A YEAR AFTER...
1ST State of the City Address
25 July 2011
Baguio Convention Center

MAURICIO G. DOMOGAN
City Mayor

The Honorable Members of the City Council led by Vice Mayor Daniel T. Fariñas, Department heads and their assistants, our Barangays Officials, Regional Directors, our men in uniform, fellow public servants, employees of the City Government, members of the media, our beloved constituents in the city, friends, ladies and gentlemen.

Over a year ago, we stepped into city hall with our hands full. On one hand is our responsibility to ensure continuity of programs and projects that create positive impact on our city and the lives of our people; and on the other hand, to carry a heavy burden of finding practical and lasting solutions to a number of the city’s problems that have hindered our progress and affected our beautiful image in the outside world.

Today, I stand before you to give an account of what we have collectively accomplished as a team of public servants. With all honesty and modesty, our report is not in any way intended to undermine the accomplishments of previous administrations, nor to malign, disparage a reputation or put any person’s name in a bad light. This is simply a report to show what we have done for a period of one year since we assumed as public servants which will likewise show that in our capability we are doing our best to accomplish what we had been telling our people that we will do if they will bestow upon us the opportunity to serve them. The comparison of what we have accomplished for a period of one year with the immediate preceding year is the benchmark as to whether or not we are improving in our collective performance.

Consistent with our policy on transparent and participative governance, we embarked on programs and projects that require more than anything else teamwork and proper coordination. The City Executive, the City Council and the department
heads of the different offices of the City Government leading all public servants working as one to achieve our goals and developments.

 Though the magnitude of our tasks at hand seems overwhelming, we all agree to this simple guiding principle that all executive decisions, be it big or small, mundane or humungous, must be anchored on honest, effective, efficient, transparent and sustainable good governance with the end view of providing necessary basic services and better standard of living for our constituents.

 Friends, ladies and gentlemen, allow me then to start.

 **ENVIRONMENT**

 Pertaining to our environment, it is worthy of note that our environmental management policy focuses on five major areas of concern, specially SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT, WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT, AIR QUALITY, PARKS AND FOREST RESERVES.

 A. **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

 On what to us was probably the grandmother of all issues when we started our fresh mandate in public service a year ago is one of the problems befitting for me to prioritize as your city Janitor is our garbage problem….

 As we all can recall, one of the darkest hours and most embarrassing moments we all had to deal with as Baguio City residents happened when our beloved city, a Hall of Famer as the Cleanest and Greenest Highly Urbanized City in the Philippines, was practically turned into a virtual dumpsite. From Hall of Fame, to Hall of Shame…

 It is public knowledge that for over two years, the city government spent over P200 million pesos just for the hauling of our garbage to Tarlac. Such staggering amount depleted the city’s available funds. From July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 alone, the city government spent a WHOPPING P39 million simply to haul the city’s waste to Tarlac. While we spent P25,000,000 from the period July 1, 2010 to April 11, 2011 we only spent P25 million for the aforesaid purpose.
Now, with great relief, since April 2011, we have totally stopped the hauling of our garbage to Tarlac. So a year after and with all humility, we are slowly bringing back the City where it rightfully belongs as Clean and Green City in the Philippines. THOSE DAYS ARE OVER… THOSE DAYS ARE THE THINGS OF THE PAST…WE ARE BOUNCING BACK… AND WE ARE DOING IT BECAUSE OF TEAMWORK…BECAUSE OF POLITICAL WILL….BECAUSE OF YOUR COOPERATION…AND BECAUSE YOU CARE.

We did it because the Executive through the Department Heads had chosen the ENVIRONMENTAL RECYCLING SYSTEM (ERS) MACHINES, a Japanese technology, which convert our biodegradable waste into high grade compost fertilizer among 34 proposals and the Honorable Men and Women of our City Council lead by Vice Mayor Fariñas, crossed party lines and collectively took the bull by the horns and approved the appropriation of P128 million for the immediate purchase of the said technology.

Everyone must understand that the City generates 166 tons of garbage per day. 66.4 tons biodegradable, 43.16 tons recyclable, 53.12 tons residual component while 3.32 tons is classified as special waste. The residual component of our garbage is to be hauled by Protech Machineries, Inc. which supplied us the ERS machines to outside Baguio City at no cost to the City.

We wish to inform everybody that our ERS Machines to date have already produced 413.10 tons of high-grade compost waste as certified by the Department of Agriculture and ready for the market. However, we could not push through with selling them since we are still awaiting the permit to be issued to us by the Fertilizer and Pesticides Authority (FPA) as a legitimate seller of compost waste to our agricultural industry stakeholders, especially in the nearby Benguet province where vegetable farming is a major source of livelihood. When this happen, we could have turned the table around…ANG DATING BASURA NA PINAGKAKAGASTUSAN, NGAYON AY MAAARI NANG PAGKAKITAAN!

However, it should be clear to us that the officials and employees of the City Government cannot single handedly solve the garbage problem alone, thus, the 10,011 households through their Barangay officials who are our devoted partners in the development of our City have been informed to segregate their garbage at
source to make it easier for our personnel to feed the biodegradable to the ERS machines and for the residuals to be hauled by Protech Machineries, Inc. For after all, it is our obligation to segregate as mandated by Republic Act 9003 known as the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act.

To those who are not willing to cooperate, before you complain…before you talk garbage… make sure you, yourself, cooperate and segregate!

**B. SEWERAGE SYSTEM**

On our sewerage system, a total of 65 out of the 128 barangays are either fully or partially served. 12 barangays are partially served by the city’s communal septic tank while 53 barangays are using individual septic tanks. The city has a total of 53.95 linear kilometers of sewer pipe network which is a mixture of aged and new PVC pipes which are now overloaded.

Furthermore, 2,248 manholes have been inventoried where maintenance activities are done, specifically for declogging and cleaning of pipelines.

Designed for an inflow rate of 8,600 cubic meters per day, the Baguio sewerage treatment plant, which is on a 24/7 operation, is actually getting 12,447 cubic meter a day inflow or 144.7 percent beyond capacity which could be attributed to the rapidly increasing development within the city’s central business district area. This is also a major concern that we are addressing with serious sense of urgency. We understand that we just cannot continue increasing the volume that goes into our sewerage treatment plant without increasing our holding capacity.

**C. AIR QUALITY**

We are one of the five cities in the Philippines that have the machines installed in lower Session road that measures our air quality. All of us breathe air and air quality affects our health. We had conducted 245 roadside inspections, testing and monitoring in 28 strategic locations within the city from July 2010 to June 2011 which resulted to the testing of 5,722 motor vehicles that were flagged down. Ironically, 3,762 vehicles failed the roadside inspection, testing and monitoring while only 1,960 passed the tests or an undesirable 65 percent smoke belching vehicles. This figure is alarming. I therefore appeal to all motor vehicle
owners to be considerate enough and comply with the Clean Air Act Law.. Maawa naman tayo sa ating inang kalikasan… Maawa rin tayo sa mga magkakasakit dahil sa usok ng mga napabayaang sasakyan….

D. FOREST RESERVE

Relative to our effort to preserve and protect our deteriorating forests, our city was able to produce 13,500 assorted tree seedlings and had planted 9,187 of them. Hopefully these trees will grow.

In this opportunity, we want to inform our beloved people of a serious problem that emanated in relation to our forest reserves and parks. I am referring to the titling of Forbes and Wright Parks in favor of private individuals. Of course, the City immediately question the legality and validity of the said Certificates of Ancestral Land Titles (CALTs) that we respectfully submit as irregularly issued by the NCIP. The City Legal Officer has been closely coordinating with the Solicitor General’s Office and as a result, the proper petitions had been filed with the Court of Appeals and the NCIP questioning the validity of the said CALTs. You can just imagine what will happen to the City of Baguio if this few remaining Forest Reserves and Parks will be given to private persons. We therefore urge the People of Baguio to be one with us on this matter.

E. PARKS

With the support of Rep. Vergara, we are continuously beautifying our major parks in the city, particularly Burnham Park, Botanical Garden, and Wright Park for our people as well as to sustain the city’s momentum in attracting the influx of more foreign and domestic tourists who significantly contribute to the growth of the local economy. With respect to Mines View Park, we are completing the multipurpose building and we will be relocating all those vendors occupying the Mines View Park to the said multipurpose building and redevelop the parks to return it as one of our tourist destination.

We are also closely working with the City Council for the finalization of the terms of reference for the development of other areas within Burnham Park using
the University of the Cordilleras master development plan as our best working document.

**FINANCE AND FISCAL STANDING**

The first and most important factor in having an effective financial planning is developing and implementing a budget anchored on the involvement of a budgeting system responsive to the development goals of the city.

