and the future of the most vulnerable sectors of Tacloban. The legal basis for the CFCMP is unequivocal, grounded in the following national laws and administrative issuances:

- a. Republic Act No. 10121 – Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010
- b. Republic Act No. 7160 – Local Government Code of 1991
- c. Republic Act No. 9729 – Climate Change Act of 2009
- d. Department of Public Works and Highways Department Order No. 41, s. 2016
- e. DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2021-068

Despite these mandates and the city's own vulnerability to extreme weather events as dramatically demonstrated by Super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) Tacloban City remains without an adopted flood control master plan. This is an inexcusable failure of governance and an abdication of public duty.

We are constrained to underscore that the current Mayor of Tacloban is now serving his 16th year in office, having first assumed office in 2007. Tacloban has also held Highly Urbanized City (HUC) status since 2009. Yet after more than a decade and a half of administrative tenure and elevated city status, there is still no comprehensive, science-based roadmap to mitigate flooding and reduce risks to life and property. This prolonged inaction appears to reflect not merely neglect, but either willful disregard of statutory duties or gross administrative incompetence. In either case, we believe, it constitutes a breach of public trust.

Accordingly, and **in the interest of transparency, accountability, and the safety of Tacloban's citizens**, we respectfully ask the following:

- 1. Why does Tacloban City, in its 15th year as an HUC and under a long-serving Mayor, still have no finalized and adopted Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan despite repeated episodes of life-threatening flooding?**
2. Why has it taken a non-governmental organization and civil society volunteers not the City Government or the DILG to surface, document, and escalate this non-compliance, when national directives clearly vest the DILG with authority to monitor, regulate, and enforce compliance?

The danger of continued inaction cannot be overstated. Without a CFCMP, public infrastructure planning remains fragmented, reactive, and prone to inefficiency and corruption. Moreover, the lives and livelihoods of thousands of families living in flood-prone barangays remain at daily risk. The consequences of climate change demand proactive, science-based solutions—not excuses or political evasion. **Must we wait for another tragic event especially one involving the loss of lives before this long-overdue plan is finalized and implemented? The price of neglect is far too high.**

In view of the urgency and the public interest involved, we respectfully call on your good office to:

- 1. Immediately initiate a formal review and audit** of the City Government's compliance with the cited national laws and issuances on disaster preparedness and flood control planning;
- 2. Issue a directive to the City Government requiring full disclosure of the current status of the CFCMP, including relevant budget allocations, technical consultants, and timeline for completion;**
- 3. Enforce penalties or administrative action** where appropriate under law for non-compliance or negligence, and ensure accountability mechanisms are in place;
4. Facilitate public access to information and engage local stakeholders and technical experts in ensuring the plan, once drafted, meets scientific, environmental, and social safeguards.

In the interest of transparency and public participation, we further request that PH Haiyan Advocacy, Inc. be furnished an official copy of the results of the review and audit once completed, and be kept informed of all relevant findings, actions, and developments,

consistent with the public's right to information on matters affecting public safety, environmental governance, and disaster resilience.

Director Giva, we believe that your leadership and decisive action at this time can prevent future loss of life and set a vital precedent for LGU accountability and climate resilience nationwide.

We remain fully committed to collaborating with your office, the City Government, and all concerned agencies in forging a safer, more responsive, and climate-prepared Tacloban City.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PA' with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and CEO
PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.

Cc:

Hon. Jonvic Remulla, DILG Secretary.
Hon. Arnel M. Agabe, DILG VIII Regional Director
PH Haiyan Partners

Enclosures:

(See attached Letters from March 2025 to June 2025)



24 March 2025

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
Local Chief
Executive Kanhuraw
Hills Tacloban City

TUPAZ. NOREÑA T.

11:05

MAR 25 2025

324011503 -A

ATTENTION: Engr. Dionisio O. De Paz
City Engineer
City Engineers Office
Tacloban City

ENP Janis Claire S. Canta
City Planning and Development Office
Tacloban City

Subject: Endorsement and Urgent Formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City

Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Warm greetings!

