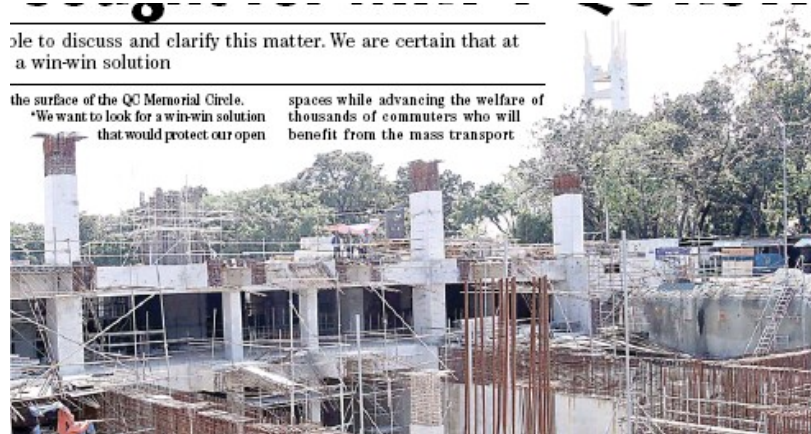


'Win-win' solution sought for MRT-7 QC RoW

We will coordinate with the LGU of Quezon City as soon as possible to discuss and clarify this matter. We are certain that at the end of the day, we will be able to strike a balance and obtain a win-win solution

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Following a suspension order for the P63 billion Metro Manila rail Transit System Line 7 (MrT-7), the Department of Transportation (DoTr) is now seeking to “strike a balance” with the Quezon City local government to settle the project’s right of Way (roW).



DoTr assistant Secretary Goddess Hope Libiran said the agency is now in talks with Quezon City Hall after environmentalists and historians flagged the project for exceeding the agreed limit at the QC Memorial Circle.

“We will coordinate with the LGU of Quezon City as soon as possible to discuss and clarify this matter. We are certain that at the end of the day, we will be able to strike a balance and obtain a win-win solution,” Libiran said in a Viber message.

Libiran underscored that the DoTr, QC government and developer San Miguel Corporation (SMC) will immediately discuss possible solutions for the above-ground infrastructure.

Meanwhile, SMC president ramon S. ang said he is open to a revision on the MrT-7 design.

“The resolution of issues is really up to DoTr as main proponent, and the LGU. For us, while the order is a setback, we will do everything we can to make sure we keep to the timetable, and at the same time take into account the mayor’s concerns. This includes revisions to the design,” ang said.

He said majority of work at Quezon Circle is still underground and no major above-ground structure has been built yet.

The design of the above-ground station is still being finalized with DoTr, he said, as the QC LGU expressed concerns about the original design, which was approved by the previous QC administration. The **office of the Mayor** ordered a temporary cease and desist order on the station’s construction as it allegedly affects the surface of the QC Memorial Circle. “We want to look for a win-win solution that would protect our open spaces while advancing the welfare of thousands of commuters who will benefit from the mass transport project,” the mayor said.

The National Historical Commission of the Philippines, the National Commission for Culture and the arts and the Quezon-avanceña Family, the descendants of the late Manuel L. Quezon, should also weigh in on the matter.

Likewise, the mayor also ordered a review of the project after discovering that it exceeded the agreed area for construction. ELMER MANUEL @TRIBUNEPHL_LMER