

MPT SOUTH TO SERVE OVER 340,000 MOTORISTS IN 2025



MPT South forecasts more than 30% traffic growth by the end of 2025, translating to over 340,000 average daily motorists, a significant increase from the current figure of 259,815. This growth will be driven by the completion of several key segments of the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX) and CAVITEX C5 Link. These segments include the CALAX Governor's Drive Interchange, Open Canal Interchange, and Kawit Interchange, as well as the C5 Link Segment 3B, which will connect the current Sucat Interchange to the C5 Link Flyover Extension, spanning from SLEX-Taguig to E. Rodriguez in C5. The CAVITEX-CALAX Link, currently under construction, will integrate these two major toll roads, creating a more seamless connection for motorists.

These projects are slated for commercial operations before the end of 2025, bringing MPT South's total road network to 67 km. The new segments, designed to enhance travel time and accessibility, are expected to encourage more motorists to utilize the network,

further boosting traffic flow in the region. This will improve connectivity and travel efficiency between major provinces in Southern Luzon, easing travel for daily commuters and businesses alike.

"Aside from providing an enhanced driving experience for our motorists, our projects also aim to contribute to the region's economic development by improving accessibility and connectivity. Once completed, our expressway network will provide a more seamless travel experience for over 340,000 motorists, a 30% increase from our existing daily traffic, and help spur economic growth in both regions," said MPT South President and General Manager, Mr. Raul L. Ignacio.

In line with this, MPT South is allocating Php14 billion in capital expenditures (CAPEX) in 2025 to support the construction and maintenance of its infrastructure.

"Despite the challenges we face in construction, such as the timely delivery of right-of-way and the recent typhoons, we are working around the clock to ensure

the delivery of these vital infrastructure projects for the benefit of progress by the end of 2025," Ignacio added.

Upon completion, MPT South's expressway network is expected to boost regional economic growth by facilitating quicker, more efficient movement of goods and services between key industrial and commercial hubs. The shortened travel time will provide additional benefits such as reduced fuel consumption and lower vehicle emissions, contributing to nation-building and improving the quality of life for Filipinos.

About MPT South

MPT South is a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the infrastructure arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation. In addition to CAVITEX and CALAX, MPTC also holds concession rights for North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), Subic-Clark Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), NLEX Connector Road, and Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in Cebu.

For inquiries about this press release please email us at: corp-comm@mptsouth.com



DBM releases P1 billion for 2024 Marawi Siege Victims Compensation

Delegates from the World Bank, Buong Pwersang Sinalubong ng CalamBAGONG Pamahalaan!



Buong pwera naming sinalubong ng mga kawani ng lokal na pamahalaan, kasama ang Sangguniang Panlungsod, upang i-welcome ang mga delega-

do mula sa World Bank at mga bansang kasapi ng Pacific Island Countries (PICs).

Sa kanilang Labor Mobility Study Visit, layunin nilang matutunan ang sistema ng migrasyon sa Pilipinas at ang mga reporma natin sa larangan ng labor mobility. Ito ay isang mahalagang hakbang upang mapalakas ang kooperasyon sa pandaigdigang komunidad at mapabuti ang kalagayan ng ating mga manggagawa.

Isang malaking karangalan ang ibahagi ang ating mga inisyatibo para sa mas inklusibong kinabukasan! (**Nelson Dimapilis/COG**)

Vice Mayor Evangelista and Councilors Clarify Budget Controversy for Baños Festival, Call for Unity



LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA – Amid the ongoing controversy surrounding the Baños Festival, Vice Mayor Josephine "Baby" Sumangil Evangelista Councilor Mario "PJ" Alipon addressed the issues to clear the air regarding their involvement. Joining them at the press conference were Hon. Coun. Miko Pelegrina, Coun. Mike Dexter "Dex" Concio, Hon. VMayor Josephine "Baby" Sumangil Evangelista, Coun. Marlo "PJ" Alipon, Coun. Benedicto "Benny" Alborida, and Coun. Jerwin Moliñawe.

During the press briefing, Vice Mayor Sumangil emphasized that their priority is the well-being of the community and the success of the Baños Festival. She explained that their actions, including raising concerns about the budget, stemmed from a desire

to ensure that funds were used responsibly and effectively.

("Nandito kami para ipaalam ang tunay na sitwasyon at panawagan ko sa lahat na magkaisa tayo para sa mas maliwanag na kinabukasan ng ating bayan.")

