



**Republic of the Philippines  
CITY COUNCIL  
City of Manila**

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REGULAR SESSION NO. 160

8<sup>TH</sup> CITY COUNCIL

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Begun and held in the City Council on Tuesday,  
the seventeenth day of April, Two Thousand Twelve

**ORDINANCE NO. 8275**

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING JUNE 1 OF 2012, AND EVERY YEAR  
THEREAFTER, AS DANIEL BURNHAM DAY IN THE CITY OF MANILA

**PRINCIPAL AUTHOR: HON. JOHN MARVIN C. NIETO**

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## PREAMBLE

In 1904, American Daniel Hudson Burnham, the foremost urban planner of his time and co-author of the so-called "Plan of Chicago", was commissioned by the American-controlled Philippine government to develop a new city plan for Baguio City and the nation's capital of Manila.

For the City of Manila, Burnham drew a blueprint for a large government district in that section of the city fronting the Manila Bay. His Burnham Plan, which the London Times called "a miracle by Alladin", envisioned the city, then having a population of roughly a hundred thousand only, as a metropolis inhabited by millions with multi-lane avenues radiating from its central district.

Burnham's proposal was to establish a government center modeled after Washington DC, occupying the entire area extending from the present Taft Avenue to Luneta, where government offices would be constructed which proposed area would form a quadrangle with a lagoon at the center and monument to Jose Rizal in Luneta.

The *Burnham Plan* was approved by the Philippine Legislature, which agreed to set aside Two Million Pesos every year its implementation. When the fund reached some P16 Million, however, President Manuel L. Quezon decided to use the money on irrigation projects instead, resulting to only three buildings actually built, namely: the Legislature Building (originally intended as the National Library), the Finance Building (now housing the Museum of the Filipino People) and the Tourism Department Building, which were all completed before the outbreak of the First World War;

Still and all, Burnham's plans continued to exert influence on architects and city planners, as well as on building and zoning laws or ordinances, long after his death a century ago this year.

His legacy still endures in the city's landscape where neo-classical and California Mission structures inspired by his grand urban plan can be found, such as the old Army and Navy Club, the Post Office Building, the National Library and even the Manila City Hall.

The year 2012 marks the death centennial of the great Daniel Burnham who passed away on June 1, 1912. The instant ordinance is being proposed in honor of one of the most influential urban planners of all time, who left a lasting imprint on our beloved City of Manila: NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it ordained by the City Council of Manila, in session assembled, *THAT*:

**SECTION 1. *Daniel Burnham Day.*** – The first day of June of 2012 and every year thereafter is hereby declared as DANIEL BURNHAM DAY in the City of Manila.

**SEC. 2. *Observance.*** – The Manila Tourism and Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Manila Heritage Commission, in coordination with the National Historical Commission, shall plan and conduct the appropriate ceremonies and activities in observance of Daniel Burnham Day in the City of Manila.

**SEC. 3. Appropriation Clause.** – The amount, as so much thereof as may be necessary, shall hereby be appropriated, out of any unappropriated funds existing in the City Treasury to be made available for the implementation of this Ordinance.

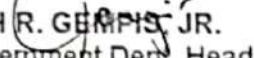
**SEC. 4. Effectivity Clause.** – This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

This Ordinance was finally enacted by the City Council of Manila on May 29, 2012.

PRESIDED BY:

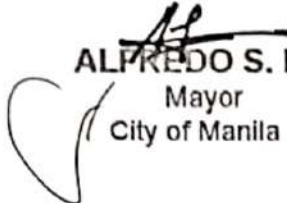
  
**FRANCISCO "Isko Moreno" DOMAGOSO**  
Vice-Mayor and Presiding Officer  
City Council, Manila

ATTESTED:

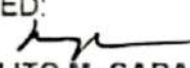
  
**LUCH R. GEPIS JR.**  
City Government Dept. Head III  
(Secretary to the City Council)  
*OMR*

APPROVED BY HIS HONOR, THE MAYOR, ON

June 15, 2012

  
**ALFREDO S. LIM**  
Mayor  
City of Manila

ATTESTED:

  
**RAFAELITO M. GARAYBLAS**  
City Government Dept. Head III  
(Secretary to the Mayor)

OMR : mqm/rmd/jok  
