



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Romblon
Municipality of Romblon

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

LETTER OF INTENT

Dr. Ma. JOSEFINA P. ABILAY

Regional Director

DOST Compound, Bicutan,

Taguig City

Dear RD Abilay:

Warm greetings!

The Romblon Shopping Center (RPC) is acknowledged to be the nucleus of business activities in the municipality of Romblon. Located downtown in Barangay 1, Poblacion, it is just a few meters distance of the Romblon Port and Freedom Park and sitting amidst the busy hub of various business establishments. It is home to several eateries offering food and drinks that cater mostly local and foreign tourists who are used to teasing the palate and enjoying good food. Marble novelty stores display a wide array of marble products in different designs and colors, for sale either as souvenirs, personal use and gift items. Thus, the Romblon Shopping Center is a major source of revenues for the municipality of Romblon and its people.

For the protection of the public at the Center, the local government of Romblon is consistent in the implementation of food and health safety programs. To ensure that all safety and sanitation laws and ordinance are strictly followed, regular monitoring and inspection of business establishments are conducted by concern government agencies. Food handlers are required to undergo rigid training and education in safe food handling, environmental safety, sanitation, hygiene, clean modalities of food display, proper food services, quality of raw materials and in other health practices. Marble store owners and their workers are always reminded to be courteous and honest to customers and maintain reasonable prices on marble products.



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"Katahum ng Romblon, ipakadaku naton!"



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Business at the RPC is notably brisk and flourishing prompting many business entrepreneurs to put up investments whenever spaces are available. Store spaces are becoming smaller due to occupancy sharing for new businesses. Noting the latter developments and anticipating a boom in the local tourism industry brought about by massive tourism promotions, local government unit decided for expansion, modernization and reconstruction of a new building considering that the RPC is really old enough.

A plan for a joint-venture project with the provincial government of Romblon was initiated for that purpose and after a series of meetings and consultations the "CONSTRUCTION OF CONVENTION/BUSINESS CENTER/MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING (SHOPPING CENTER AREA) PROJECT" was finalized. This will be a landmark infrastructure in the municipality of Romblon that is durable, bigger with wider store spaces and other amenities that will accommodate a huge number of clientele including both local and foreign tourists. To finance the project, the LGU applied for a soft loan with the Land Bank of the Philippines amounting to one hundred fifty million (P150, 000,000.00). Hopefully, the loan which is now in the processing stage will be granted and released soon by the LBP so that project implementation shall be likewise effected immediately to spur the economic prosperity of Romblon and the benefits enjoyed by Romblomanons.

ARRIBA ROMBLON!

Very truly yours,

Atty. GERARD S. MONTOMO
Municipal Mayor



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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 35TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE 12TH SANGGUNIAN BAYAN OF ROMBLON, ROMBLON, HELD AT THE SB SESSION HALL, ROMBLON, ROMBLON, ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023.

PRESENT:

Municipal Councilor Mart Arthur L. Silverio	Member, Temporary Presiding Officer
Municipal Councilor Orlando M. Magano	Member
Municipal Councilor Ronald R. Riano	Member
Municipal Councilor Ma. Hannah Angelica M. Fontilar	Member
Municipal Councilor Lyndon M. Molino	Member
Municipal Councilor Raymund M. Robis	Member
Municipal Councilor Joseph M. Mingoa	Member
Municipal Councilor Fernando R. Faigao III	Member
ABC President Emmer M. Rapiz	Member, Ex-Officio Rep. of the ABC
SK Mun. Fed. President James Arnel M. De Jesus	Member, Ex-Officio Rep. of the SK

OIC-MUNICIPAL MAYOR:

Municipal Vice Mayor Mariano M. Mateo	Presiding Officer
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ABSENT: (None)

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RESOLUTION NO. 030-2023

(Sponsored by Councilor Ma. Hannah Angelica M. Fontilar)