"We are here to clarify the real situation, and I urge everyone to unite for a brighter future for our town," Sumangil stated. She called on the public to focus on the festival's success and avoid letting misunderstandings derail their common goals.

Councilor Marlo "PJ" Alipon also addressed the allegations, firmly denying claims that they neglected their duties or obstructed the festival's budget. According to Alipon, they were not assigned specific committees for the event but did everything in their power to support its smooth exe-

cution.

"The accusations that we delayed or blocked the budget are unfounded," Alipon clarified. He added that the budget was already approved unanimously by the council members on March 18, 2024, and that their support for the event has always been strong.

The presence of other council members at the press conference highlighted the collective stance of the local government officials. They assured the public of their dedication to making the Baños Festival a success, despite the challenges and issues raised.

The statements aimed to dispel the confusion surrounding the Baños Festival and encourage cooperation among the public for the success of the event and the betterment of the town. (**EDJUN MARIPOSQUE**)

Editorial

BATAS NA ANG REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12022 O ANG ANTI-AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC SABOTAGE ACT

Ang R.A. No. 12022 o ang Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act ay isang bagong batas upang labanan ang smuggling ng agrikultura, pagkakakitaan, at pag-iimbak, gawing mas abot-kaya at madaling makuha ang pagkain, at magbigay ng mas magandang kita sa mga lokal na magsasaka

Pinagtibay at nilagdaan na ito ni Pangulong Ferdinand R Marcos Jr sa isang seremonya sa Palasyo ng Malacañang sa harapan ng mga miyembro ng parehong kapulungan ng Kongreso, mga miyembro ng Gabinete, at iba pang stakeholder ng agrikultura

Ang Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act, isang priority measure ng administrasyong Marcos, ay nagpapawalang-bisa sa Republic Act No. 10845 o ang Anti-Agricultural Smuggling Act of 2016, na pinapalitan ito ng mas komprehensibong mekanismo upang matiyak ang mas mahigpit na pagpapatupad at mas mahusay na pagpapatupad

Nakapaloob dito ang smuggling, hoarding, profiteering, cartel at financing ng mga krimeng ito na kinasasangkutan ng mga produktong pang-agrikultura at pangisdaan ay inuri bilang acts of economic sabotage at magkakaroon ng parusang habambuhay na pagkakakulong at multa ng hanggang limang beses ang halaga ng mga produkto. sangkot sa krimen.

Malaki ang maitutulong ng bagong batas na ito na gawing mas madaling makuha at abot-kaya ang pagkain para sa mga Pilipino habang pinahuhusay ang mga pagkakataon sa kita para sa mga lokal na magsasaka at mangingisda.

Nagpasalamat si Pangulong Marcos sa mga mambabatas sa pagpasa ng panukala at binalaan ang mga smuggler at profiteer na "mabilis at tiyak" na mahanap sila ng hustisya.

"Haharapin at buwagin natin ang makapangyarihang pwersa na matagal nang nagsasamantala sa ating sistema para sa kanilang sariling kapakanan, itiniyak na mananaig ang hustisya at itinataguyod ang dignidad ng ating sektor ng agrikultura," sabi ni Marcos.

"Wala nang backdoors, wala nang shortcut, at tiyak, wala nang pumikit sa Bagong Pilipinas," dagdag niya.

Aniya, mahigit PHP3 bilyon ang pagkawala ng Pilipinas sa agricultural smuggling noong 2023 lamang at sa loob ng wala pang siyam na buwan ngayong taon, mahigit PHP230 milyon ang halaga ng smuggled agricultural products ang nasamsam.

PROVINCIAL JOINT PEACE AND SECURITY COORDINATING CENTER MEETING SECURITY PREPARATION ON THE UPCOMING 2025 NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTION

Bilang paghahanda sa 2025 National and Local Election, isinagawa ng Rizal Police Provincial Office sa pamumuno ni Police Colonel Felipe B Maraggun, Provincial Director ang Provincial Joint Peace and Security Coordinating Center Meeting (JPSCC) ngayong ika-27 ng Setyembre bandang 8:00 A.M taong kasalukuyan na ginanap sa Rizal PPO Conference Room.

Ang nasabing pagpupulong ay pinangunahan ni ATTY. ARNULFO H PIOQUINTO, COMELEC Provincial Supervisor katuwang si CG LTJG ALVIN A AUSTRIA, Commander, PCG-Rizal kasama ang lahat ng provincial election officers at

dinaluhan din ng Provincial Staff, Chiefs of Police, RPMFC, mga kinatawan mula sa Philippine Army, BFP Rizal, at Provincial Support Units.

