

QC taps unused buildings

By Rio N. Araja

CITING the city government's "unused or underutilized" and "unfinished" buildings, Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte on Sunday vowed to use them for different purposes for the welfare of the people, review the papers of the contractors involved, and compel them to finish their jobs.

In her official Facebook page, Belmonte said she would look into the possibility if the unused or underutilized buildings can be "repurposed and maximized for the interests of our people by turning them into full service mini city halls, one-stop-shops, satellite campuses of the QC University or shelters for abused women and children."

"We also came across many unfinished

buildings whose contractors have abandoned them, like the city dog pound and a few school buildings," she lamented.

"We need to review the paperwork and have them finished so they can be used," she said.

She promised to prioritize the needs of the people rather than to build more buildings.

"Perhaps, we do not need to spend

so much on infrastructure in the coming years but focus on social services instead," she said.

Among the mayor's other projects in the pipeline are the literacy programs for the day-care children aged 0 to three years old as well as for the elementary pupils in partnership with the Adarna Books, and the construction of a five-star hotel, a high-end mall and office buildings to be called the Bridgetowne by Robinsons Land Corp. through a 200-meter bridge connecting Libis, Quezon City and Pasig City.

Once fully operational and is open to the public, the interconnecting bridge is expected to help decongest traffic, especially those coming from the east.