



Republic of the Philippines
Regional Development Council
MIMAROPA Region

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(EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE THIRD QUARTER RDC MIMAROPA
FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 01 SEPTEMBER 2023
IN PASAY CITY)

RDC Resolution No. **2023-083-1191**

FAVORABLY ENDORSING THE INCLUSION OF THE VERDE ISLAND
PASSAGE (VIP) AS PART OF THE EXPANDED NATIONAL INTEGRATED
PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (ENIPAS)

WHEREAS, the Regional Development Council (RDC) is mandated to coordinate the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of short- and long-term regional development plans and investment programs, regional physical framework plan, and special development plans, including the formulation of policy recommendations;

WHEREAS, Republic Act 7586 established a National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS), which shall encompass outstandingly remarkable areas and biologically important public lands that are habitats of rare and endangered species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems, whether terrestrial, wetland or marine, all of which shall be designated as "protected areas";

WHEREAS, Republic Act 11038 or the Expanded NIPAS Act further established additional protected areas within the classification of national park pursuant to the Philippine Constitution;

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the ENIPAS Act states that, upon the recommendation of DENR, additional areas with unique physical features, anthropological significance, and high biological diversity may be proposed for inclusion as part of the NIPAS;

WHEREAS, the overall objective of protection under the NIPAS Law is to secure the perpetual existence of native plants and animals for the present and future generations;

WHEREAS, the management of VIP shall require the formulation of a general management planning strategy and zoning such as strict protection zones; buffer zones; habitat conservation and rehabilitation; biodiversity management; cultural zones; community organizing; socioeconomic and scientific research zones; among others;

WHEREAS, there is a need to define other areas such as sustainable use zones, multiple zones, recreational zones, and special use zones that will harmonize with the existing economic activities and strategic programs and projects of national significance identified in the Public Investment Program, Regional

Development Plan, Regional Development Investment Program, and Luzon Spatial Development Framework within the VIP;

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Committee (EDC), during its 3rd quarter meeting held on 03 August 2023, reviewed and recommended RDC endorsement of the proposed inclusion of the VIP in the ENIPAS;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON A MOTION DULY SECONDED, be it

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, That the Council favorably endorses the inclusion of the Verde Island Passage (VIP) as part of the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS);

RESOLVED FURTHER, That infrastructure facilities such as those major programs and projects identified in the Public Investment Program, Regional Development Plan, Regional Development Investment Program, and Luzon Spatial Development Framework be allowed under special uses category;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That agriculture, tourism, and other livelihood activities be allowed in the settlement, traditional, and agricultural areas;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the RDC MIMAROPA be included in the consultation process to be undertaken relative to the inclusion of the VIP in the ENIPAS;

RESOLVED FINALLY, That copies of this resolution be furnished to all concerned.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Done this 1st day of September in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-three in Pasay City.

Certified Correct:




BERNARDINO A. ATIENZA, JR.
Acting RDC Secretary

Attested:



AGUSTIN C. MENDOZA
Vice Chairperson
Regional Director, NEDA MIMAROPA

Approved:



GOV. JOSE R. RIANO
Chairperson
Governor, Province of Romblon