

QC councilor urges support for neighborhood businesses

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WITH the pandemic causing many businesses to struggle with reduced demand and movement of goods and services, Quezon City Councilor Mikey Belmonte called on consumers to patronize neighborhood businesses as a way to support nearby families and communities and to save on costs.

Belmonte, who heads the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Industry of the council, said, “Similar to the concept of the community pantry where we draw from Filipinos’ sense of bayanihan (community spirit) in their own village or community, we also need to support the enterprises around us that may be owned and operated by our neighbors, friends and relatives.”

There are over 70,000 registered enterprises in Quezon City, most of which being micro and Small enterprises with an operating capital no higher than P3 million.

“By patronizing the products and services near us, we’re extending a lifeline to many businesses, employees, and their families. Apart from that, there’s also the potential to save on costs when we reduce delivery and courier fees,” he added.

The councilor also explained that registered establishments from Quezon City can apply for an increase over the capacity stated in the IATF resolution by requesting for a certification under the Safety Seal Certification Program.

The implementing guidelines of the said program were signed in April under JMC No. 21-01, Series 2021 by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of Tourism (DoT), the Department of Labor and Employment (DoLE) and the Department of Health (DoH).