Samantala, tinalakay ni Police Major Joel L Alvarez, Acting Chief POMU ang mga paghahanda sa deployment of troops at mga update sa saklaw ng seguridad para sa nalalapit na halalan 2025.

Gayundin ay napag-usapan ang interoperability ng mga ahensya, command control, koordinasyon sa pamamahala ng mga emergency situation, at iba pang mga isyu na nagsasaayos sa seguridad ng lalawigan.(PDC)

RANK NO. 1 MOST WANTED PERSON SA CALABARZON NA MAY HASONG STATUTORY RAPE, ARESTADO SA JOINT MANHUNT OPERATION NG LAGUNA PNP

Camp BGen Paciano Rizal – Arestado ang Most Wanted Person sa CALABARZON sa isinagawang Manhunt Operation ng Sta. Rosa PNP kahapon Setyembre 25, 2024.

Kinilala ni Laguna Police Provincial Director PCOL GAUVIN MEL Y UNOS ang akusado na si alyas Nino na residente ng Sta. Rosa City, Laguna.

Sa ulat ni PLT-COL BENSON D PIMENTEL, Hepe ng Santa Rosa Component City Police Station, matagumpay na naikasa ang Manhunt Operation kasama ang RSOU 4A Ika- 8-10 ng gabi Setyembre 25, 2024 sa Brgy. Sto. Domingo Sta. Rosa City, Laguna na nagresulta sa pagkakaaresto ng nasabing akusado.

Inaresto si alyas Nino sa bisa ng Warrant of Arrest na inilabas ng RTC, Branch 7, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur na nilagdaan ni Hon. LEAH AGRIPINA RAMIREZ FLORENDO, Presiding Judge, ng nasa-

bing korte. Nahaharap ang akusado sa kasong Statutory Rape na walang kaukulang piyansa.

Samantala, ang arestadong akusado ay kasalukuyang nasa kustodiyang ng Sta. Rosa CCPS. Agad namang iimpormahan ang Korteng pinagmulan ng Warrant of Arrest sa pagkakaaresto nito.

Sa pahayag ni PCOL UNOS "Sa pagkakaaresto ng akusado ay itiniyak namin sa pamilya at lalo na sa biktima na mananagot sa batas ang taong ito. Patuloy at hindi titigil sa mga operasyon ang Laguna PNP laban sa mga nagtatago sa batas upang maibigay sa mga naging biktima ang hustisyang para sa kanila". (Nelson Dimapilis)



DBM...

DBM Press Release 25 September 2024

Rebuilding lives, restoring hope Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Secretary Amenah "Mina" F. Pangandaman approved the issuance of a Special Allotment Release Order (SARO) amounting to P1 billion for this year's Marawi Siege Victims Compensation.

This allocation provides monetary compensation for 574 beneficiaries/recipients, specifically for structural damages and death claims.

Secretary Mina highlighted the significance of the fund release as part of the government's ongoing effort to provide assistance to those impacted by the siege.

"As a daughter of Mindanao, I can say na malaking tulong po itong P1-billion Marawi Siege Victims Compensation para tuluyang makabangon ang mga kababayan natin sa Marawi. Gusto po ng administrasyon ni President BBM na mabigyan ng sapat na suporta at kakayanan ang mga apektadong pamilya na maibalik sa normal ang kanilang pamumuhay," Sec Mina

The financial assistance, intended for victims of the 2017 Marawi crisis, aims to continue providing much-needed support for recovery and rehabilitation. The compensation covers claims for both fully and partially damaged structures, as well as for lives lost during the conflict.

Section 41 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA No. 11696 outlines a fair and efficient process for determining monetary compensation. Eligible claimants will receive payments based on the extent of their losses, including residential, commercial, or personal properties.

The Marawi Compensation Board, created under RA No. 11696, will manage the fund distribution. Compensation is tax-free, ensuring beneficiaries receive the full amount. For those who lost their lives during the siege, their families will also receive compensation according to the Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines or the Civil Code of the Philippines. If the original property owner is deceased, legal heirs may claim the compensation by submitting the necessary documents.

