

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

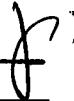


Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'16 JUL 25 P2:39

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 32

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

**A RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS AND VIABILITY OF THE APPROVED FLOOD MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN FOR METRO MANILA AND SURROUNDING AREAS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENSURING A COMPREHENSIVE AND COST-EFFICIENT SOLUTION TO THE FLOODING PROBLEM AND WOULD IMMEDIATELY BRING RELIEF TO THE PUBLIC**

WHEREAS, the Constitution provides that the State should promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 297 or the Administrative Code of 1987 provides that the planning, design, construction and maintenance of infrastructure facilities, especially national highways, flood control and water resources development systems, and other public works in accordance with national development objectives, shall be the responsibility of such an engineering and construction arm, which would be the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);

WHEREAS, *Habagat* affects the Philippines from July to September and frequently submerges Metropolitan Manila under water as massive flooding from heavy downpour inundate major roadways, clog waterways, render intersections impassable and virtually paralyze public transport with thousands of commuters stranded from floodwaters;

WHEREAS, the DPWH identified the three major causes of flooding in Metro Manila: the huge volume of water coming from the Sierra Madre mountains, blocked drainages in core areas, and the presence of low-lying communities around Manila Bay and Laguna Lake;

WHEREAS, of the 100,000 informal settlers in Metro Manila, 60,000 live near waterways and of this number, 20,000 are located near the government's priority waterways whose mere presence put at risk the well-being of 2.2 million Metro Manila residents out of the total population of 12.88 million;

WHEREAS, the eight priority waterways in Metro Manila identified by the DPWH are: San Juan River, Pasig River, Tullahan River, Maricaban Creek, Manggahan Floodway, Estero Tripa de Gallina, Estero de Maypajo, and Estero de Sunog Apog;

WHEREAS, more than 20,000 informal settler families (ISFs) were relocated by the government from priority waterways in Metro Manila;

WHEREAS, a PhP351.78 Billion flood management master plan for Metro Manila and surrounding areas, an offshoot of a World Bank-funded study to prepare a comprehensive flood-risk management plan, shall serve as the roadmap of the Government programmed from 2012 to 2035 (23 years);

WHEREAS, the flood management master plan encompasses the Pasig-Marikina River Basin, Malabon-Tullahan, Meycauayan, South Parañaque-Las Piñas and Laguna Lake Basins, including drainage basins;

WHEREAS, the anti-flood master plan spearheaded by the DPWH would cover the infrastructure needs of 11 flood-prone areas in Metro Manila and nearby provinces envisioned to be completed by 2035;

WHEREAS, the DPWH already funded and implemented the Php5-Billion priority high-impact flood control projects identified in the anti-flood master plan;

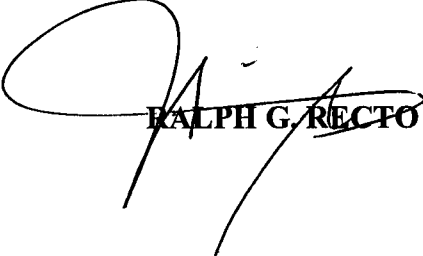
WHEREAS, an article written by University of the Philippines professor Carlo Arcilla published in the Philippine Daily Inquirer in November 2015 claimed that the P350-billion Metro Manila Flood Control Plan used a substandard flood simulation model to propose solutions to flooding in Metro Manila;

WHEREAS, Professor Arcilla suggested in his article that the government should consider the flood projections made by Project NOAH (Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards), a responsive program launched by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) for disaster prevention and mitigation;

WHEREAS, an inquiry is being sought to look into the status and viability of the overall anti-flood master plan for Metro Manila and surrounding areas with the DPWH and Metro Manila Development Authority at the forefront and ensure the cost-effective spending of the resources allocated for such ambitious endeavor;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Public Works to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status and viability of the approved Flood Management Master Plan for Metro Manila and Surrounding Areas, with the end in view of ensuring a comprehensive and cost-efficient solution to the flooding problem and would immediately bring relief to the public.

Adopted,

  
RALPH G. RECTO

*mjma*