

Republic of the Philippines Province of Palawan Municipality of Taytay



OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR

November 21, 2022

Dir. LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO IV

Regional Executive Director
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
3rd flr., 1515 DENR by the Bay Bldg.
Roxas Boulevard, Brgy. 668, Ermita, Manila

Thru: CONRADO M. CORPUZ

CENRO - Taytay

Dear Director Claudio:

Warmest greetings from La Estrella Del Norte of Palawan!

This is to formally manifest the Municipal Government of Taytay's "OBJECTION" to any titling application which may be initiated by private individuals and/or corporations, organizations and/or other groups on the more or less 100,000 square meters of reclaimed land in Barangay Poblacion, Taytay, Palawan.

The Local Government Code of 1991, Section 3 (d) vested upon the local government units the power to create and broaden their sources of revenue, through the proper and sustainable development and utilization of the resources within their respective areas. More than just revenue generation, the municipality is driven to implement proper land use and manage the increasing number of settlers in the reclamation area. At the heart of it is Fuerza Santa Isabel de la Paragua, one of Palawan's most significant built heritage and a beacon of Taytay's rich history and culture. Such beauty should not stay in the background nor be neglected in favor of private commercial buildings, warehouses, etc. sprouting here and there.

Even the old laws gave preference to government units over private entities. The Commonwealth Act No. 141, as amended, otherwise known as the Public Land Act (1936) provides that: (a) alienable and disposable lands of the public domain include "lands reclaimed by the government" (Secs. 9 and 59) and those reclaimed lands are disposable to private parties "by lease only" (Sec. 61).

With the municipality's initiatives in legitimizing its claim over the reclaimed area aligned with the recommendation of the Commission on Audit (COA) in its audit observation memorandum dated April 25, 2022, for the "Municipal Mayor to fast-track the LGU's application to the PRA and compliance to the requirements laid down by the PRA A.O. Nos. 2019-4 and 2021-1 for undertaking the reclamation project and acquiring legal right/ title over the existing reclaimed land.", it is therefore deemed necessary to respectfully inform your agency of our objection to any survey requests intended for titling and titling application/s of the reclaimed area which may be subsequently submitted by interested entities.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours

CHRISTIAN V. RODRIGUEZ Municipal Mayor