Tacloban has made significant progress in building resilience, and we firmly believe that through unity and decisive action, we can realize a flood-resilient future. In line with this, we partnered with Eastern Visayas State University (EVSU) to convene the Flood Control & Mitigation Forum on March 7, 2025, bringing together key stakeholders to discuss sustainable flood mitigation strategies.

During this forum, representatives from the City Planning and Development Office and the City Engineer's Office presented ongoing flood control initiatives. However, it was concerning to learn that Tacloban City has yet to adopt a legally mandated Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP), a crucial blueprint for long-term flood mitigation.

Legal Basis for the CFCMP

The formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan is not only a necessity but a legal obligation under the following national laws, policies, and directives:

1. **Republic Act No. 10121 (Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010)** – Mandates LGUs to develop disaster risk reduction and management plans, including flood control measures, to mitigate the impact of climate-induced disasters.
2. **Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991)** – Assigns LGUs the responsibility to implement local infrastructure projects, including flood control

3. **Republic Act No. 9729 (Climate Change Act of 2009)** – Requires LGUs to integrate climate adaptation and flood mitigation measures into local development plans.
4. **DPWH Department Order No. 41, s. 2016** – Directs LGUs to integrate flood control master plans into their respective development plans, ensuring systematic and sustainable urban planning.
5. **DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2021-068** – Instructs LGUs to adopt science-based flood control and water management strategies in compliance with the National Climate Change Action Plan.

Endorsement of the CFCMP and Proposed Timeline

Recognizing the urgency of this matter, the participants of the forum—composed of government agencies, academic experts, civil society organizations, and professional engineers—have collectively signed a Manifesto endorsing the immediate formulation of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan for Tacloban City. We are attaching this signed Manifesto for your consideration and action.

To ensure an inclusive, transparent, and effective process, we propose the following timeline for the development and adoption of the CFCMP:

- **March-April 2025** – Creation of a Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of representatives from the LGU, DPWH, NEDA, DOST-PAGASA, EVSU, and other relevant agencies.
- **May-June 2025** – Conduct of public consultations and technical studies, including flood risk mapping, hydrological modeling, and infrastructure assessments.
- **July-August 2025** – Drafting of the CFCMP, incorporating stakeholder inputs and technical recommendations.
- **September 2025** – Presentation of the draft CFCMP in a public hearing for validation and further refinements.
- **October 2025** – Endorsement of the finalized CFCMP to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for adoption through a City Resolution.
- **November 2025** – Elevation of the adopted CFCMP to Congress and the Office of the President for national-level support and budget allocation.

Call for Immediate Action

To move forward with this initiative, we respectfully request:

1. The immediate formation of the Technical Working Group to spearhead the CFCMP formulation.
2. The scheduling of a public hearing where the EVSU Engineering Department and the Metro Tacloban Civil Engineers Association can present technical recommendations.
3. Formal adoption of the CFCMP through a City Resolution by October 2025.
4. Coordination with national agencies to secure funding and implementation support.

We firmly believe that with your leadership and the commitment of all stakeholders, Tacloban can serve as a model for climate resilience and flood mitigation. We remain eager to collaborate with your office to ensure the realization of this crucial initiative.

We look forward to your response and remain available for further discussions.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "Pete" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
M-0917-846-1299

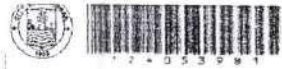


DR. DENNIS. DE PAZ
President, EVSU

Cc: All Forum Speakers and Participants

BUTCH GALAPON
09397689006
EXEC ASST.

