

Localized lockdowns in QC, Manila

12 areas in Quezon City; 2 barangays, 2 hotels in capital city

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A total of 12 areas in Quezon City are currently under special concern lockdown due to the number of active coronavirus disease (COVID-19) cases, the local government announced Tuesday, March 9.

In Manila, two barangays and two hotels will be placed under lockdown starting Thursday, March 11, amid the rising number of COVID-19 infections. In Quezon City, the local government said the 12 areas are under lockdown for 14 days. These are:

1. Portion of Durian Street, Barangay Pasong Tamo (starting February 25)
2. L. Pascual Street, Barangay Baesa (starting February 26)
3. De Los Santos Compound, Heavenly Drive, Barangay San Agustin (starting March 1)
4. No. 46 K-9th Street, Barangay West Kamias expanded to No. 46-50, K-9th Street, Barangay West Kamias (starting March 3 and 8, respectively)
5. Nos. 49 and 51 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Barangay Doña Josefa (starting March 4)
6. Paul Street and Thaddeus Street, Jordan Park Homes Subdivision, Doña Carmen, Barangay Commonwealth (starting March 4)
7. No. 237 Apo Street, Barangay Maharlika (starting March 4)
8. No. 64 14th Avenue, Barangay Socorro (starting March 6)
9. No. 64-B Agno Extension, Barangay Tatalon (starting March 7)
10. No. 90 Gonzales Compound, Barangay Balon Bato (starting March 8)
11. No. 2A – 4 K-6th, Barangay West Kamias (starting March 8)
12. Portion of Sitio 5, Jose Abad Santos, Barangay Sta. Lucia (starting March 9)

Food packs and essential kits will be supplied to residents affected by the lockdown, the local government said.

They will also undergo swab testing and mandatory 14-day quarantine, it added.

The Manila lockdown was based on Executive Order No. 6, signed by Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso on Tuesday, March 9. Under the EO, Barangay 351 in San Lazaro and Barangay 725 in Malate will be under lockdown from 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, March 11, to 11:49 p.m. on Sunday, March 14.

The Manila Public Information Office said Barangay 351 has 12 active COVID-19 cases and Barangay 725 has 14.

Two hotels at Barangay 699 in Malate, where 17 active COVID-19 cases are staying, will also be placed under lockdown. These are Malate Bayview Mansion and Hop Inn Hotel.

In his order, Domagoso said the city government will conduct disease surveillance, massive contact tracing, and verification or testing and rapid risk assessment as their response to the threat of COVID-19.

The Manila Health Department also recommended declaring the said barangays as “critical zones” where enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) guidelines shall be observed.

Residents affected by the lockdown will be subjected to swab testing, the executive order read. All residents must stay in their houses. Only those with quarantine passes will be allowed to go outside to buy food and other necessities.

The order exempts the following: health workers, military personnel, service workers (pharmacies, drug stores, and funeral homes), utility workers (energy, cable, internet, telecommunication companies, water, sanitation, and critical transport facilities, including port operation), essential workers (goods delivery, food delivery, banking and money services), barangay officials (chairpersons, barangay secretary, barangay treasurers, kagawads, and executive officers), and media practitioners accredited by the Presidential Communications Operations Office and the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Infectious Diseases.

Those who need to go to work must present their company IDs to authorities.

The Manila mayor said affected residents will also receive food boxes from the city government. Barangay officials and members of the Manila Police District will be deployed to ensure the proper implementation of the lockdown.

Domagoso warned other barangays to contain the infection in their areas of responsibility to avoid being placed under lockdown.

“Seryoso po ang lockdown sa Maynila. Hindi ito lockdown-lockdown-an lang, sinasabi ko po na mahigpit at kayo rin naman ang mahihirapan (Manila is serious with enforcing its lockdowns. I am telling you that we will be strict and you will be the ones to suffer),” he said during a Facebook live broadcast on Tuesday, March 9.

“Ingatan ninyo ang inyong impeksyon sa inyong barangay, kung hindi, wala kaming magagawa kung hindi proteksyunan ang katabi ninyong barangay, ang katabi ninyong community (Manage the infections in your barangays, because if you don't, we will have no choice but to protect the barangays and communities beside you),” he added. “It is my job, my obligation to protect everyone at all costs with regard to health issues nowadays.”

Data from the city government showed that as of Tuesday, March 9, the capital city has 988 active COVID-19 cases out of 29,444 confirmed cases. Of this figure, 27,639 have recovered while 817 have died.