

Installing iron railings around the Lion's Head limestone carving. Source: Baguio City Host Lions Club.

Symbolizing the influence of Baguio Lions Club in the area, the massive Lion's head was finally unveiled in 1972 under the supervision of club vice presidents Moises Cating, David Borja, and Arturo Santiago.

The Benguet icon Dangwa Bus and Lion's head at the historic Kennon Road. Photo credit: FromDBackwoods via Flickr.

The Lion's Head Over the Years

The face of Baguio City was not spared from the wrath of a 7.7 magnitude twin quakes that hit the city on July 16, 1990. It suffered severe cracks made even worse by vandals.

The man-made Lion's Head in black coloration. Via Wikimedia Commons.

After providing assistance to those who had been affected by the [earthquake](#), Baguio Lions Club member Alfredo de los Santos, then District 301-C Governor Gloria Vergara, and Peter Go, third vice president of the Lions Club 1991-93, led the rehabilitation of the damaged Lion's head.

The man-made Lion's Head and tourists. Via Wikimedia Commons.

Since then, the iconic structure has slowly changed its appearance and color, to the point that it began to look more like an ape than a lion. Nevertheless, tourists still stop and have their souvenir photographs taken at the base of the Lion's head.

The iconic structure has also helped boost the local economy, as evidenced by several woodcarving and handicraft stores that have mushroomed near the Lion's head.

Wood carving replica of Lion's Head along Kennon Road. Source: Baguio City Host Lions Club

In early 2014, the Regional Technical Working Group has proposed a P50 million budget to give the Lion's head a major facelift. Included in the proposal is the construction of a wider view deck, murals featuring Baguio's history, and the transfer of souvenir stalls to a multipurpose building where a tourist information booth will also be available.

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Baguio City Lions Club members during the Annual Lions Multiple District Convention. Lion Fernando Chua (at center), Lions district representative from Taipei, Taiwan, has the distinction of being the only foreign delegate to the convention held in Baguio City in May 1964. Source: Baguio City Host Lions Club.