In our administration, it was done with special attention to the formulation of doable plans, programs and activities with the submission of the P1.091 billion executive budget which was extensively scrutinized by the City Council and eventually approved for implementation before the calendar year 2011. At the same time, with great benefit to the transacting public, the computerization of the registry of accounts of the different departments has cut short the response time in the processing of among others, the obligation requests.

In the greater interest of the general public, through our state-of-the-art technology, the management and administration of office budgets were effectively and efficiently facilitated, simplified and updated on real time basis.

We are challenging ourselves and in this regard, we direct those handling our management information system to improve our network connections in the different offices so that it will conform to the standards of modern technology and to ensure speedy delivery of appropriate services to our transacting public.

Relative to revenue-generation which is the primordial task of the city treasurer’s office, we would like to extend our congratulations to the officials and employees of the city treasury office for a job well done.

From July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, the city treasurer’s office was able to collect a total of P471,477,705.53 compared to P544,581,422.36 collected by the same office from the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 or an average increase of APPROXIMATELY P73,103,716.99 equivalent to 15.50% of the total taxes collected over the preceding period. Bulk of the collections were derived from business taxes, fees and charges which amounted to P308 million or an increase of P41.1 million or 15.41% increase of the total collections.
238 new business establishments were opened bringing the total number of business permits issued to 13,041 establishments that resulted to an 18.29 percent increase in revenues in the amount of P16.7 million.

Despite the failure of the city assessor’s office to implement the mandatory computerization program, real property tax collections also increased to P78 million representing a 12.34% increase compared to the previous year. The increased collections could be attributed to an intensified tax collection campaign, barangay tax mapping and by adopting a scheme through the signing of promissory notes by the taxpayers after the massive issuance of demand letters to erring property owners.

The reactivation of the Baguio City Market Authority (BCMA) likewise paved the way for the reorganization of the Baguio market Vendors Association that allowed their representative to represent their interest in the collegial body. With the development of Block III, 440 stalls were already allocated for qualified stallholders after the conduct of a stringent scrutiny and evaluation by the BCMA. The said awardees will occupy their stalls within the first week of August 2011.

Also, for the first time, we subjected to public auction the market stalls leased by delinquent stallholders last March 31, 2011 in order to rid the market with abusive and enterprising individuals that resulted to the generation of more than P3 MILLION which is an added income of the City Government.

To reduce illegal vendors in our different streets and parks, we have gone on an experimental night market which we hope is going to continue to succeed. For our one-year period, the said night market paid the city P338,900. Because of legal limitation for personnel services expenses, we have only four (4) Public Order and Safety Division (POSD) personnel in charge in anti-peddling in the market and the streets and parks, With the improvement of our revenues, we will be having additional 20 POSD personnel to improve our drive against illegal peddling.

With respect to the Asin Mini Hydro Electric Plant owned by the City Government, after the contract between the City and HEDCOR had expired in the year 2006, the City decided to manage and operate the same. BENECO became the buyer of what the said Hydro produces. Unfortunately, there is no Memorandum of Agreement entered into between the City and BENECO defining the terms and
conditions of the said relationship. Despite the lack of MOA, BENCO had been deducting 18% system loss from the gross production and it is likewise BENECO that determines the price of how much it pays to the City government per kilowatt hour. When we took over, we realized the said loss that the City government had been incurring, hence we asked BENECO to stop deducting the said 18% system loss for the same is without legal basis and the latter granted our demand by stopping it in January 2011. We did form a Technical Committee to talk with BENECO and come out with a recommendation of what will be the reasonable system loss for the previous billings from January 2007 to December 31, 2010. The committee did recommend that 8.5% instead of 18% will be the system loss to be deducted which if recommendation will be approved by the parties, BENECO will be made to pay back the City government the amount of P8,446,947.00. The collection made by the City government in the amount of P13,232,555.11 from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 had been tremendously increased to P30,204,153.65 covering the period from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 or an increase of 128.26%.

We also issued Administrative Order No. 035, series of 2011 which created the Baguio City Price Monitoring and Coordinating Council to inspect, investigate and monitor groceries and outlets of products and goods which have questionable quality and ingredients as confirmed by the Food and Drugs Administration to be removed from the reach of the buying public in order to protect our constituents from harm, health problems and from being shortchanged.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

From the period of July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, 273 city-funded projects with a total amount of P108,800,000 were bidded out for implementation to continue with the infrastructure boom in our city, especially in barangays which need such identified priorities. As compared to the previous period, July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, for while there were 280 projects which were implemented and completed, the total project cost had a total amount of only P48.8 Million.

The City Engineer’s Office was able to implement 8 major horizontal projects, 5 of which were funded from the 20 percent local development fund
while 3 were funded from the city’s calamity fund. The stabilization of the Irisan dumpsite retaining wall, the rehabilitation of the Baguio Sewerage Treatment Plant retaining wall foundation at South Sanitary Camp, rehabilitation of sewer lines, improvement of drainages and the improvement of roads are among the major projects that had been completed as programmed.

Because of well-planned work and competitive bidding of projects, the City Engineer’s Office was able to realize at least P2.8 million savings from the P65.8 million earlier earmarked by the City Government for the implementation of 122 horizontal projects in the city.

In addition, we have constantly reminded the City Engineer’s Office to facilitate the painting of vandalized overpasses, painting of garbage bins and repair of damaged manholes to maintain the beauty of our infrastructures and prevent the occurrence of untoward incidents that will compromise the safety of the public.

Relative to vertical structures, the City Buildings and Architecture Office was able to process and issued 324 applications for building permits which resulted to the generation of P4,128,737.84 covering the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 compared to P4,389,488.21 during the preceding year. The processing time of permit applications with complete and complying documents is within 2 working days and a maximum of 5 working days which is a great improvement from the previous years. The office was able to complete 67 vertical projects that it awarded which had a total amount of P55,630,380.22 as compared to P53,226,837.02 during the preceding year. The said office was likewise able to demolish 108 structures from the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 compared to 98 structures demolished during the preceding year. One of its major accomplishments is the completion of Block III market building with a total project cost of P18.5 million which is now ready for occupancy by the vendors that won in the awarding of space allocations.

The CBAO is currently implementing 11 vertical projects with a total amount of P25.3 million while 8 projects with a cost of P6 million were already bidded out and awaiting award to the winning project implementers.

I would also like to inform everybody that when we assumed over a year ago after serving for three consecutive terms as your messenger to the House of
Representatives, I left behind the implementation of 11 various road improvement projects with a total project cost of P100 million and three school building projects amounting to a total of P2.7 million as well as the completion of the Department of Education Division Office building with a project cost of P30 million all of which had been completed.

I wish to also add that a total of P218,000,000 hard and soft infrastructure projects were completed through the initiative of our hardworking partner and our Congressman of the City of Baguio, Honorable Bernardo M. Vergara.

**PEACE AND ORDER**

Despite the fact that the manpower of our Baguio City Police Office is only 456 for July 1, 2010 to present as compared to the 460 from July 2009 to June 30, 2010 with a police to population ratio of 1 is to 1,333 during nighttime and 1 is to 1,441 during daytime, the Baguio City Police Office is doing its best to manage our peace and order situation with intensified mobile and foot patrol operations conducted by our men and women in uniform. Police visibility in crime-prone areas, implementation of Operation Kapkap and Sita, anti-pickpocket and anti-vagrancy operations were also intensified.

With the aforesaid implementations coupled with the support of the anti-crime volunteers in the 128 barangays, crime volume for the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 which was recorded at 6,859 crimes dropped by 1.02% compared to the 6,930 crimes recorded from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

Index crimes recorded for the same period which tallied 4,263 incidents dropped by 1.77% compared to the 4,340 crimes recorded during the preceding period.

However, non-index crimes increased by 3.75% from 2,590 during the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 to 2,596 incidents for the following year.

The crime solution efficiency of our police force also improved from 7.20% during the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 to 10.35% during the succeeding year. Furthermore, there was also a 1.12% increase in crime cleared efficiency
from 12.83% during the previous year to 13.95% from the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

On our Anti-Illlegal Drug Campaign, we commend our police operatives and anti-narcotics agents for successfully arresting 53 drug pushers and users and confiscating from them P340,871.20 worth of illegal drugs in 38 anti-illegal drug operations that resulted to the filing of 38 cases against the arrested drug personalities.

On our fight against illegal gambling, our law enforcers also conducted 39 illegal gambling operations that led to the arrest of 124 personalities with the confiscation of P40,450.75 cash bets and assorted gambling paraphernalia. 33 illegal gambling cases were already filed in court against the arrested gambling personalities.

Gambling is a social menace to our society. I had been and will always be against it. I never condone any culture, or practice or vices where money can be made through game of chance.