CPDO # 116



Republic of the Philippines
Tacloban City

Office of the City Mayor

RECEIVED PH HAIYAN
APRIL 7, 2025
9:35 AM
March 31, 2025
RECEIVED
EVSU RECORDS OFFICE
DATE: 4/15/25 TIME: 9:13
BY: A. Gilson
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
APR 04 2025
TACLOBAN CITY

NOTICE OF MEETING

- TO : **DR. DENNIS DE PAZ**, *Eastern Visayas State University*
MR. PETRONILO L. ILAGAN, *PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.*
ATTY. ANNALIZA A. QUILIOPE, *City Administrator's Office*
ENP. JANIS CLAIRE S. CANTA, *City Planning & Development Office*
ENGR. DIONISIO DE PAZ, *City Engineer's Office*
- SUBJECT : **Meeting on the Endorsement and Urgent Formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City**
- DATE : **April 15, 2025 (Tuesday) | 10:00 A.M.**
- VENUE : **7th Floor, CADMO Boardroom**
- AGENDA : 1. Establish a technical working group and coordination framework to spearhead the CFCMP formulation
 2. Schedule for a public hearing where the EVSU Engineering Department and the Metro Tacloban Civil Engineers Association can present technical recommendations
 3. Discuss on the formal adoption of the CFCMP through a City Resolution by October 2025
 4. Deliberate on collaboration with national agencies to secure funding and support for implementation
 5. Other matters

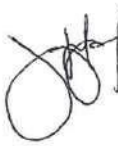
You are formally invited to a meeting to discuss the endorsement and urgent formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City.

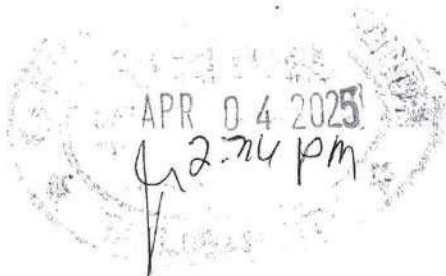
Your presence and active participation are crucial in ensuring a strategic and effective approach to addressing flood risks in Tacloban City. Kindly confirm your attendance by April 8, 2025 through 09563657474 (CPDO).

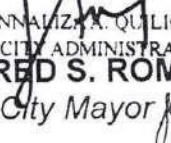
Thank you, and we look forward to your valuable input.

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY MAYOR

Received:

 CADMO
4/4/2025
2:22PM


APR 04 2025
2:24 PM


ATTY. ANNALIZA A. QUILIOPE
ACTING CITY ADMINISTRATOR
HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
City Mayor for

(ATTACHMENT 02)





PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

"An Advocacy Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation"
No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City
Email: p haiyanadvocacy6500@gmail.com

CPDO

15 April 2025

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
Local Chief Executive
Kanhuraw Hills, Tacloban City

RECEIVED
APR 15 2025 4:13 PM
227052882
7
TACLOBAN

Subject: Meeting on the Endorsement and Urgent Formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City

Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Greetings of peace and resilience.

On behalf of PH Haiyan Advocacy, Inc., we express our sincere thanks for the meeting held on April 15, 2025, concerning the endorsement and urgent formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City.

While we were glad to be part of this important dialogue, allow us to respectfully express both our appreciation and concern.

We were **saddened** that:

1. Despite the importance of the meeting, Your Honor was not present to preside over it;
2. No explanation was given by any of your department heads regarding your absence;
3. There appeared to be a lack of coordination between the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO) and the City Engineer's Office (CEO);
4. Both offices candidly admitted that the City does not have the technical capacity to prepare the CFCMP and that only the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) can do so;
5. Unfortunately, DPWH was not invited to participate in the meeting despite its crucial role.

Nevertheless, we were also **glad** that the following positive steps were agreed upon:

1. That an Executive Order will be issued to create a Technical Working Group to lead the CFCMP formulation;
2. That a second meeting has been scheduled for April 30, 2025;
3. That the DPWH will be formally invited to this second meeting;
4. That PH Haiyan will be furnished a copy of the City's letter-invitation to DPWH.

We commit to assist in ensuring the presence of the DPWH Regional Director at the upcoming meeting.

Finally, we earnestly **request Your Honor's presence** at the April 30 meeting to provide decisive leadership in moving forward with the long-overdue and life-saving formulation of the CFCMP for Tacloban City.

