

# 57 QC junk shops closed

By Rio N. Araja

**T**HE Quezon City government has ordered the closure of 57 junk shops found illegally operating near the closed landfills in barangays Payatas and Commonwealth.

The closure order came from the Environmental Protection and Waste Management Department, and Business Permits and Licensing Office.

Frederika Rentoy, EPWMD chief, recommended the closure of the junk shops after a series of dialogues with the affected parties and consultations among environmental management partners and other stakeholders.

The city government found illegally stored and dumped garbage with an estimated volume of at least 12,000 cubic meters, or an equivalent of 800 trips of 10-wheeler trucks, and ordered them to be taken away in the clearing operations within two months.

Remelito Hiran, chief of the EPWMD's monitoring, inspection and enforcement section, said the shops operated beyond the limits set in their business permit.

Several of the junk shops failed to present business permits and clearances from the authorities.

Meanwhile, the 37-member city council gave Mayor Herbert Bautista the green light to purchase 12 units of motor vehicles in a bid to improve the services, productivity and efficiency of projects and programs of various barangays in District 6.

"The local government of Quezon City is committed to provide valuable basic ser-

vices to the residents," the resolution read.

City Resolution 7446-2018, introduced by Councilor Donato C. Matias, states that the barangays in District 6 are in need of vehicles that will allow them to bring their services closer to the people.

"The Local Government of Quezon City is committed to provide valuable basic services to the residents of QC," the resolution read.

The 12 units cost P16.2 million total, as each vehicle costs P1.35 million. The vehicle can accommodate up to 11 people.

Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 1, amending Administrative Order No. 233 series of 2008, Bautista has already sought permission and authorization from the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

He wrote to DILG Assistant Regional Director and concurrently QC Director Juan Jovian Ingeniero, CESO IV, for the acquisition of the motor vehicles, which amount is included in the 2018 annual budget of the city government.