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# 50 'Epal' Waiting Sheds Dismantled

As part of the intensification of its "anti-epal" campaign, Quezon City (QC) authorities yesterday reported the dismantling of 50 waiting sheds allegedly constructed illegally by some politicians to promote their political interests.

In a report to (QC) Mayor Herbert Bautista, Marlowe Jacutin, chief of the Control and Prevention of all Structures and Squatting (COPRISS), said that the dismantled illegal structures in the first and fourth districts were part of the initial salvo of the city government's support for the anti-epal drive.

Most of the dismantled waiting sheds bearing images or names of local politicians were located in District IV, the first target area of the demolition order issued by Mayor Bautista.

The order was based on the recommendation of the QC outdoor and public advertisement committee and pursuant to Section 455 of the Local Government Code of 1991 which empowers local chief executives to exer-

cise general supervision and control over all programs, projects and services for the constituents of the city government.

Bautista's order covered all waiting sheds, boundary markers and other street infrastructure projects owned and maintained by the city government within a five kilometer radius from the city hall compound, the Tomas Morato rotunda, the Mabuhay rotunda, Mindanao-C5 road at Novaliches and C5 Libis area.

The demolition order covers about 500 structures.

In the course of the operation, three billboards which were declared safety risks were also dismantled.

The three billboards reportedly constructed in the 1970s, were located in the Munoz area and along Congressional Avenue.

DPOS Chief and QCRRMC Chairman Elmo San Diego said that 10 more billboards are lined up to be dismantled for safety reasons.

Thousands of tarpaulins in the streets especially those attached to cable wires and other high-risk structures are set to be removed and put into good use by the city's Sikap-Buhay Entrepreneurship and Cooperative Office.

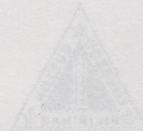
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY

QUEZON CITY HALL, QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES

TEL: (02) 875-1000



THE PHILIPPINE STAR

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### QC dismantles 'epal' waiting sheds

The Quezon City local <sup>april</sup> government has dismantled more than 50 waiting sheds as part of the city's "anti-epal" campaign to remove inappropriate structures built using city funds.

According to City Control and Prevention of all Structures and Squatting chief Marlowe Jacutin, the waiting sheds in Districts 1 and 4 were removed as part of an initial demolition operation following the order of Mayor Herbert Bautista to dismantle "epal" structures maintained by the city government.

"Epal" is a colloquial term used to describe politicians who take credit for projects funded by taxpayers' money. Recently, Bautista ordered the removal of his initials from tiles all over the city.

Around 500 waiting sheds, boundary markers, and other street infrastructure projects are covered by the demolition order against "epal" structures in the city.

- Janvic Mateo

ELMO DG SAN DIEGO, PhD (PESB)  
PC Supt  
Head

• anti-epal campaign

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