Thank you once again for your continuing commitment to a safer and more resilient Tacloban.

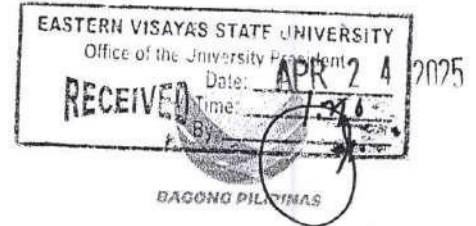
Respectfully yours,

PETRONILO L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.

Cc: Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
Engr. Dennis Tajo, MTCEA
City Planning Development Office – Tacloban City
City Engineer's Office – Tacloban City
City Administrator's Office – Tacloban City
RD Edgar Tabacon – DWPH Region VIII



Republic of the Philippines
Tacloban City
Office of the City Mayor



RECEIVED
PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC
April 24, 2024 @ 2:32pm
[Signature]

April 24, 2025

NOTICE OF MEETING

- TO :
- HON. RAYMUND A. ROMUALDEZ, *SP* Committee Chairperson on Engineering, Infrastructure and General Services *page 8/24/25 4:10*
 - ATTY. ANNALIZA A. QUILOPE, City Administrator's Office - *4/24/25 3:26 PM*
 - ENP. JANIS CLAIRE S. CANTA, City Planning & Development Office *Jessaw 4/24/25 3:15*
 - ENGR. DIONISIO DE PAZ, City Engineer's Office
 - AR. IAN RAY G. PEREZ, City Architect's Office - *benam 4/24/25 3:32*
 - MR. ILDEBRANDO C. BERNADAS, City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office *4/24/2025*
 - FOR. JONATHAN R. HIJADA, City Environment and Natural Resources Office *4:14 PM 4/24/25*
 - ENGR. LEONCIO PARADO II, City General Services Office *4/24/25*
 - EnP. MARIA JOELYCA O. SESCO, City Housing and Community Development Office *4-24-25*
 - MR. CARLOS DAVE L. CASTELLO, CMO-Barangay Affairs Office
 - ENGR. EDGAR B. TABACON, DPWH Region VIII Office
 - ENGR. REBECCA G. YUSE, DPWH Tacloban City District Engineering Office
 - DR. DENNIS DE PAZ, Eastern Visayas State University
 - ENGR. MARITES M. BARDELAS, Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers Metro Tacloban Chapter
 - MR. PETRONILO L. ILAGAN, PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.

RECEIVED :
[Signature]
4-24-25

SUBJECT : Meeting on the Urgent Formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City

DATE : April 30, 2025 (Wednesday) | 1:00 P.M.

VENUE : 7th Floor, CADMO Boardroom



- AGENDA :
1. Executive Order Creating the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) Technical Working Group (TWG)
 2. Proposed Key Activities for CFCMP Formulation
 3. Other matters

You are formally invited to attend a meeting on the formulation of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City.

Your presence and active participation are highly valued to help ensure a coordinated, strategic, and effective approach in addressing the city's flood-related challenges. Kindly confirm your attendance through Ms. Lutgarda B. Raagas through 0956-365-7474.

Thank you and we look forward to your attendance and valuable inputs.

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY MAYOR

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ

City Mayor
ATTY. IVY ANN C. CARBA
ACTING ASST. CITY ADMINISTRATOR



Republic of the Philippines
Tacloban City
Office of the City Mayor



April 24, 2025

NOTICE OF MEETING

- TO :**
- HON. RAYMUND A. ROMUALDEZ**, *SP Committee Chairperson on Engineering, Infrastructure and General Services*
 - ATTY. ANNALIZA A. QUILIOPE**, *City Administrator's Office*
 - ENP. JANIS CLAIRE S. CANTA**, *City Planning & Development Office*
 - ENGR. DIONISIO DE PAZ**, *City Engineer's Office*
 - AR. IAN RAY G. PEREZ**, *City Architect's Office*
 - MR. ILDEBRANDO C. BERNADAS**, *City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office*
 - FOR. JONATHAN R. HIJADA**, *City Environment and Natural Resources Office*
 - ENGR. LEONCIO PARADO II**, *City General Services Office*
 - EnP. MARIA JOELYCA O. SESCON**, *City Housing and Community Development Office*
 - MR. CARLOS DAVE L. CASTELLO**, *CMO-Barangay Affairs Office*
 - ENGR. EDGAR B. TABACON**, *DPWH Region VIII Office - 323-1024*
 - ENGR. REBECCA G. YUSE**, *DPWH Tacloban City District Engineering Office*
 - DR. DENNIS DE PAZ**, *Eastern Visayas State University*
 - ENGR. MARITES M. BARDELAS**, *Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers Metro Tacloban Chapter*
 - MR. PETRONILO L. ILAGAN**, *PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.*

Received Rms 2:38 PM
4/24/25
SECRET MANAGEMENT UNIT
KIM SHANE D. ARELLANO
APR 24 2025
09687565903

- SUBJECT :** Meeting on the Urgent Formulation of a Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City
- DATE :** April 30, 2025 (Wednesday) | 1:00 P.M.
- VENUE :** 7th Floor, CADMO Boardroom



Alfred S. Romualdez

Republic of the Philippines
Tacloban City
Office of the City Mayor



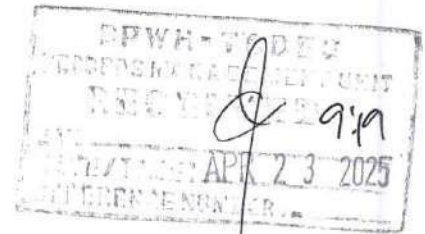
April 22, 2025

ENGR. REBECCA G. YUSE

District Engineer

Department of Public Works and Highways

Tacloban City District Engineering Office



Dear DE Yuse:

Greetings!

We respectfully invite you to a meeting on April 30, 2025, 1:00 pm, at the City Administrator's Office Conference Room to discuss the formulation of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) of Tacloban City.

The CFCMP aims to provide a framework to efficiently connect existing flood control systems, identify portions in need of improvement, and determine the alignment of future drainage systems.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY MAYOR

ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ

City Mayor

MITY. IVY ANN C. CARBA
ACTING ASST. CITY ADMINISTRATOR



PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

"An Advocacy Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation"
No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City
Email: phhaiyanadvocacy6500@gmail.com

21 April 2025



HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
Local Chief Executive
Kanhuraw Hills, Tacloban City

Subject: Follow-Up on April 30, 2025 Meeting and Reiteration of Request for Your Presence to Lead CFCMP Formulation

Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Warm greetings of peace and continued resilience.

We write to respectfully follow up on our letter dated April 15, 2025, and to once again express our sincere appreciation for convening the initial dialogue on the urgent formulation of a **Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP)** for Tacloban City held on the same day.

As the second meeting on this critical matter is scheduled for **April 30, 2025**, we earnestly reiterate our request for **Your Honor's presence and leadership** to personally preside over the proceedings. The CFCMP is not only a long-overdue strategic response to the City's increasing vulnerability to flooding — it is also a **legal obligation** under national planning and climate resilience frameworks for **Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs)** like Tacloban. Most importantly, it is a matter **imbued with profound public interest**, directly affecting the safety, welfare, and future development of our communities.

While we understand that this is an election campaign period and that Your Honor is seeking reelection for a third term, we firmly believe that your presence at this meeting would be a powerful affirmation of your enduring commitment to serve Tacloban and its people in the best way possible.

Your leadership will be instrumental in:

- Strengthening inter-agency collaboration, particularly with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), whose technical role is essential to the CFCMP's success;
- Mobilizing key city departments to contribute to the planning process;
- Demonstrating the City Government's firm resolve to protect lives, infrastructure, and economic activities through long-term solutions.

