Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Third Regular Session  

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1963  

Introduced by  
BAYAN MUNA Representatives CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE,  
FERDINAND R. GAITE and EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,  
ACT TEACHERS Party-List Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO,  
GABRIELA Women's Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS  
and KABATAAN Party-List Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO  

A RESOLUTION  

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2021, Mayor Edgardo Labella, on behalf of the City Government of Cebu, entered into a Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) with the Megawide Corporation, which allows the latter to construct and transform the historic Cebu's Carbon Market into a P5.5 Billion commercial complex, then, “manage” said complex for a period of 50 years;  

WHEREAS, the Carbon Market is the biggest public market in the Province of Cebu and has long been the melting pot of farmers and fisherfolks, not only of Cebu, but, also of the neighboring provinces of Bohol, Siquijor and Negros;  

WHEREAS, among others, the project will 1) displace thousands of vendors who will be affected by the conversion and who can no longer afford the stalls within the mall; 2) destroy a heritage building, which has been part of the Cebuano culture; 3) destroy the traditional market destination of people in the city and the province; and 3) drastically increase the price of basic commodities which will unduly burden Carbon market clientele, particularly the ordinary consumers;  

WHEREAS, the JVA was reportedly signed without the requisite wide and adequate consultations among all stakeholders affected by the said multi-billion project;  

WHEREAS, many City Councilors themselves reportedly admitted during one of their sessions that they have not fully read the JVA and just signed the same without adequate information on its contents and ramifications;  

WHEREAS, the vendors themselves have expressed strong opposition to the privatization project, which clearly will affect their livelihood, and, the public in general, as well;
WHEREAS, the project is an emblematic of government projects that clearly disregard the welfare of the people, in the name of modernization, privatization and commercialization;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives, through the Committee on Local Government, conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported questionable Joint Venture Agreement between the City Government of Cebu and the Megawide Corporation in the construction and conversion of the historic Carbon Market from a public market into a commercial center/mall in violation of the Heritage law and to the prejudice of the vendors therein and to the detriment of the general public.

Adopted,

REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Partylist

REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS
Gabriela Women’s Party

REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist