

Belmonte unveils e-trike project

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Electronic tricycles or etrikes would soon cater to the residents and patrons of various establishments along Tomas Morato in Quezon City.

Mayor Joy Belmonte started this week the distribution of 300 e-trikes from the Department of Energy.

Belmonte said the e-trike project aims to transform Quezon City into a green city. Fifteen qualified tricycle drivers from Barangay Sacred Heart were the first recipients of the e-trikes.

The mayor said several barangays in Tomas Morato have agreed to serve as pilot areas for the project.

“I think that’s the perfect place to pilot this project because a lot of people go there. It is a tourist destination. We want to show to the public that we are beginning to use renewable energy,” Belmonte said.

“There are a lot of residents there and I think they would be happy because these e-trikes do not make so much noise,” she added.

Belmonte hopes that the use of e-trikes will encourage tricycle organizations in the city to use the environmentfriendly vehicles.

The mayor said the local government plans to come up with a scheme that would entice tricycle drivers to give up their gasoline-powered units and switch to e-trikes.

Belmonte said they would establish a program that will cover maintenance, fleet management, charging stations and other incentives to make e-trikes more sustainable for drivers.

“We would also give subsidy in case they would have to change the batteries of the e-trikes,” she said.

More e-trikes are expected to be distributed in other barangays in the coming weeks, Belmonte said.

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