For this reason, apart from our directive to the members of the Task Force JUPITER to intensify their campaign against illegal gambling operations in the city, we also call on our citizens not to bet in order for such gambling operations to die naturally.

Walang Sugal, kung walang Tataya! Or SHOULD I SAY, WALANG SUGAL, KUNG WALANG SUGAROL!

In the implementation of various local ordinances, there were 3,365 persons who were apprehended which resulted to the generation of approximately P951,350 in fines that were subsequently paid to the city treasurer’s office. There were 34,920 apprehensions made on drivers by elements of the Traffic Management Branch who subsequently paid their fines amounting to more than P5.6 million.

Traffic, friends, ladies and gentlemen is a serious problem especially from 6:00am to 9:00am and 4:00pm to 7:00pm during weekdays specially in the Central business district area and yet, we have only 28 Policemen and 47 Police Auxiliaries tasked to manage the same in different roads of the City of Baguio at different shifts during a day. Traffic violations are mostly attributable to lack of
discipline to follow simple traffic rules and regulation. I therefore appeal for us to follow traffic rules and regulations and even consider the use of car pooling styles of bringing our schoolchildren to school coming from different barangays. I hope that the amendatory ordinance pending in the City Council covering the recommendations of the Traffic and Transportation Management Committee after series of experimentations will be passed by the City Council to amend Ordinance numbered 07-84 soon to improve our traffic situation.

We commend the Baguio City Police Office for having a 90.11 percent arrest rate with 328 wanted persons arrested for the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 out of the 364 warrants of arrest issued by the different courts.

Among the impact projects being now implemented by the local police force includes the installation of quality service lanes, I-Text Mo Si Hepe, COPS in the School, COPS in Church, COPS in the Mall, organization of barangay peacekeeping action teams, organization of the student crime prevention committees, tree planting and cleanup campaigns and Ugnayan sa Barangay.

Our Baguio’s Finest deserve a tap on the back for being considered as the model police station with a grant from the United States Department of Justice through the International Criminal Investigation Training Assistance Program which conducted two trainings on crime scene photography and technical writing and public speaking.

To top it all, we congratulate the Baguio’s Finest for garnering the top Police Community Relations Award. This award is an added feather on their cap and a testament to their dedication and competence in discharging their duties. I am highly confident that they will be able to sustain the momentum that they have gained to instill law and order in our city for the protection of our residents and visitors.

SOCIAL SERVICES

On our achievements in relation to social welfare and development, our Office of the City Social Welfare and Development has been always on the go to render the implementation of Community-based services and Institution-based
services. The number of individuals and families that had been benefited and are benefiting from these services covering the period from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 are properly recorded.

With regards to the Conditional Cash Transfer Program of the national government, we were able to enroll 1,033 poor families in the program and are now enjoying the benefits of the cash grants.

Interestingly, 236 enterprising individuals have availed of the capital loan under the self-employment assistance of the City Social Welfare and Development Office that resulted to the disbursement of P731,000.

Under the city’s day care program, there were 4,299 children between 4 and 5 years old who were enrolled in the 106 day care centers around the city while 120 street children are being provided with the necessary social services and approximately P300,000 was provided by the City Government for their school needs.

The city also assisted 94 child abuse victims and interventions undertaken include medical, legal, and financial assistance to cover medical and psychological treatments while 275 children in conflict with the law were assisted. The important question that each and everyone of us have to ask ourselves is: why do we have street children and child abuse victims? I submit that the answer to the question is our own evils and weaknesses. I therefore appeal that let us be responsible parents.

65 women’s organizations with 1,805 active members were organized to be part of the KALIPI while 2,793 disadvantaged women were assisted on maternal and child care, self-enhancement among others.

As per our general services, while 100.6 percent accomplishment has been registered for procurement planning, an average of 50 percent performance for procurement of supplies and properties had been registered as laggard which is being addressed with rigid supervision and innovation.

We have also recorded 100 percent performance for files and safekeeping of records and we are prioritizing the disposal of valueless records, development of archival system and archives management. In relation to this, property inventory has been also completed and above targets, including property disposal of materials.
However, it is sad to note that real property inventory has not commenced for reasons that I need or we all need to know. I am therefore directing the concerned offices to complete the real property inventory of the City Government in the next six months for us to know the status of our real properties.

In relation to the protection of the rights and issues of the City Government brought to the legal forum, we commend the City Legal Office for doing its best to protect the legal rights of the City Government. The City Legal Office is playing a vital role in our efforts to rid the city of squatters. Its effort contributed to the demolition of 108 illegal structures as previously mentioned.

