

## The City Council of Marikina Renaming a Street to Tzu Chi Street

Written by Tzu Chi Foundation  
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In recognition of Tzu Chi's humanistic and compassionate effort, the City Council of Marikina has passed an ordinance to signify the formal renaming of Barangay Fortune's Azucena Street to Tzu Chi Street in Marikina City, Philippines. Ordinance No. 27 series of 2012 reflects the street's new name and was approved last May 9.

A simple ceremony was held in front of Tzu Chi Marikina Educational Recycling Center's gate last May 13. The ceremony was graced by the ordinance's sponsor councilor Serafin Bernardino, Vice Mayor Fabian Cadiz, Barangay Captain Rizalina Teope, Tzu Chi CEO of Philippines Alfredo Li, volunteers, and several Barangay Fortune residents.

Councillor Serafin Bernardino read the ordinance before the placement of Tzu Chi Street's placard. The ceremony officially recognized the newly-named Tzu Chi Street with Barangay Captain Teope removing the placard of Azucena Street and Vice Mayor Cadiz putting the sign Tzu Chi Street in its replacement.

The ordinance's author, Councillor Serafin Bernardino, said that renaming the street after Tzu Chi is their token of appreciation to the foundation. "This is our simple way of showing our gratitude towards Tzu Chi for helping us during the wrath of Ondoy (Ketsana)".



Bernardino added that even after Ondoy, Tzu Chi continued to help Marikina through its cash-for-work programs and recycling initiatives. Tzu Chi also helped many Marikeño youth scholars through the foundation's educational program. "It is not easy to rename a street because it takes several months before it is approved and we (the authors) also have to defend our proposed ordinance" he said. The ordinance was approved six months after the ordinance was submitted for proposal and evaluation.

In return, Tzu Chi CEO Alfredo Li said that renaming Azucena Street to Tzu Chi Street is something very important for the organization. "This is not only Tzu Chi Philippines' honour but also our founder Master Cheng Yen" he said. With this, Li expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to all city officials who have supported the ordinance.

Article by Angeli Adviento