

[PROCLAMATION NO. 1057, December 04, 2020]

CONVERSION OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE DEL MONTE, BULACAN INTO A HIGHLY-URBANIZED CITY

WHEREAS, Section 452 of Republic Act (RA) No. 7160 or the "Local Government Code of 1991," provides that cities with a minimum population of two hundred thousand (200,000) inhabitants as certified by the Philippine Statistics Authority, and with the latest annual income of at least PhP50 Million based on 1991 constant prices, as certified by the City Treasurer, shall be classified as highly-urbanized cities;

WHEREAS, Section 453 of RA No. 7160 and its implementing Rules and Regulations provide that it shall be the duty of the President to declare a city as highly-urbanized within thirty (30) days after it shall have met the minimum requirements prescribed in Section 452 of the same law, upon proper application therefor, and within 120 days thereafter, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) shall conduct a plebiscite in the city proposed to be converted, where the qualified voters therein shall ratify the aforementioned declaration;

WHEREAS, the plebiscite shall be preceded by a comprehensive information campaign to be conducted by the COMELEC with the assistance of national and local government officials, media, non-government organizations and other interested parties;

WHEREAS, the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* of San Jose del Monte, through Resolution No. 2019-059-09, requested the President to declare the City of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan as a highly-urbanized city;

WHEREAS, the City of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan has met the minimum requirements prescribed under Section 452 of RA No. 7160 for a city to be classified as highly-urbanized;

WHEREAS, the population and income of the City of San Jose del Monte have been verified and attested to by the Philippine Statistics Authority and the Department of Finance - Bureau of Local Government Finance, respectively; and

WHEREAS, it is a declared policy of the government to support the initiatives of local governments to attain their fullest development as self-reliant communities, and make them effective partners in the attainment of national goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby proclaim the City of San Jose del Monte as a highly-urbanized city, provided that this proclamation shall take effect only upon ratification in a plebiscite by the qualified voters therein, as provided for in Section 453 of RA No. 7160.