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Municipal Government of Romblon, Romblon to protect its constituents and the people in the community from the threats of communicable illnesses such as water and food-borne disease;

WHEREAS, food-borne illness is a constant threat to a growing society but it can be prevented with proper care and handling of foods and food products;

WHEREAS, FEIGS of DOST-MIMAROPA addresses issues on food safety and sanitation among our food service establishments, and strengthens transparency on the level of their food safety compliance among consumers;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of Councilor Ma. Hannah Angelica M. Fontilar, duly seconded, has **RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved to pass –

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2023

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING FEIGS OR THE FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTION AND GRADING SYSTEM PROJECT OF DOST IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROMBLON, ROMBLON AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Bayan of Romblon, Romblon, in session assembled, that:

SECTION 1.- Title. This ordinance shall be called the Institutionalization of Food Establishment Inspection and Grading System in the Municipality of Romblon and appropriating funds thereof.

SECTION 2.- Definition of Terms. As used in this ordinance, the following terms shall be defined as:

1. **Institutionalization** - the action of establishing something as a convention or norm in an organization or culture
2. **Food-borne** - caused by food contaminated with pathogenic microorganisms or toxic substances
3. **Illness** - a disease or period of sickness affecting the body or mind.
4. **Food establishment** - is an operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise prepares food for human consumption
5. **Food vendor** - prepares and sells ready-to-eat food to the public.
6. **Food outlet** - a building, portion of a building or separate structure used primarily for the preparation and sale of food and non-alcoholic beverages mainly for consumption off the premises.

SECTION 3.- Objectives and Significance of FEIGS. FEIGS aims to address the issue of food safety and sanitation through a food grading system. A system that promotes accountability among food service establishments that the food prepared and served are safe and will not in any way cause food-borne illnesses to anyone. Transparency through a display of the rating obtained during inspection of premises is intended to provide guidance to the public for an informed choice of where to dine. The goal of FEIGS is to ultimately protect everyone against food-borne illnesses by having access to safe and wholesome food. It is a proactive measure to prevent the occurrence of food poisoning outbreaks as a consequence of unhygienic conditions and practices in food handling. It aims to empower LGUs to establish a mechanism that encourages food safety practices among food service establishments while providing informed choice to customers. It shall educate and capacitate LGU personnel and food establishment operators on the basics of food safety and the standards, rules and regulations about food and sanitation.

SECTION 4.- Composition of Food Safety Team.

- a) Department of Science and Technology-MIMAROPA
- b) Romblon State University (RSU)
- c) Department of Health (DOH)
- d) Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- e) Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- f) Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
- g) LGU of Romblon
 - g.1 Tourism Office
 - g.2 Sanitary Inspector (RHU)
 - g.3 Public Information Officer

SECTION 5.- Roles of each Cooperating Agencies (Food Safety Team) and Project Partners for FEIGS Implementation.

- a. **DOST MIMAROPA through its Provincial S&T Center Romblon**
 - a.1 Conduct of orientation according to inspection protocol designed for the project.
 - a.2 Provision of other technical support to the team such as organizing of training, inspection and assessment.
 - a.3 Coordination with the DOST-MIMAROPA Food Safety Team
- b. **RHU (Sanitary Office)**
 - b.1 Provision of resource speakers for the conduct of various trainings related to food safety and statutory requirements cum obligations of food processing businesses.
 - b.2 Conduct of inspection and assessment of food establishments, vendors, food outlets using the checklist developed in FEIGS manual.

