

Baguio City

BY THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 000

DIRECTING ALL OFFICES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT (LGU) OF BAGUIO CITY TO FULLY IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9266, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004, AND ITS IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR)

WHEREAS, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9266 has been in effect since 10 April 2004 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) have been in effect since 01 December 2004;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 9266 states that **only Registered and Licensed Architects (RLAs)** must prepare, sign and seal **architectural** plans, specifications and documents i.e. the drawing sheets labeled as “**A**” in building plans, contract documents, building permit applications and the like;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 9266 is NOT covered by ANY temporary restraining order (TRO) nor by ANY writ of preliminary injunction (WPI) issued by any court, nor is it the subject of any constitutional question filed before any court;

WHEREAS, there is clear need to effect the soonest the nationwide implementation and enforcement of the provisions of R.A. No. 9266 and its IRR, particularly the multiple sections that limit the preparation, signing and dry-sealing of **ALL architectural** plans, designs, specifications, drawings and **architectural** documents relative to the construction of a building/ habitable structure, only to RLAs;

WHEREAS, in full accord with Sec. 44 (*Enforcement of the Act*) of R.A. No. 9266, the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture (PRBoA), through the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) has called on the assistance of the LGU of **Baguio City** to fully enforce the provisions of R.A. No. 9266 and its IRR within its jurisdiction, and to prosecute any person violating provisions of the same;

WHEREAS, in full accord with Sec. 35 (*Positions in Government Requiring the Services of Registered and Licensed Architects*) of R.A. No. 9266, and in line with the international/ universal definition of Architects/ Architecture as the primary professional responsible for the planning and design of buildings/ habitable structures and their environs, ALL positions in the LGU primarily requiring the expertise of architects must be filled only by RLAs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, (Full Name of City Mayor), Mayor of the **Baguio City**, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. Office of the City Engineer (OCE) / Office of the Building Official (OBO).

The OCE/ OBO must fully implement and enforce Secs. 20, 20(3), 20(5) and 32 of R.A. No. 9266 (reference **Annex “1”**), and cause the prosecution of any person violating provisions of the same. In accordance with Sec. 35 of R.A. No. 9266, there should be ample representation by RLAs in the OBO, which deals primarily with buildings. In particular, the architectural section of the OBO, which is in charge of reviewing architectural documents, shall be headed only by an RLA;

Section 2. Office of the City Architect (OCA).

In accordance with Book Three, Title Five, Article Fifteen of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of the Philippines and with Sec. 35 of R.A. No. 9266, the City Architect must be an RLA. Procurement requirements of **Baguio City** pertaining to architectural infrastructure works and/ or architectural consulting services, shall

be in full accordance with R.A. No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement and Reform Act (GPRA) of 2003, and shall undergo prior review and approval by the OCA.

Section 3. Bid and Award Committee (BAC) Observer for the Procurement of Architectural Infrastructure Works and/ or Architectural Consulting Services.

In accordance with R.A. No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government GPRA of 2003, a BAC Observer shall be appointed for procurement procedures involving architectural infrastructure works and/ or architectural consulting services. The nearest Chapter of the United Architects of the Philippines, the integrated and accredited professional organization of architects (IAPOA) recognized under R.A. No. 9266, shall provide the said BAC Observer.

Section 3. Funding.

To address the funding requirements, the City Treasurer shall raise the appropriate funds from various sources whenever necessary.

Section 6. Separability Clause.

If any part or provision of the Administration Order is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions not affected shall remain valid and effective.

Section 7. Effectivity.

This Administrative Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the **Baguio City**, this **00th** day of **November**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and **Seven**.

(Sgd.) **Full Name of the City Mayor**

By the Mayor:

(Sgd.) **Full Name of the City Administrator**
City Administrator

Annex "1" follows