

# Malls urged to use thermal scanners

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With the recent development on the novel coronavirus, malls in Quezon City have been urged to use thermal scanners to screen those entering their premises.

This was the call of former lawmaker **Winston “Winnie” Castelo**, who is now a first-term QC councilor. The alderman said the installation of this equipment in malls can help prevent the spread of nCoV, the likelihood of which is very high if an unsuspecting carrier decides to go malling. The partnership between mall owners and the government, led by the Department of Health, can make the measure very effective. “The fight against nCov requires everybody’s cooperation. The government can’t do it alone. The private sector has to lend a helping hand,” Castelo said. The councilor said all possible means must be taken to protect the public from the illness, which has already claimed lives in China.

Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso asked the public not to panic and hoard face masks, as he asked the Philippine Ports Authority to provide the city with the names of passengers on board foreign vessels for easy tracking. The mayor gave this advise following reports of tensions running high outside medical supply stores in Bambang, Sta. Cruz yesterday. He called for sobriety, saying panic and chaos will not resolve anything, as he reiterated his earlier warning against hoarders and profiteers. As this developed, Domagoso handed out some 500,000 face masks to students from public elementary and high schools and colleges in the city, and another 6,200 face masks to the San Lazaro Hospital.

Meanwhile, Pasay City Mayor Emi Calixto-Rubiano has ordered the Pasay City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PCDRMO) to immediately investigate a video circulating on social media of a Chinese national who allegedly collapsed in front of a building in the city.. The video, currently being spread on Facebook, shows the man lying down in front of a building. The video uploader said in the post that “the coronavirus had entered Pasay” and “the man had just suddenly lose (sic) consciousness due to it.” According to the PCDRMO, they immediately complied with the mayor’s order and tracked down information about the said video. PCDRMO also tracked down the identity of the security personnel seen in the video to request the incident report, which was immediately provided.

The report said the Chinese just slipped on the pavement after trying to run away from security personnel who were asking for his ID.