(Nelson Dimapilis)

be still and know

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Mayor Ross Rizal Receives Prestigious Customer Service Award for Calamba City



Calamba City, Laguna – In a momentous achievement, Mayor Ross Rizal proudly accepted the Customer Service Award for Highest Resolution and Compliance Feedback from the Civil Service Commission during its 124th Anniversary. Calamba City stands as the only Local Government Unit (LGU) across the Philippines to be honored with this award, a testament to the city's dedication to efficient public service.

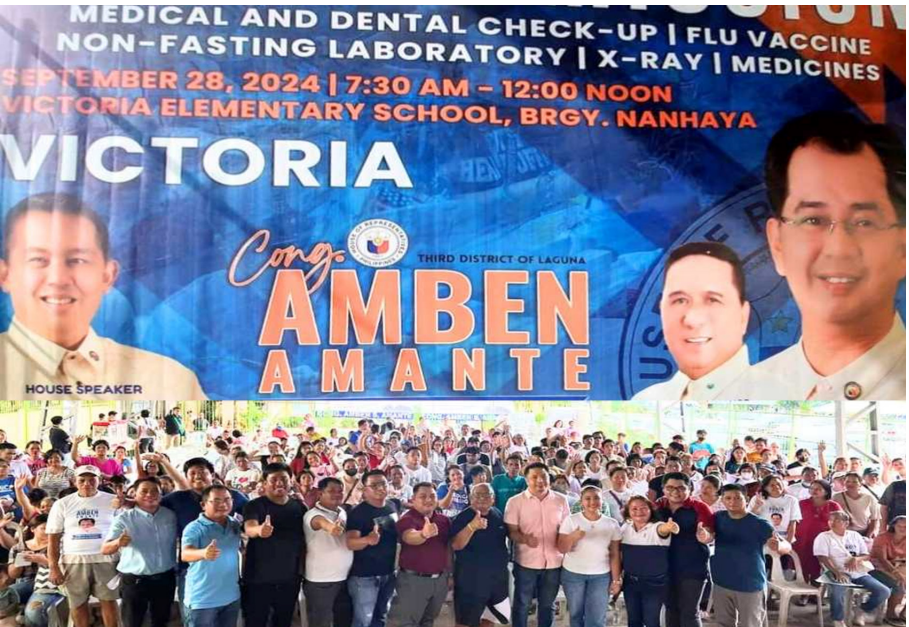
In his message to the people of Calamba, Mayor Rizal emphasized the significance of the award, highlighting how the city's compliance with

the Anti-Red Tape Act (RA 11032) and Ease of Doing Business initiatives, coupled with the streamlined services offered by the Aksyon Center, were key contributors to this success.

"The Calambagong leadership, under my direction, works tirelessly to improve and speed up processes within our local government," Mayor Rizal stated. "This recognition is proof of the tangible reforms we have implemented."

With the mantra "GAWA, HINDI SALITA" (Action, Not Words), Mayor Rizal underscored the swift, direct services being delivered to the people of Calamba. The award, he

MAHIGIT 1100 KATAO, NASERBISYUHAN NG MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION SA VICTORIA, LAGUNA BY; SHEKINAH PAMATMAT



Nabigyan ng iba't ibang serbisyo ang mahigit 1100 na mamamayan sa isinagawang Medical and Dental Mission mula sa tanggapan ni Laguna 3rd District Representative Congressman Loreto Amante at House speaker Representative Martin Romualdez na ginanap sa Victoria Elementary School, Brgy. Nanhaya, Victoria Laguna noong Sabado, Setyembre 28, 2024.

Sa pakikipagtulungan ng Kongresista sa lokal na pamahalaan ng Victoria, ang mga mamamayan ay naserbisuhan ng libreng medical at dental tulad ng bunot ng ngipin, fluoride treatment, x-ray, non-fasting laboratories, flu vaccine at libreng mga gamot.

Nakiisa naman dito sina 3rd District Board Member Karla Adajar, LGU Victoria sa pangunguna Mayor Dwight Kampitan, Vice Mayor RJ Kampitan, mga konsehal ng bayan at si Konsehal Charles Caratitan ng Calauan, Laguna.

Ang naturang aktibidad ay ika-apat na sa serbisyon medical na patuloy na umiikot sa ikatlong distrito ng Laguna. Aniya ng Kongresista sa

nakaraang panayam ay asahan sa bayan ng Alaminos, Liliw at Nagcarlan ang Medical and Dental Mission at muling iikot sa lungsod ng San Pablo sa pagkatatag ng San Pablo sa hindi sapat ang isang araw na medical mission.

