



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

REGULAR SESSION NO. 93

12TH CITY COUNCIL

**Begun and held in the City Council on Tuesday,
the eighteenth day of July, Two Thousand Twenty-Three**

ORDINANCE NO. 9004

AN ORDINANCE MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF AUDIBLE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND PUSH BUTTONS WITH BRAILLE TO ASSIST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, SENIOR CITIZENS, AND PREGNANT WOMEN IN THE CITY OF MANILA

PRINCIPAL AUTHORS:

HON. ERICK IAN O. NIEVA

and

**HON. ERNESTO C. ISIP, JR.,
Majority Floor Leader**



EXPLANATORY NOTE

When it is safe to cross the street, an electronic device termed an audible traffic signal produces a sound for a person crossing the street. It is frequently used in conjunction with visual cues like a flashing “don’t walk” signal or a red hand. To promote the freedom of people who are blind or visually challenged and to add another layer of protection, the proposed measure would require the placement of auditory traffic signs. Additionally, the measure aims to increase accessibility and make sure that everyone may cross the street safely, regardless of their abilities. The Audible Traffic Signal Ordinance constitutes an important step in creating a transportation system that is more accessible and inclusive.

It is the policy of the City Government of Manila to adopt measures that will ensure self-reliance, rehabilitation, and self-development of pregnant women, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities.

These Audible Traffic Signals can assist blind or visually challenged pedestrians by offering information regarding the status and relative location of pedestrian light signals. Its control section directs a person crossing by concurrently generating sounds as in “back and forth call operation” from the two speakers placed at the two ends of the crosswalk during the time when crossing is allowed.


HON. ERICK IAN O. NIEVA
Councilor, 1st District
Manila

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the City Government of Manila to adopt certain measures to ensure the independence, recovery, and personal growth of persons with disabilities (PWDs). The city shall maintain the rights of pregnant women, senior citizen, and persons with disabilities (PWDs) to live a normal life through adoption of policies that would ensure their health and safety.

SEC. 2. Objectives. – This Ordinance specifically aims to:

- a) Further reduce traffic congestion and flow;
- b) Protect the general public and drivers' safety; and
- c) Ensure the security of elderly, pregnant women and handicapped pedestrians

SEC. 3. Audible Traffic Signal. – An Audible Traffic Signal provides information on the status and general location of pedestrian light signals for pedestrians who are blind or visually impaired. It shall provide details on the condition and vicinity of the pedestrian light signals. The control section guides a pedestrian by simultaneously producing echoes of “back and forth call operation” produced by the two speakers installed at the two ends during the permitted crossing times.

SEC. 4. Scope. – This Ordinance mandates the installation of audible traffic signals with a push button (with Braille) for persons with disabilities (PWDs), senior citizens and pregnant women in all pedestrian crossings with traffic signals that regulate vehicular traffic within the jurisdiction of the City of Manila.

SEC. 5. Push Buttons for Persons With Disabilities (PWDs), Senior Citizens and Pregnant Women. – The traffic light's countdown timer will begin when the push button is pressed, allowing enough time for people with impairments, the elderly and pregnant women to traverse the sidewalk. In order to establish how much time must be given to people with disabilities, the Manila Traffic and Parking Bureau (MTPB) urges seniors and expectant mothers to cross junctions safely. A time and motion study must be carried out by the office or the relevant government body.

SEC. 6. Penalty. – The push button shall solely be used by the elderly, pregnant women and persons with disabilities (PWDs). Any person found guilty of tampering or mishandling of the Audible Traffic Signal in violation of this Ordinance shall be meted with a fine of Five Thousand Pesos (PhP. 5,000.00) and/or imprisonment of no less than thirty (30) days or both, such fine and imprisonment, upon the discretion of the court.

SEC. 7. Implementing Agency. – The implementing agency will be Manila Traffic and Parking Bureau.



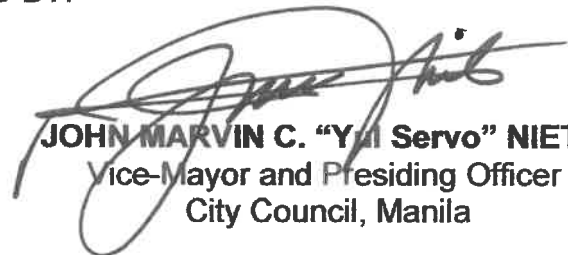
SEC. 8. Separability Clause. – If any part or provision of this Ordinance is held or declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. – All other local laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. Effectivity Clause. – This Ordinance shall take effect Fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least 2 newspapers of general circulation.

This Ordinance was finally enacted by the City Council of Manila on November 14, 2023.

PRESIDED BY:


JOHN MARVIN C. "Yul Servo" NIETO
Vice-Mayor and Presiding Officer
City Council, Manila

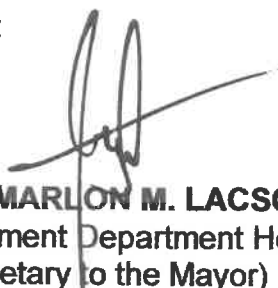
ATTESTED:


LUCH R. GEMPIS, JR.
City Government Department Head III
(Secretary to the City Council)

APPROVED BY HIS HONOR, THE MAYOR, ON DEC 06 2023


MARIA SHEILAH "Honey" H. LACUNA-PANGAN, MD, FPDS
Mayor
City of Manila

ATTESTED:


ATTY. MARLON M. LACSON
City Government Department Head III
(Secretary to the Mayor)