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**DRAFT ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FIRE HYDRANTS AND WATER SUPPLY IN EVERY BARANGAYS OF TUGUEGARAO CITY TO ENHANCE FIRE SAFETY, RESPONSE CAPACITY, AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS.**

**AUTHORED BY: HON. DENIS RYAN G. AVILA**

**WHEREAS**, Section 16 of the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) mandates every local government unit to exercise powers essential to the promotion of general welfare, including the preservation of the safety of their constituents;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 9514, also known as the Fire Code of the Philippines, was enacted to ensure public safety by preventing and suppressing destructive fires;

**WHEREAS**, Tuguegarao City continues to grow as a key center in Region 02, with more businesses, people, offices, and housing projects coming in—leading to increased activity and congestion in many parts of the city;

**WHEREAS**, Tuguegarao City, being a rapidly urbanizing area, faces increasing risks of fire incidents due to the concentration of residential, commercial, and industrial structures;

**WHEREAS**, the strategic installation of fire hydrants and accessible water supply in every barangay is critical to ensuring rapid and effective firefighting operations, especially in densely populated or high-risk areas;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it **ORDAINED** by the 10<sup>th</sup> city council of Tuguegarao city in session duly assembled:

**SECTION 1. TITLE** – This ordinance shall be known as *"The Fire Hydrant and Barangay Water Supply Safety Ordinance of Tuguegarao City."*

**SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF STATE POLICY** - It shall be the policy of the Tuguegarao City Government to ensure the availability of firefighting infrastructure in every barangay by providing fire hydrants and ensuring adequate water pressure and supply as part of local fire safety and disaster response.

**SECTION 3. SCOPE AND COVERAGE.** This Ordinance shall cover all the barangays within Tuguegarao City

**SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS.** For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- a) **Fire Hydrant** - refers to a **fixed, external or internal** fitting connected to the firefighting water distribution system, intended to deliver water at sufficient **flow rate and pressure** to support firefighting operations.
- b) **Water Supply System** - A network of water sources, pipes, storage tanks, and hydrants designed to deliver adequate and pressurized water for emergency firefighting.
- c) **Fire Risk Area** - A location or zone within a barangay identified as having a higher potential for fire occurrence due to population density, building materials, lack of water access, or industrial activity.

**SECTION 5. INSTALLATION OF FIRE HYDRANTS.**

- a. The Tuguegarao City Government shall coordinate with the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Metropolitan Tuguegarao Water District (MTWD) to identify appropriate locations and determine the optimal number of fire hydrants to be installed within each barangay for the proper delivery of fire protection services in its jurisdiction.

- b. At least one (1) functional fire hydrant shall be installed and maintained in every barangay, with additional units as necessary in fire risk areas.
- c. New subdivisions and commercial developments must integrate fire hydrants into their infrastructure plans, subject to BFP clearance.

## SECTION 6. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- a. Phased Rollout: Implementation shall be conducted in phases, prioritizing high-risk and densely populated barangays of Tuguegarao City.
- b. Budget Allocation: The City Government shall allocate funds for this program from its Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund and/or other applicable sources.
- c. Monitoring: The City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO) shall oversee progress reports in coordination with the BFP.

## SECTION 7. CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING FOR BARANGAY FIRE RESPONSE.

- a. The City Government of Tuguegarao, through the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO), in coordination with the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), shall ensure that each **Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (BDRRMC)** is capacitated to respond effectively to fire incidents.
- b. Mandatory Training: All barangays shall undergo **regular fire response training and drills**, at least **once every year**, to ensure community preparedness and quick response in case of fire emergencies. Trainings shall include:
  - 1) Basic fire safety orientation and fire suppression techniques
  - 2) Proper use of fire extinguishers and first response equipment
  - 3) Evacuation procedures and coordination mechanisms
  - 4) Communication and reporting protocols during fire incidents
  - 5) Specialized training on the operation, maintenance, and basic troubleshooting of fire hydrants.
- c. BFP-certified trainers and personnel from the CDRRMO shall lead these training sessions. Participation of barangay officials, tanods, volunteers, and community fire brigades shall be **mandatory**.
- d. The City Government shall allocate necessary funding to support the conduct of these trainings, procurement of basic firefighting equipment for barangay use, and production of IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) materials.

## SECTION 8. MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION.

- a. The Metropolitan Tuguegarao Water District (MTWD), in coordination with the BFP and CDRRMO, shall conduct **regular inspections and maintenance** of installed fire hydrants subject to a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City Government of Tuguegarao and the MTWD. The MOA shall define the roles, responsibilities, and procedures to ensure functionality and adequate water pressure of fire hydrants citywide.
- b. Any damaged or non-functional fire hydrant shall be repaired or replaced within a reasonable period not exceeding **thirty (30) days** from the date of reporting or inspection.



## **SECTION 9. REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

- a. Each barangay shall submit an annual report to the CDRRMO indicating:
- Status of fire hydrants in their area
  - Conduct of fire safety trainings
  - Fire incidents and response actions, if any
- b. The CDRRMO shall compile these reports and submit a consolidated city-wide fire safety and preparedness report to the City Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Council annually.

## **SECTION 10. INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION**

To implement this ordinance effectively, the City Government of Tuguegarao shall enter into Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) with the Metropolitan Tuguegarao Water District (MTWD), the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), and other concerned agencies. These agreements shall outline the specific duties, funding responsibilities, reporting mechanisms, and timelines to ensure the operationalization, maintenance, and sustainability of fire hydrant systems and water supply infrastructure in all barangays.

## **SECTION 11. PENALTIES AND COMPLIANCE.**

- a. Any public or private entity found tampering with or obstructing access to a fire hydrant shall be liable to a fine of **Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00)** for each offense, without prejudice to other applicable criminal or civil liabilities under national law.
- b. Failure of any barangay to comply with mandatory fire response training shall result in administrative sanctions in accordance with existing rules and guidelines from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

**SECTION 12. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision or part of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 13. REPEALING CLAUSE.** All ordinances, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 14. EFFECTIVITY.** This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation within Tuguegarao City or through posting in at least three (3) conspicuous places within the city.