Nasasakop ng ikatlong distrito ng Laguna ang mga bayan ng Alaminos, Calauan, Liliw, Nagcarlan, Rizal, Victoria at lungsod ng San Pablo.

80IB TUMANGGAP NG GAWAD PARANGAL MULA SA SAN MATEO RIZAL

BARAS, RIZAL – Isang parangal ng pagkilala ang iginawad ng San Mateo Rizal sa 80th Infantry (STEADFAST) Battalion sa pamumuno ni Lt. Col. Mark Antony U. Ruby para sa kanilang ika-452 selebrasyon ng pagkakatatag ng bayan na pinangunahan ni Municipal Mayor Bartolome N. Rivera Jr. na ginanap sa Jose F. Diaz Stadium, San Mateo Rizal ngayong Setyembre 21, 2024.

Ang parangal ay bilang pagpapahalaga sa dedikadong serbisyo ng yunit, lalo na sa panahon ng sakuna. Sa panahon ng Bagyong Carina, higit sa isang daang mamamayan ng San Mateo ang kasundaluhan mula sa rumaragasang pagbaha, na patunay ng kanilang seryoso at walang tigil na paglilingkod. Ikinatuwa ito ng lokal na pamahalaan, na kinilala ang natatangilng kontribusyon ng yunit sa komunidad.

Nagpapasalamat ang pamunuan ng 80IB sa lokal na pamahalaan at mga mamamayan ng San Mateo sa kanilang pagtitiwala at pagkilala. Makakaasa ang lahat na ang kasundaluhan ay mananatiling aktibong nakatuon sa pag-aambag para sa kapayapaan at kaunlaran sa hinaharap. (Pau Mojar)

VICE MAYOR BABY SUMANGIL EVANGELISTA, PORMAL NANG NAGHAIN NG KANYANG KANDIDATURA SA PAGKA-ALKALDE NG LOS-BAÑOS



Los Baños, Laguna – Ngayong araw, Oktubre 5, 2024, ay pormal nang naghain ng kanyang kandidatura si incumbent Vice Mayor Josephine "Baby" Sumangil Evangelista para sa pagka-Alkalde ng bayan ng Los Baños.

Bilang bahagi ng kanyang plataporma, binigyang-diin ni Evangelista ang kanyang mga prayoridad sa mga programang tutugon sa mga pangunahing pangangailangan ng mga mamamayan, kabilang ang:

Health Care System na magbibigay ng mas maayos at abot-kayang serbisyong medikal para

sa lahat, Sustainable Livelihood Programs na susuporta sa mga pamilyang nagnanais magnegosyo, na may layuning bigyan sila ng mga kasanayan at tulong pinansyal para maging matagumpay at matatag ang kanilang kabuhayan, Scholarship Programs upang masigurong may pantay na oportunidad sa edukasyon dahil aniya, hindi lahat ay nakakakuha, dahil mayroon pa ring mga naiiwanan. .

"Bilang ina ng ating bayan, kung tayo po'y nakakatulong kahit sa payak na paraan, paano pa kung mayroon nang sapat na pondo para sa ating mga programa?" dagdag

pa ni Evangelista.

Isa rin sa kanyang mga pangunahing layunin ay ang pagpapaulad ng turismo sa Los Baños. Layunin niyang buhayin muli ang industriya ng turismo at pag-isahin ang business community upang lumikha ng mga trabaho at makapagbigay ng karagdagang kabuhayan para sa mga mamamayan.

"Nais kong makabuo tayo ng isang maunlad na Los Baños—isang bayan na maipagmamalaki ng bawat isa dahil sa ating pagkakaisa at malasakit para sa isa't isa," pahayag ni Evangelista.

"Matagal na po

tayong tumutulong—simula pa noong panahon ng aking ina na naging Vice Mayor din ng Los Baños at ang aking kapatid na naging konsehal ng ating bayan. Kung tayo po ay papalarin, ay ipatutupad ko ang tunay na serbisyo at tiyak na magiging masaya at masaganang bayan ang Los Baños, dahil marami po tayong nakahandang programa gaya ng mga nabanggit ko kaniina para sa kapakanan ng ating mga kababayan," ani Evangelista.

Tiniyak ni Evangelista na sa ilalim ng kanyang pamumuno, mas magiging abot-kamay ang serbisyo publiko para sa

lahat ng mamamayan.

