

QC Mayor: City treasurer's office to collect plastic recovery system fee

MAYOR **Joy Belmonte** immediately urged the Quezon City Council to amend SP 2350 or the Environment Protection and Waste Management Code of QC following a **Commission on Audit** recommendation that the so-called Green Fund, now amounting to P316 M is a public fund that must be subjected to audit by the agency.

In the Ordinance passed in 2014, the QC Council envisioned the Green Fund as a mechanism through which retailers could generate means to carry out environmen-

tal projects by charging two pesos from consumers for every plastic bag used. By charging for plastic bags, the QC Council hoped to encourage consumers to give up using plastic in favor of eco-bags instead.

COA however, maintains that the Green Fund must be turned over to the **City Treasurer's Office** and be subject to audit. Mayor Joy Belmonte certified the amendment to the Ordinance as urgent and instructed Vice Mayor **Gian Sotto** to ensure that it incorporates all COA's recommendations.