Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cagayan
TUGUEGARAO CITY

TENTH CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT
January 13, 2026

Submitted by: COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABILITY, CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECOLOGY

COMMITTEE REPORT NO.17-10-2026

PRESENT:
Committee Members:

HON. MARIA ROSARIO B. SORIANO	-	Chairperson
HON. MARC ALDOUS C. BACCAY	-	Vice-Chairperson
HON. RONALDO S. ORTIZ	-	Member
HON. JUDE T. BAYONA	-	Member
HON. DENNIS RYAN G. AVILA	-	Member

GUEST:

HON. KARINA S. GAUANI- VIERNES	-	City Councilor
HON.TIRSO V. MANGADA	-	City Councilor

RESOURCE PERSONS:

Engr. Jeffrey Reymundo	-	CENRO Representative
Ms. Gremarie Tamayao	-	Saint Paul Hospital, Inc. Representative
Ms.Richael Batang	-	Saint Paul Hospital, Inc. Representative
Mr. Arnel Guingab	-	PENRO Representative

SUBJECT:

"Draft Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement between and among the Tuguegarao City Government, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-R02 and St. Paul Hospital Tuguegarao City, Inc. relative to the implementation of tree planting activities within the city "

FOR THE PRESIDING OFFICER:

The members of the Committee met and deliberated on the Draft Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement between and among the Tuguegarao City Government, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-R02 and St. Paul Hospital Tuguegarao City, Inc. relative to the implementation of tree planting activities within the city".

As a result of the deliberation, the Committee respectfully submits the herein Committee Report consisting of the action taken, findings and recommendations of the Committees concerned.

ACTION TAKEN:

The members of the Committee conducted a committee meeting on January 13, 2026 to thoroughly and extensively evaluate the Draft Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement which was referred to the Committee for review.

Resource persons were invited to provide necessary information to aid the committee during deliberation.

FINDINGS:

1. Hon. Soriano requested from the representatives of Saint Paul Hospital, Inc. (SPHI) for a brief background of their tree planting program and the rationale behind the drafting of the Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).
2. Ms. Batang of SPHI shared that SPHI has been participating in various tree-planting activities in the city over the years, in partnership with different agencies and institutions. To expand and fully implement their tree planting program in the city, SPHI decided to pursue a formal partnership with the Tuguegarao City Government and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources- Regional Office II (DENR-R02), through a Tripartite MOA.
3. On the part of DENR -R02 through the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO), Mr. Guingab, PENRO representative shared that the agency is currently finalizing some documents for the implementation of the "Urban Biodiversity Management Master Plan" which covers various urban biodiversity initiatives in the city, including tree planting. He shared that a consultative meeting was already conducted in August 2025 with the Tuguegarao City Government, higher educational institutions and private corporations such as hospitals, SM, Robinsons and fast-food chains operating in the city. As a result of the meeting, it was agreed upon that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between and among all stakeholders shall be drafted, defining the respective duties and responsibilities of each partner agency in the realization of the initiatives under the "Urban Biodiversity Management Master Plan". In fact, a draft multi-sectoral MOU was already distributed to the attendees for their comment/ insights.
4. After verification with both SPHI and PENRO, it was found out that the contents of the draft Tripartite MOA submitted by SPHI emanated from the draft multi-sectoral MOU.
5. The PENRO manifested that the draft multi-sectoral MOU encompasses all partner agencies including SPHI and that the same was already finalized and submitted to the DENR Central Office. They are just waiting for the authority to be given to the Regional Director to enter and sign the MOU in behalf of the agency. Thus, he suggested to wait for the multi- sectoral MOU coming from the DENR to avoid duplication.
6. SPHI agreed to the recommendation of the PENRO. They expressed their willingness to defer the approval of the draft tripartite MOA, pending the submission of the multi-sectoral MOU from the DENR.

7. Hon. Ortiz sought clarification from the representative of the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) with regard to their duties reflected in the draft MOA specifically on the identification of suitable project sites for the program. Engr. Reymundo of CENRO responded that the city has already identified some areas within the Eco Park zone located at Namabbalan as potential project site for the tree planting activity.
8. Hon. Ortiz recommended considering other areas as possible project sites such as the sanitary landfill once it is vacated and no longer utilized as well as flood-prone areas in the city.
9. Hon. Soriano added that since the DENR is already pursuing other initiatives aside from tree planting activities as part of the Urban Biodiversity Management initiatives of the agency, it would be prudent to include other urban biodiversity initiatives in the multi-sectoral MOU. The PENRO concurred to such recommendation and committed to incorporate such initiatives in the final draft of the MOU.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee hereby recommends for the deferment of the discussion and approval of the Draft Tripartite MOA, awaiting the submission of the single and multi-sectoral Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between and among all partner agencies.

Further, it is recommended to include in the multi-sectoral MOU all possible urban biodiversity initiatives.

Respectfully submitted by:

Committee Members
Committee on Sustainability, Climate Change, Environmental Protection and Ecology

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