We expect that the said office will continue to resolve expeditiously the pending anti-squatting cases. We need to continue sending a clear message to enterprising individuals that we do not tolerate squatting in our city.

On the provision of employment opportunities for job seekers in the city, the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) was able to solicit 28,670 job vacancies from various local and overseas employment companies and was also able to register 15,747 job hunters.

Out of the aforesaid number of job applicants, 13,049 were referred for job placements while 6,784 job seekers were referred to the different companies. 12,371 applicants were reportedly placed.

On our recruitment policy, we adhere to the existing recruitment and selection process of the City Government so that the best among the applicants to the different vacant positions will be the ones to be hired.

During our administration, we were able to implement the second tranche of the salary standardization law to all city officials and employees as well as granting benefits to separated officials and employees who either retired, resigned or have reached their end of term.

We also awarded 36 outstanding employees of the City government pursuant to Civil Service rules and regulations. Our City Human Resource Management Office is doing its best and was able to issue 2 resolutions of cases through the Bilis Action Partner, a major program of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) to ensure the immediate resolution of grievances against erring officials and employees of the City Government.
On Education, the City Government is doing what it can on infrastructure development as a continuing effort to answer the needs of a rapidly growing population. The City is spending ₱56,200,000 for Special Educational Fund for maintenance, repair, city services, etc. for our public elementary and high schools. Public elementary schools recorded a 0.17 percent decrease in retention; 0.17 percent decrease in dropout; 5.38 percent increase in completion rate; 4.25 percent decrease in graduation rate. In public high schools, there was a 0.67 percent increase in retention rate; 0.44 percent decrease in dropout rate; 0.68 percent in completion rate; and 2.29 percent increase in graduation rate.

We have noted a steady increase in enrollment for both public elementary and high school while enrollment in private schools have steadily declined over the past several years.

There was an increase in the number of permanent elementary and high school teachers but not sufficient to cope up with the significant growth in enrollment. It is sad that there is no increase in the number of teachers for special education, mobile and pre-school.

This is the reason why the City has to put up its counterpart by hiring teachers who are city paid. We increased the hiring of teachers under the city’s special education fund from July 1, 2010 to the present which greatly contributed to the improvement of teachers-pupils/students ratio that is a vital factor in the decrease of the dropout ratio.

The Sports development in our elementary and high school is continuing to improve as shown by their performance during the 2011 Cordillera Administrative Region Athletic Association (CARAA) emerging as overall champion. Also, our Baguio taekwondo delegation emerged as champion in the 2011 Palarong Pambansa in Dapitan, Zamboanga.

The City is likewise complementing the Sports development of our Dep-Ed division office by coming out with different sports competitions geared to improve the attitude of sportsmanship and discipline among our young people and for them to shy away from drugs and alcohol.
HEALTH

In our bid to have a healthy city sustained through active interaction with the private sector and beneficiaries during the period from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 as compared to the preceding year, our city health services office was able to record zero rabies death, decreased morbidity and mortality rate from tuberculosis, pneumonia and other acute respiratory infections, zero cases of wild polio, diphtheria and leptospirosis, containment and mitigation of reproductive tract infections and reduced dengue cases.

Significantly, through the effort of our health officials and workers, we were able to garner second place in the short course on urban health equity among ten major cities nationwide in the chosen project implemented; obtain accreditation of 15 health facilities for the PHILHEALTH patient and benefit package and 12 health centers for the TB dots package; 100 percent projected poor families for the city enrolled under the national health insurance program; conduct of “PANSHISHINAWAT” -forging public-private partnership for health to enhance existing collaboration among multi-sectoral stakeholders in the management of the health programs of the city; 2 barangays, namely Quezon Hill Proper and Scout Barrio, made it as finalists in the national search for barangays with best sanitation practices which resulted in their receiving P150,000 each for the maintenance/improvement of their respective sanitation programs; institutionalization of the TB diagnostic committee composed of pulmonologists, radiologists, infectious disease consultants and TB experts from the government and private sectors to evaluate and give recommendations to negative sputum smear but positive x-ray cases.

To strengthen our maternal health programs, 453 individuals from 53 barangays were trained on maternal and child health programs as they were appropriately oriented on their roles and functions in the community to form part of the community health teams. The door to door measles immunization realized a 72 percent accomplishment on children aged 9 to 95 months.