To enrich the discussions, we respectfully request that you **direct the City Engineer's Office (CEO) and the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO)** to present the **existing and historical Drainage Master Plan of Tacloban City**. This recommendation was raised during the April 15 meeting by **Engr. Dennis Tajo**, Immediate Past President of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers (PICE) Tacloban Chapter. The presentation will help identify planning gaps and technical needs in the presence of DPWH representatives, who are expected to attend.

We, at PH Haiyan Advocacy, Inc., remain committed to supporting this process and are actively assisting in ensuring the participation of the DPWH Regional Office.

We respectfully look forward to Your Honor's participation in this critical undertaking for a **safer, flood-resilient, and future-ready Tacloban**.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.
M-0917-846-1299

Cc: Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
Engr. Dennis Tajo, IPP Metro Tacloban Chapter
ENP Janis Claire Canta, CPDO – Tacloban
Engr. Dennis De Paz, City Engineer's Office – Tacloban
Atty. Annaliza A. Quliope, City Administrator's Office – Tacloban
RD Edgar Tabacon – DWPH Region VIII
Forum Speakers and Participants

We remain fully committed to working collaboratively and respectfully within the City's institutional framework, and we trust that our shared goal of a **flood-resilient Tacloban** will continue to unite our efforts.

Thank you once again for your leadership and commitment to building a safer future for all Taclobanons.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
M-0917-846-1299

Cc:

City Planning Development Office – Tacloban City
City Engineer's Office – Tacloban City
City Administrator's Office – Tacloban City
Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
RD Edgar Tabacon – DWPH Region VIII



PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

"An Advocacy Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation"
No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City
Email: phhaiyanadvocacy6500@gmail.com Website: phhaiyan.com
Mobile no: +639 05-497-9574 / +639 62-105-9173
SEC Reg. No. 2023010082317-06

24 June 2025

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
City Mayor
Kanhuraw Hill, Tacloban City

Subject: **URGENT FOLLOW-UP ON COMPREHENSIVE FLOOD CONTROL MASTER PLAN (CFCMP): Request for Updates from the Technical Working Group (TWG)**

Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Warm greeting!

We write once again to follow up on the status of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City, as previously raised in our formal correspondences dated March 25, April 15, April 21, April 25, and May 28, 2025.

As you are aware, Tacloban remains one of the most climate-vulnerable cities in the country, with large portions of its population and infrastructure exposed to recurrent flooding and sea-level rise. The formulation and adoption of a comprehensive, science-based, and community-informed flood control master plan is not merely a technical or planning exercise—it is an urgent public safety and climate resilience imperative. The CFCMP is vital not only to protect lives and property but also to guide long-term investments, land use planning, and inter-agency coordination for disaster risk reduction.

We acknowledge and commend the issuance of **Executive Order No. 2025-04-25** creating a Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of LGU department heads, as well as the initial steps undertaken in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). However, given the magnitude of risk involved and the initial timeline discussed aiming for adoption by November 2025, we respectfully and urgently request an official update on the TWG's current progress, milestones achieved, ongoing activities, and projected next steps.

We further invoke the provisions of:

- Republic Act No. 11032 (Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018), which mandates that government offices and local government units must act on complex transactions within fifteen (15) working days from receipt of complete submissions, unless otherwise justified and formally communicated; and

- Republic Act No. 6713 (Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees), which enjoins all public servants to uphold the highest standards of professionalism, responsiveness, and commitment to public interest, particularly in matters directly affecting the welfare and safety of constituents.

Timely and transparent updates on the TWG's work are not only a legal obligation—they are a matter of public trust and a cornerstone of accountable governance.

In this regard, and considering that all our previous submissions and proposals are already on record with your good office, we respectfully reiterate our formal request for an official update from the TWG. For transparency and proper documentation, we have also submitted all related materials to the City Director of Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Region VIII for appropriate monitoring and guidance under its supervisory mandate.

We remain ready and willing to constructively support the City Government and its partners in this critical endeavor.