Kasabay ng kanyang paghain ng kandidatura ay ang buong team ng "Nagkakaisang Los Baños", na may layuning maghatid ng Mahusay, Matapat, at Makabayang paglilingkod. Kabilang sa kanyang mga kaalyado ay sina Konsehal Marlo Alipon na naghain ng kandidatura bilang Bise Alkalde, at ang mga konsehal na sina Benny Alborida, Miko Pelegrina, Jerwin Moliñawe, Janos Lapiz, Jerico Ciceron, Dexter Concio, Chinky Lopez San Agustin, at ang pinakabatang konsehal na si EMJ Ramos.

Ang Team "Nag-



Pointer
Pau Dela Cruz

PRESYO NG MGA PANGUNAHING PRODUKTO HINDI TATAAS SA PANAHON NG KAPASKUHAN AYON SA DTI

It's ber-month na naman ramdam na naman natin na nalalapit na naman ang kapaskuhan. Ito ang panahong palagiang pinaghaandaan ng mga Pinoy. Kaya hindi naman maaalis sa bawat pamilya ang pag-iisip at pag-aalala na baka tumaas na naman ang presyo ng pangunahing bilihin.

Nitong Biyernes, Setyembre 27, siniguro ng Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) na wala pang magiging pagtaas sa presyo ng pangunahing produkto kasabay ng pagasang mananatili ito hanggang sa panahon ng kapaskuhan.

"For now there will be no price increase. We will retain the prices – the SRPs as of now. So of course we always give audience to the manufacturers and we also consult with the consumers just to know what is happening with them and then how their business are doing. But for now, there's no price increase. I can't commit now but for now there's really no price increase and if we can extend it to Christmas of course better for us to have no price increase," pinigurong pahayag ni DTI acting secretary Cristina Roque.

Sinabi pa ni Roque, nais nilang bigyan ng pagkakataon ang mga consumer ng abot-kayang produkto. "So 'yun talaga ang stand ng DTI, it is to really get consumers a cheaper price. Get the consumers price that they can afford so that they also have extra money for personal not just only napupunta na sa food," dagdag na wika ni Roque.

Pagdating naman sa noche buena products, sinabi ng opisyal na susuriin nila kung magkakaroon ba ng pagtaas sa presyo nito batay sa panukalang presyo ng mga manufacturer.

"Actually I already told my team that we're gonna review kasi alam na natin yan na pag dating ng ber months of course yung mga ham – everything that's needed sa Noche Buena yun talaga ang pinagtuunan natin ng atensyon," ani Roque.

Marahil sa pinahayag ng DTI mawawala na ang pangamba nating mga Pinoy na hindi makapagdiwang ng kapaskuhan

DHSUD PROMOTES OPEN SPACES IN 4PH HOUSING PROJECTS



CALAMBA CITY (PIA) – The Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) in CALABARZON stressed the need to balance promoting open spaces within the government's flagship housing program.

In a briefing during the Kapihan sa Bagong Pilipinas, Regional Director Jean Paul Ilao explained that the Pambansang Pabahay Para sa Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4PH) requires real estate developers that 40 percent of the total land area of the project be dedicated to open spaces.

"Our Secretary [Rizalino Acuzar] has required real estate developers who wish to participate in the 4PH program to dedicate 40 percent of the housing site to open spaces. This must be complete: open spaces and commercial spaces," Ilao emphasized, follow the Presidential Decree 2270 and Presidential Decree 957 which aim to protect buyers from fraudulent and unscrupulous real estate developers.

Jenica Hosingo, Project Development Officer of DHSUD IV-A, emphasized that local government units are major stakeholders to the Marcos Jr. administration's flagship housing program, as they determine both national and local government lands suitable for human settlement, enabling key shelter agencies to build housing facilities.

"One of the roles of local government units is to propose sites for housing purposes, which will then be inspected by the DHSUD. These sites must meet the required standards. They shouldn't be too elevated or hilly. As much as possible, the proposed sites should be flat and suitable for residential purposes."

Engr. Emmanuel Glipo, chief of Housing, Real Estate Development and Regulation Division (HREDRD) of DHSUD IV-A assured that prospective developers undergo careful compliance measures to ensure the area's suitability for inhabitation, including its location and environmental impact.

"Before releasing permits, we make sure that prospective developers have submitted complete documents. We have never issued a license with incomplete requirements because we also consider the area's suitability with the environment and location, both of which were determined by the LGU," Glipo emphasized.

