

# [ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 824, November 07, 1975 ]

## CREATING THE METROPOLITAN MANILA AND THE METROPOLITAN MANILA COMMISSION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**WHEREAS**, in the referendum held on February 27, 1975, the residents of the Greater Manila Area authorized the President to restructure the local governments of the four cities and 13 municipalities thereof into an integrated unit of the manager or commission form of government, under such terms and conditions as the President may decide;

**WHEREAS**, the rapid growth of population and the corresponding increase of social and economic requirements in the contiguous communities referred to above has brought into being a large area that calls for simultaneous and unified development;

**WHEREAS**, many public services now rendered by local governments separately for themselves may and should be administered more efficiently and more economically, to the common benefit of the cities and municipalities in the area, if they are integrated and harmonized, under a system of central planning which would take separate municipal needs into account as a common problem;

**WHEREAS**, it is vital to the survival and growth of the aforementioned Greater Manila Area that a workable and effective system be established for the coordination, integration and unified management of such local government services or functions within the metropolitan community;

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary that the unified metropolitan services or functions be planned, administered, and operated in accordance with the highest professional technical standards; and

**WHEREAS**, such coordination, integration, and unified management especially in the maintenance of peace and order and the eradication of social and economic ills that fan the flames of discontent and rebellion are part of reform measures under Martial Law essential to the safety and security of the State;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby decree and order:

**SECTION 1.** *Creation of the Metropolitan Manila.*—There is hereby created a public corporation, to be known as the Metropolitan Manila, vested with powers and attributes of a corporation including the power to make contracts, sue and be sued, acquire, purchase, expropriate, hold, transfer and dispose of property and such other powers as are necessary to carry out its purposes. The Corporation shall be administered by a Commission created under this Decree.

**SEC. 2.** *Territorial Jurisdiction.*—The Commission shall have jurisdiction over the cities of Manila, Quezon, Pasay and Caloocan and the municipalities of Makati, Mandaluyong, San Juan, Las Piñas, Malabon, Navotas, Pasig, Pateros, Parañaque, Marikina, Muntinlupa, and Tagnig in the province of Rizal; and the municipality of Valenzuela, in the province of Bulacan, all of which together shall henceforth be known as Metropolitan Manila.

**SEC. 3. *Organization and Personnel of the Commission.***—The Commission shall be composed of a Chairman or Governor, a Vice-Chairman or Vice-Governor and three Commissioners or Board Members, one for planning, another for finance and a third one for operations, all of whom shall be appointed by the President and shall hold office at his pleasure. The Chairman or Governor shall receive an annual salary of P60,000.00, the Vice-Chairman or Vice-Governor, P50,000.00 and the three Commissioners or Board Members, P45,000.00 each per annum. All heads of departments and/or offices and subordinate personnel shall be appointed by the Chairman or Governor and their compensation shall be fixed by the Commission. All positions, except those of highly professional and highly technical personnel, shall be subject to Civil Service Law, rules and regulations. Non-presidential appointees shall enjoy security of tenure and may be removed or otherwise disciplined only for cause, in accordance with Civil Service Law, rules and regulations.

The Chairman or Governor and Vice-Chairman or Vice-Governor shall be the General Manager and Deputy General Manager, respectively, of the Commission.

**SEC. 4. *Powers and Functions of the Commission.***—The Commission shall have the following powers and functions:

1. To act as a central government to establish and administer programs and provide services common to the area;
2. To levy and collect taxes and special assessments, borrow and expend money and issue bonds, revenue certificates, and other obligations of indebtedness. Existing tax measures should, however, continue to be operative until otherwise modified or repealed by the Commission;
3. To charge and collect fees for the use of public service facilities;
4. To appropriate money for the operation of the metropolitan government and review appropriations for the city and municipal units within its jurisdiction with authority to disapprove the same if found to be not in accordance with the established policies of the Commission, without prejudice to any contractual obligation of the local government units involved existing at the time of approval of this Decree;
5. To review, amend, revise or repeal all ordinances, resolutions and acts of cities and municipalities within Metropolitan Manila.
6. To enact or approve ordinances, resolutions and to fix penalties for any violation thereof which shall not exceed a fine of P10,000.00 or imprisonment of six years or both such fine and imprisonment for a single offense.
7. To perform general administrative, executive and policy-making functions;
8. To establish a fire control operation center, which shall direct the fire services of the city and municipal governments in the metropolitan area;
9. To establish a garbage disposal operation center, which shall direct garbage collection and disposal in the metropolitan area;
10. To establish and operate a transport and traffic center, which shall direct traffic activities;
11. To coordinate and monitor governmental and private activities pertaining to essential services such as transportation, flood control and drainage, water supply and sewerage, social, health and environmental services, housing, park development, and others;
12. To insure and monitor the undertaking of a comprehensive social, economic and physical planning and development of the area;
13. To study the feasibility of increasing barangay participation in the affairs of their respective local governments and to propose to the President of the