

QC imposes rules vs hoarding, panic buying

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The Quezon City government will regulate the purchase of essential goods to avoid panic buying and hoarding during the two-week enhanced community quarantine (ECQ), Mayor Joy Belmonte said yesterday.

Belmonte directed the city's business permits and licensing department to implement the ordinance limiting the sale of basic goods during calamities and other emergency situations.

"We have to impose limits to avoid panic buying and hoarding that may lead to supply problems and could prevent others from purchasing the needs of their families during the ECQ," Belmonte said. "It is better to have this policy to give everyone an opportunity to buy the products they need."

The ordinance, approved by the city council during last year's ECQ, provides limits on basic items that individuals can buy per day, such as canned goods, powdered milk, coffee, bread, eggs, cooking oil and sugar.

Also covered are rice, alcohol, hand sanitizers, toilet paper, kitchen towels, bath soap, liquid hand soap, face masks, multivitamins and liquefied petroleum gas.

Belmonte ordered barangays to issue quarantine passes to only one person per household, preferably to a fully vaccinated resident.

Liquor ban will be imposed starting tomorrow. Public safety hours will be from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.