"We do not issue licenses to developers who submit incomplete documents that do not meet our list of requirements."

In 2024, DHSUD CALABARZON conducted orientations on the 4PH program to 55 local government units, exceeding its initial target of 10 LGUs.

It has also inked 23 Memoranda of Understanding for the implementation of 4PH, including the municipalities of Alitagtag, Balete, Ibaan, Cuenca, Calatagan, Tanay, Rodriguez, Taytay, San Mateo, Calauan, Luisiana, Calamba, and Alaminos.

Meanwhile, three (3) local government units in Batangas have signed their Memoranda of Agreement including the municipalities of Alitagtag, Ibaan, and Balete in Batangas Province.

Ilao added: "DHSUD is the key agency that oversees and monitors the implementation of the Pambansang Pabahay Para sa Pamilyang Pilipino Program. We also conduct groundbreaking ceremonies to start the construction of these housing facilities because we are also pushing for vertical housing for our kababayans."

Launched in September 2022, the DHSUD aims to build one million housing units annually until 2028 to address the country's 6.5 million housing backlog. (PB/PIA-4A)

Kapihan sa Bagong Pilipinas is a weekly media forum program of the Philippine Information Agency, in partnership with the Presidential Communications Office, which highlights the programs, projects, and policies of the national government under the Bagong Pilipinas governance agenda of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s administration.

God is with you
wherever you go

DRIVING JOY: SM MALLS IN LAGUNA CELEBRATE OUR MANONG DRIVERS WITH 100 DAYS OF JOY VIDEO



This season of giving, SM Supermalls is celebrating unsung community partners who play a vital role in our community: our beloved jeepney and tricycle drivers. They work tirelessly to bring shoppers to the mall, navigating the bustling streets and ensuring that everyone reaches their destination safely.



surprised these drivers with tokens of appreciation, recognizing their essential contribution to our daily lives. From early morning until late at night, they brave the elements, rain or shine, providing reliable transportation to countless families and individuals.

Laughter --Pass It On!
As part of the celebration, SM gathered stories from drivers who shared their experiences, often filled with laughter and joy as laughter makes

the journey better. SM Center San Pedro in their 100 days of Joy video highlighted the power of humor as good laugh can brighten anyone's day. These stories remind us that kindness and laughter are the cornerstones of our community. As we embark on our shopping adventures this season, let us take a moment to appreciate the hard work and dedication of these drivers who keep us moving forward.

Malasakit – Pass It On!

SM Mall encourages everyone to express gratitude towards these everyday community partners. Whether it is offering a smile, a kind word, or a small gesture of appreciation, every act of kindness counts. At SM City Santa Rosa their 100 days video focus on spirit of Malasakit (compassion) that guide our journeys this holiday season.

So, the next time you hop on a jeepney or tricycle, take a moment to thank your driver and share a laugh. Their hard work makes our lives easier, and their stories inspire us all. Together, let's spread kindness, laughter, and celebrate the incredible impact our manong and manang drivers have in our lives.

As we count-down to Christmas, SM calls on everyone to embrace their communities and spread the joy of the season. Whether through the Bears of Joy initiative, nominating communities for special recognition, or simply enjoying the holiday atmosphere at SM malls, there are countless ways to share the Christmas spirit.

Thank you, manong drivers, for being our everyday champions who keep us moving forward.

The paper that stand for real values and gives you real value for money

ENCHANTED KINGDOM CELEBRATES 29 YEARS OF TIMELESS MAGIC THIS OCTOBER



PRESS RELEASE
Enchanted Kingdom
September 28, 2024

Enchanted Kingdom (EK), the first and only world-class theme park in the Philippines, officially marked the start of the celebration of its 29th anniversary this September 28, Saturday at the Eldar's Theater.

This year's celebration reflects on how EK stood the test of time and imprinted its legacy among every Filipino family by providing transformational experiences across generations ever since the Park opened its magical gates in 1995.

"Looking back to almost three decades of Enchanted Kingdom, we truly have cultivated countless magical memories that transcends trends and generations. We are hopeful and excited to continuously be a part of everyone's story through our timeless offerings for the years to come," said Nico R. Mamon, EK's 29th Anniversary Celebration Chairman.

The launch un-

veiled the roster of events and offerings EK prepared for everyone in line with its commitment of providing magical experiences and memories that last a lifetime.