Thank you once again for your continued leadership, and we look forward to your positive response in the spirit of climate resilience, transparency, and public service.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and CEO
PH Haiyan Advocacy Inc.

Cc:

- City Planning Development Office – Tacloban City
- City Engineer's Office – Tacloban City
- City Administrator's Office – Tacloban City
- Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
- RD Edgar Tabacon – DPWH Region VIII
- City Director, DILG Region VIII

You are formally invited to attend a meeting on the formulation of the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP) for Tacloban City.

Your presence and active participation are highly valued to help ensure a coordinated, strategic, and effective approach in addressing the city's flood-related challenges. Kindly confirm your attendance through Ms. Lutgarda B. Raagas through 0956-365-7474.

Thank you, and we look forward to your attendance and valuable inputs.

Janis Claire S. Canta
EnP. JANIS CLAIRE S. CANTA
City Planning and Development Officer *JSC*

Noted by:


ENGR. DIONISIO O. DE PAZ
City Engineer



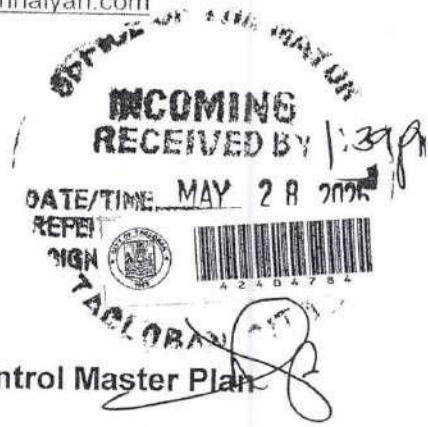
PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

"An Advocacy Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation"
No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City
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Mobile no: +639 05-497-9574 / +639 62-105-9173

28 May 2025

HON. ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
Local Chief Executive
Kanhuraw Hills, Tacloban City

Subject: Request for Update on the Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP)



Dear Mayor Romualdez,

Warm greetings!

At the outset, we wish to extend our heartfelt **congratulations on your reelection for a third and final term** as Local Chief Executive of Tacloban City. We are confident that your renewed mandate will empower your administration to pursue transformative programs, and we sincerely hope that this final term will become one of the most **meaningful and fulfilling chapters of your public service legacy for the Taclobanons.**

We write to respectfully reiterate our sustained interest in supporting the development of Tacloban City's Comprehensive Flood Control Master Plan (CFCMP). While we understand that the April 30, 2025 meeting did not proceed as initially scheduled, we acknowledge and respect the City Government's decision to proceed with the formulation of the CFCMP through a Technical Working Group (TWG) composed solely of LGU department heads, in cooperation with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

In this regard, we wish to request a brief update on the current status of the CFCMP formulation process. As one of the advocacy groups actively involved in convening the March 7 Flood Forum and facilitating initial stakeholder inputs, we have continued to receive inquiries and expressions of interest from our academic, civil society, and professional engineering partners who remain eager to contribute to this vital city-wide initiative.

We hope to share any update you may provide—including any new timelines, milestones, or opportunities for stakeholder engagement—with our partners, in order to sustain their support and alignment with the City Government's direction.

We also respectfully seek your assurance that the timeline initially discussed—aiming for the CFCMP's adoption by **November 2025**—is being followed. This target is critical in maintaining public trust, sustaining momentum, and ensuring that long-overdue solutions to Tacloban's flood vulnerabilities are brought to fruition in a timely and inclusive manner.


We remain fully committed to working collaboratively and respectfully within the City's institutional framework, and we trust that our shared goal of a **flood-resilient Tacloban** will continue to unite our efforts.

Thank you once again for your leadership and commitment to building a safer future for all Taclobanons.

Very truly yours,



PETRONILO L. ILAGAN
Chairman and President
M-0917-846-1299



Cc:

City Planning Development Office – Tacloban City
City Engineer's Office – Tacloban City
City Administrator's Office – Tacloban City
Hon. Dennis de Paz, EVSU President
RD Edgar Tabacon – DWPH Region VIII