Due to the expected increase in dengue fever cases during the rainy season, we have directed our health workers to continue with the monthly dengue caravan
in selected barangays in the city to strengthen the city’s anti-dengue campaign so that our people will be made aware on how to combat the increase in dengue fever cases as well as prevent the proliferation of dengue-carrying mosquitoes.

Consistent with our anti-smoking campaign, our city health services office facilitated the formulation of multi-agency committee for a smoke-free Baguio which will spearhead the massive information education campaign on the serious negative effects of smoking to the health of individuals and to the state of the environment.

On health care, the City Government earmarked P1 million to fund the enrollment of 1,666 individuals to the sponsored program of the PHILHEALTH.

Relative to our veterinary services, 250,553 heads of animals were inspected and subjected to ante mortem inspection. Only 7 of these were issued notice of warning. There were also 2,543 veterinary health certificates and shipping permits issued by the city veterinary office.

More than 3,028,291 kilos of meat were inspected over the one year period but there were only 181 condemnation reports which were issued. 8,976 heads were vaccinated and eventually issued certificates. 703 animals were also impounded.

We commend the Audit team of the City for doing their task in auditing the foregoing performance for the previous year. Generally, the result is good with certain audit recommendations which all of us, city officials and employees will follow and implement.

**THRUSTS AND DIRECTIONS FOR 2012**

Thrusts and Directions for 2012 that we must do in order to cope up with the expected difficulties triggered by the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) slash and the alleged decline of Tourist arrivals in the City.

1. Integrity of the Environment
   - Continue to preserve and protect the City’s urban green areas and watersheds;
➢ Continue to assert regulation on water abstraction to ensure sustainable water;
➢ Continue to intensify the implementation of the Clean Air Ordinance and improve air quality;
➢ Work out the expansion of the City’s Sewerage system to cope with rapid urbanization; and
➢ Continue to enhance the aesthetic ambience of City Parks.

2. SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH

➢ Revision of the City’s Tax Ordinance specifically the increase of garbage fees, sewerage fees, market fees/rentals, and the revision of the schedule of values of Real properties;
➢ Revenue generation from potential income generating City government properties;
➢ Collect the P125 million share of the City government from the operations of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) which was wrongly remitted to the National government;
➢ Collect the City’s 25% share from the lease rentals of Camp John Hay from the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA).
➢ Public-Private Partnership in developing non-performing assets such as the Asin Mini Hydro, Asin Hotspring Resort, Baguio Convention Center, Burnham Park, Abattoir Operation, Multi-level Parking System, and Baguio Public Market including Mines View and Slaughter development;
➢ Identify the ONE TOWN ONE PRODUCT (OTOP) for the City; and
➢ Revitalize the Tourism Marketing Strategy. Contrary to earlier reports that the tourism arrivals in the City has declined by 33%, we beg to disagree with such report since reports from our City Tourism Office show otherwise as validated by our tour guides and transient house operators among others. We direct the Tourism office of the City to come out with a systematic method of at least accurately determining tourist arrivals in the City.
3. POVERTY REDUCTION AND EMPOWERMENT OF THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

- Continue to support the Bernardo M. Vergara – Mauricio G. Domogan Educational Financial Assistance Program;
- Increase the coverage of Health Insurance for the poor; and
- Continue to fund Infrastructure projects for the priority underdeveloped Barangays.

4. ACCOUNTABLE AND PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

- Pursue the computerization of government processes;
- Pursue the merging of Barangays for a more effective administration;
- Pursue a lean and mean structure of the bureaucracy; and
- Strengthen the City Development Council.

5. SAFE AND RESILIENT CITY

- Installation of state of the art monitoring devices in strategic areas to deter criminality;
- Institute changes in our public building and street lighting facilities with Light Emitting Diode or LED bulbs through the Public-Private Partnership
- Strengthen the Community-based Policing system for safer Barangays;
- Well informed citizenry on impacts of climate change through massive advocacy and integration into the curriculum; and
- Operationalize the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office.

**CONCLUSION**

Friends, ladies and gentlemen, fellow public servants, that’s where we are and those are what we have accomplished a year after we assumed our public office.
As we continue with our journey, I want to close by thanking all of those who in one way or the other have contributed to the attainment of our goals and aspirations for our city and our people for quite a short period of about 390 days.

Thank you Congressman Vergara for being part of the team doing our best to pursue the development and improvement of our City. As he had reported and as I had previously stated, he did contribute a lot for our development.

