

Belmonte orders review of tricycle route plan

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QUEZON City Mayor Josefina Belmonte has created a task force that will review the city's tricycle route plan (TRP) following the Department of the Interior and Local Government's (DILG) directive to ban tricycles from national highways.

Belmonte issued Executive Order 15 dated February 28, creating Task Force Tricycle. She said the task force would ensure that the city abides by the DILG's directive and will guarantee that the livelihood of tricycle drivers and operators are protected.

"The city will be very strict about this and will only resort to the grant of exceptions by the City Council after all efforts have been exerted," she added.

Quezon City has 150 Tricycle Operator and Drivers Associations (TODAs), 24,756 tricycles with franchise and 2,237 utility service tricycles that directly support the needs of at least 150,000 local residents.

Belmonte said the directive would implement a two-pronged approach — ensure compliance with the DILG directive and that livelihood and other forms of aid would be given to affected TODAs.

She added that the task force would update the city's TRP, which was last revised in 1996.

"It must include a schematic map showing the location of tricycle terminals and authorized tricycle routes, identify national roads within the jurisdiction of the city and determine portions of the national highway to be allowed use by tricycles for lack of an alternative route," the mayor said.