

## QC assures NCAP fairness

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Tricycle drivers and operators in Quezon City have expressed hope that the **Quezon City government** will make good its pledge to implement fairly its no-contact apprehension policy (NCAP) in ticketing erring motorists.

Quezon City **Mayor Joy Belmonte** held a dialogue with the group following the city council's approval on second reading of the amended QC Traffic Management Code of 2018 to incorporate the no-contact apprehension scheme.

"We cannot use the pandemic to stop instilling discipline here in our city because this pandemic will still be with us for a long time," majority floor leader and Councilor **Franz Pumar** said.

"Can you imagine if there are no rules or guidelines? The only ones who should be afraid here are those who intend to break the law," he added.

Amendments to Article 25 of the QC Traffic Management Code included penalties and fines for violations under the no-contact apprehension program.

The system uses closed-circuit TV cameras to record the violations which are then sent to vehicle owners or logged in a central database.

They are also given to the Land Transportation Office to flag vehicles whose owners have yet to pay their traffic violation tickets.

The no-contact apprehension scheme has been the subject of a Supreme Court ruling that it deprives motorists of the right to immediately contest on-site the violations being alleged against them.

However, national and local government units, including the cities of Manila and Parañaque, have put the scheme in effect with the failsafe that motorists can still contest the cited violations.

"The city just wants everyone to be safer especially since we are in the middle of a pandemic. Through this, we can equally enforce the law on everyone, without sports," Belmonte said.

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