Thank you and Congratulations to the Honorable Members of the City Council led by the Honorable Vice Mayor Fariñas. The credit belongs to you for passing 64 Ordinances and 410 Resolutions, the most important of which are: the Ordinances that appropriated P1.091 billion 2011 budget, P128 million for the purchase of the ERS machines, the budget for the construction of the Irisan dumpsite retaining wall, the supplemental budget for the rehabilitation of Block 4 of the Baguio Public Market, and the P206 million for the complete payment of the City’s obligation to purchase the Baguio Convention Center from GSIS. The City entered into an agreement with GSIS in 2003 and amended in 2004, for the purchase of the Baguio Convention Center and the lot where it was constructed with an area of 10,000 square meters. The City simultaneously entered into an agreement with the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) that the latter, instead of paying its obligation to the former, shall remit directly the above payments to GSIS at the time the obligation falls due, which agreement is with the knowledge and consent of the GSIS. The total purchase price agreed upon was two hundred fifty million pesos (P250,000,000.00), payable on installments bearing an interest of 12% per annum on the diminishing balance, in the following manner:

*The amount of P50,000,000.00 to be paid upon signing of the supplemental agreement; and*

*The amount of P35,000,000.00 to be paid every year for a period of eleven (11) years including 12% interest on the diminishing balance until full payment of the acquisition cost.*

Pursuant to the aforesaid agreement between the City and BCDA, BCDA has remitted to GSIS the following amounts: P50,000,000.00 as down payment on February 11, 2004; and another P50,000,000.00 on September 3, 2008. Despite the
aforesaid payment of P100,000,000, the total outstanding obligation of the City Government of Baguio, principal and interest representing complete payment of the purchase price of the Baguio Convention Center including the parcel of land where it stands covered by TCT No. T-85293 amounts to P200,185,882.05, is tabulated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Balance (Principal plus Interest)</td>
<td>P318,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Payment from BCDA</td>
<td>P60,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condoned Interest by GSIS</td>
<td>P50,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offsetting of overpayment</td>
<td>P7,814,117.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premium by the City to GSIS</td>
<td>P117,814,117.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P117,814,117.95</td>
<td>P200,185,882.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All that we plan, all that we program for our city and our people can be all for naught without your support, without the necessary enabling ordinances passed and approved by the August body.

You have the power to paralyze the carrying out of our programs, but you chose to empower and trust me to somehow lead the way… And for that, I thank you all.

While at times we have diverse or contradicting opinions and ideas on how our city government must be run, but what you allow to prevail in the end is the general welfare of our people and our city, not self interests, not party affiliations…THAT TO ME IS NOT JUST AN EXCELLENT DISPLAY OF PROFESSIONALISM…NOT JUST DEMOCRACY IN ACTION…but statemanship in real sense… And for that, I thank you more…

I am honored to continue working side by side with you…Honorable Members of the City Council, Mabuhay kayo!

To you our Department Heads, all our city employees and all Barangay officials, THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE CITY LOOK GOOD… Whatever we have achieved, we have accomplished them because of your commitment… your dedication… your competence… your honesty… your sacrifices… and your willingness to render public service even in the absence of big material rewards, security and convenience.

These that I have just reported, I could have not done without you. And so the honor belongs to you…You certainly deserve our warm congratulations!
I know at times, human as we are, you go weary and at times you get discouraged too… But I ask you to gather your second wind and keep working just the same, for that’s what we are called upon to do. Remember that many of the great achievements of the world were accomplished by tired and discouraged men and women who kept on working. So let us keep working! All I ask of you is to be the best that you can be wherever you are, and to do the best that you can do on whatever task you are assigned and called upon to do. Together, let us take the challenge to elevate our level of excellence for the coming years!

More importantly, thanks to you our constituents. You are the reason why we are here.. you are the reason for our existence in our respective offices… and it is always an honor to serve you..

Thank you for being supportive of our programs.. Thank you for lending a hand when needed…Thank you for the encouragement and the pat on the back that inspires us to continue performing a better job… and Thanks too for the constructive criticisms that allow us to improve and grow…

Lastly and the most important, we thank the Lord Almighty for always blessing us to perform our task and responsibilities.

Once again, thank you very much and more power to everyone! Mabuhay tayong lahat! Agbiyag tayo amin nga padapada! Matagotago tako am-in!

**MAURICIO G. DOMOGAN**

*City Mayor*