- b.3 Provision of recommendations to food establishments, food vendors and food outlets on how to improve their food safety compliance.
- c. **RSU (as part of the DOST-MIMAROPA Food Safety Team)**
 - c.1 Provision of resource speakers for the conduct of various training related to food safety.
 - c.2 Conduct of inspection and assessment of food establishments, food vendors and food outlets using the checklist developed in FEIGS manual.
 - c.3 Conduct researches on food safety and other relevant topics.
 - c.4 Provide recommendations to food establishments, food vendors, and food outlets on how to improve their food safety compliance.
- d. **Department of Health (DOH)**
 - d.1 Provision of resource speakers for the conduct of various training related to food safety and current good manufacturing practices.
 - d.2 Conduct inspection and assessment of food establishments, food vendors, and food outlets using the checklist developed in FEIGS manual.
 - d.3 Provide recommendations to food establishment, food vendors, and food outlets on how to improve their food safety compliance.
- e. **Food and Drugs Administration (FDA)**
 - e.1 Provision of resource speakers for the conduct of various trainings related to statutory requirements and obligations of food processing businesses.
 - e.2 Conduct of inspection and assessment of food establishments, food vendors and food outlets using the checklist developed in FEIGS manual.
 - e.3 Provide recommendations to food establishments, food vendors, and food outlets on how to improve their food safety compliance
- f. **Municipal Tourism Office (MTO)**
 - f.1 Conduct of inspection and assessment of food establishments, food vendors, and food outlets using the checklist developed in FEIGS manual.
 - f.2 Provision of recommendations to food establishments, food vendors, and food outlets on how to improve their food safety compliance
- g. **Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)**
 - g.1 Conduct of inspection and assessment of food establishment, food vendors, and food outlets using the checklist developed in FEIGS manual.
 - g.2 Provision of recommendations to food establishment, food vendors, and food outlets on how to improve their food safety compliance.
- h. **Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)**
 - h.1 Conduct of inspection and assessment of food establishment, food vendors, and food outlets using the checklist developed in FEIGS manual.
 - h.2 Provision of recommendations to food establishment, food vendors, and food outlets on how to improve their food safety compliance.

SECTION 6.- The Municipality of Romblon shall provide:

- 1. Policy support for the implementation of FEIGS;
- 2. Advocacy on FEIGS and food safety awareness;
- 3. A list of food establishments, food vendors and food outlets operating in the Municipality of Romblon; and
- 4. Focal person to be the FEIGS coordinator within the agency and trained as evaluator/inspector.

SECTION 7.- Mechanics of Awarding of Letter Grades. The awarding of letter grades shall be conducted after the announced inspection. Raw scores shall be divided to the total guidelines and multiplied by 100. The following sanitation standard shall be the basis for conversion of percentage rating to letter grade.

Table: Grade Conversion Guide

Letter Grade	Percentage Rating (%)	Sanitation Standard
A	90 – 100	Excellent
B	70 – 89	Very Satisfactory
C	50 – 69	Satisfactory
D	0 – 49	Needs Improvement

Per grades shall have a validity of one year and shall be renewed annually undergoing through yearly unannounced inspection/s.

SECTION 8.- Appropriation - A substantial amount shall be appropriated to cover the expenses to be incurred in implementing FEIGS programs.

SECTION 9.- Penalty Clause. Any food establishment, food vendors, and food outlet acquired a letter grade of D shall

- First Offense - warning with written notice of violation/s
- Second Offense - one-month operational suspension
- Third Offense - revocation of business permit and if establishment/outlet was under a lease contract with the LGU of Romblon a revocation also of lease of contract.

SECTION 10.- Separability Clause - If for any reason, any section or provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in force and effect.

SECTION 11. - Repealing Clause - All ordinances, local issuances or rules inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12.- EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval.

APPROVED.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution/ordinance which was duly approved by the Sangguniang Bayan of Romblon, Romblon during its 35th Regular Session held at the SB Session Hall, Romblon, Romblon, on March 22, 2023.

ROSALIE B. DE GUZMAN

Secretary to the SB

Date: MAR 23 2023

ATTESTED:

MART ARTHUR L. SILVERIO

Municipal Councilor

Temporary Presiding Officer

Date: MAR 23 2023

APPROVED:

GERARD S. MONTJOJO

Municipal Mayor

Date: MAR 23 2023