

QC to transfer Ninoy statue

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The family of the late senator Benigno “Ninoy” Aquino Jr. has agreed to transfer his statue to another site in Quezon City after it was damaged during road clearing operations conducted by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

Mayor Joy Belmonte said they have reached out to the children of the late senator, including former president Benigno Aquino III, regarding the transfer of the statue located at the corner of Timog and Quezon Avenues.

Belmonte said the base of the statue was damaged by DPWH personnel who conducted road clearing operations to ease traffic congestion in the area.

“The Aquino family has given its consent to transfer the statue to a better and more ideal location that is perfect for his stature as a national hero,” Belmonte said, referring to the former president and his sisters Ballsy, Pinky, Viel and Kris. “They have no problem about the transfer because it will be for the greater good of everyone who are affected by traffic jams in the area.”

Belmonte said the local government is looking at several relocation sites for the statue, including the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife and the Manila Seedling Bank property owned by the Ayalas.

The former president wants the statue to be transferred to the park, which was named after Ninoy. Kris wants it to be moved to the Ayala property, according to the statement released by the city government.

Belmonte said they have written Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu requesting for the transfer of the statue to the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife.

If Cimatu declines, she said the statue would be relocated to the Manila Seedling Bank property.

It will be taken down today for safekeeping in a temporary storage facility while waiting for the final relocation spot, the mayor said.