Enchanting Events Leading to the 29th

Teachers are in for a magical treat as we give tribute to their timeless contributions to the growth of countless Filipinos through the Magical World Teachers' Day Celebration. Our beloved teaching professionals will surely enjoy the day filled with activities such as learning seminars, EDU-fun games, entertainment, zumba session, and raffle prizes.

They will also enjoy two (2) Regular Day Passes for unlimited rides (except gated attractions) plus a complimentary Anniversary Cap with the EKciting Teachers' Treat Promo. This promo can be availed until October 5 for a special price of Php 1,200 only.

Timeless Magic Concert and Fireworks Show

Gear up this October 19 for the peak of the 29th Anniversary festivities!

In partnership with Universal Music Group (UMG) Philippines and Coca-Cola, EK is set to bring you a magical night of musical escape with the Timeless Magic Anniversary Show. This will feature world-class performances from G-Force, Janine Berdin, and one of the biggest names in OPM, Zack Tabudlo. EK's homegrown talents — SMS, Victoria's Way, and the Kingsmen — will also be there to serenade us all.

And to top off this enchanting day, guests will witness a new and enchanting display with the Timeless Magic Fireworks Show.

The sky will light up in sync with the 29th Anniversary Theme Song composed and sung by SMS.

EK's SMS Shines with New Music

EK has honed many world-class talents such as the EK Circle of Artists, and our premier vocal groups Victoria's Way and the Kingsmen.

This year, our very own P-pop girl group SMS will shine the brightest as they finally share

their music on Spotify! Stream their first single "EK High! (Dance Like Me)" and watch out for the release of their new song "Meant to Shine."

New Enchanting Ride

Create more timeless memories with your loved ones with the new family thrill ride that will be coming soon. This newest addition to EK's lineup of attractions will bring fun and excitement to guests with its thrilling ride movement.

Seamless Online EKsperience

Enjoy optimized browsing with the addition of new features on the EK Mobile App. Guests can now receive push notifications to stay informed and engaged with upcoming promotions and on-the-day events. Plus a special access when you're inside EK: you can now plan your way around the Park by checking estimated queue times for each ride right from the app.

An enhanced EK Online Store will also be launched this October for a seamless booking and shopping experience. New features include an improved calendar selection and an

enhanced design featuring our latest merchandise offerings.

Timeless Offerings

Bring home the magic with the newest set of EK merchandise like the Eldar Pop, Twin Princesses Rag Dolls, and the six-piece set EK Christmas Baubles. Shop these and more at our merchandise shops like the immersive tram souvenir shop at the EK Portico.

With our newest gated attraction, the Midway Mirror Maze, guests will step into a world of illusions, twists and turns as they navigate the labyrinth of mirrors and lights. Perfect for adventurers, the Midway Mirror Maze attraction promises a fun and challenging

experience that will test one's sense of direction.

Drop by our new Snaptooth Snack Station

MAGIC THIS OCTOBER



Scan this to access the Spotify of SMS and stream "EK High! (Dance With Me)."

located at the Midway Boardwalk and savor more of our refreshing treats such as the chicken wings, sandwich, fries, and chips. Plus, kiddie sandwiches are also available especially made for the little ones!

Don't miss out our latest partner tenants, Tater's and Fortune Bake-shop; and try out our food offerings such as the Princess Cookies, Tricolor Eldar Cupcake, Eldar Face Round Cake, and many more.

EK also welcomed two iconic brands in its magical home for an enhanced retail and dining experience. Located at the EK Portico, have a magical time at Starbucks and Cafe Mary Grace which are open every day even when EK is closed.

More Days of Timeless Festive Magic
Make the most out of the holiday season here at EK!

Start planning your next magical visit as we open the Park five

days a week this October. We will also be open every day starting December 15 until the first week of January.

Feel the Filipino festive cheer as EK brings back our giant Parol and Christmas Tree this November. Also embrace the magical spirit of the holidays with our Christmas shows and Christmastime Parade.

Get the perfect gift ideas to your loved ones as we launch our holiday e-catalogue. Also check out the world-class products made by local artisans at Pugad in AGILA, OTOP in Jungle Outpost, and other upcoming seasonal vendors.

For more information about this celebration and more of EK's timeless magic, visit our Press Room at <https://www.enchantedkingdom.ph/ek-press-room/> and EK's official social media accounts [@enchantedkingdom.ph](https://www.facebook.com/enchantedkingdom.ph) for Facebook and TikTok, and [@ek_philippines](https://www.instagram.com/ek_philippines) for Twitter and Instagram.

