P. 4 Sunday, January 25, 2015
THE DAILY tribune

QC government simplifies processing of excavation permits for public utilities

By Arlie O. Calalo

A one-stop shop has been put up by the Quezon City government designed primarily to process excavation permits for public utilities as part of a continuing effort to increase QC's competitiveness ranking in terms of ease of doing business in the city.

This was learned from Mayor Herbert "Bistek" Bautista who said the time to facilitate the processing of the required excavation permits will now take not more than nine days with the establishment of the one-stop shop.

"What the city is doing is to eliminate red tape and standardize the time and procedure in the issuance of excavations permits," the mayor said.

Greg Bañacia, chief of the city's Public Affairs and Information Services Office, said the simplification process, as provided under Executive Order 1 issued by the mayor on Jan. 20, shall cover and include all public utilities to be installed within the city, such as, but not limited to, pole locations, water lines, sewer lines and other utilities.

Reception, evaluation, processing and releasing of excavation permits for public utilities are being handled by the department of building official in coordination with the engineering department, the Banacia said.

As provided under the mayor's newly issued executive order, the department of building official, headed by engineer Isagani Verzosa Jr., has been tasked to lead and implement the provisions of the new order, *The Tribune* was told.

The city government has already furnished the Office of the President and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority with a copy of the executive order for information and guidance.

Aside from simplifying the process of issuing excavation permits and clearances, the local government has simplified the process of issuing building permits and the process of doing business in the city by connecting and operationalizing the Philippine Business Registry to provide a faster process for business registration in the city.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
METRO
A24
FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014

QC dads want say on bingo, carnivals, gaming sites

By Jeannette I. Andrade

THE QUEZON City government is being urged to regulate local gaming establishments involved in online gambling and bingo games, including those held in carnivals and for charitable causes.

In a proposed ordinance, Councilors Jesus Manuel Suntay and Godofredo Liban II said the operators of these establishments should be required to secure special permits from the city council and be subjected to certain restrictions.

The draft measure maintains that gaming establishments must not be allowed to operate within 200 kilometers from a church or school, and within 500 km from a similar establishment. They will also be penalized for operating earlier than 11 a.m., allowing the entry of minors and conducting games of chance on credit.

Any form of gambling must be restricted because it is detrimental to the Filipino family, diverting quality time of its members to "unproductive activities," it stressed.

The special permit to be issued by the council can be either short-term or fixed.

The short-term permits allow the operation of bingo games, cockfights and games of chance for up to three days in a year, while fixed-term permits allow the regular operation of gaming establishments for three years. Games of chance in carnivals will be limited to 14 days or two weeks.

Exempted from securing permits are gaming establishments with a capital of at least P200 million as well as barangay and community-organized bingo games with prizes not exceeding P20,000.

An applicant for a permit must present a "letter of no objection" from the office of the city mayor or the local business permits and licensing office, a barangay resolution certifying that the village leadership has no objection to the project, a project description, the location of the gaming facility, a business plan with the projected income, and a lease contract.

Applicants for fixed-term permits are also required to present a tax clearance from the city treasurer as well as their previous permit and accreditation from either the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. or the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

Short-term permit applicants will also be required to submit a certification of membership in an organization duly recognized by the city, the description of the fund-raising activity and the target beneficiary, a memorandum of agreement between the organizers and the beneficiaries, and a certified list of prizes.

* QC - Business permit

THE DAILY tribune
Wednesday, January 23, 2013 4

QC gov't extends its no-penalty tax deadline

Quezon City taxpayers now have until Jan. 31 to avail themselves of the opportunity to pay without penalties the first quarter payment for business taxes, charges and fees, Mayor Herbert "Bistek" Bautista said yesterday.

An ordinance approved by the city council on second reading under suspended rules on Jan. 21 extended for 10 days until Jan. 31 the deadline for QC taxpayers to settle their tax obligations with the city government without paying the corresponding penalties, surcharges or interest.

The deadline for tax payments without penalty, as provided under the Local Government Code, was Jan. 20 which this year happened to be a Sunday, thus automatically moving it to Monday, a working day.

Bautista urged city taxpayers to take advantage of the extension which, he said, was given by the city government to accommodate the large number of taxpayers who will be paying their business taxes which continue to remain as major income source for the city.

"Considering the large number of taxpayers who flock to the QC Hall compound and the limitation of the existing manpower of the city treasurer's office, it is justifiable to extend the deadline of payment of business taxes for the current year," according to the ordinance principally authored by Councilor Godofredo Liban II.

According to Aldrin Cuña, the mayor's chief of staff, there are about 63,000 registered business establishments in the city.

Meanwhile, Cuña reiterated his call for the local taxpayers that they can make payments in the city's five treasury department branches far from QC Hall.

All low-risk establishments, such as *sari-sari* stores and business establishments with gross sale below P500,000, except partnerships and corporations, may pay their taxes at these branches which are located in Novaliches, La Loma, Cubao, Talipapa and Galas.

Aside from tax payments, Cuña said, all five treasury branches are also open to handle tax assessments, including those for real estate.

"What the city government is doing is to provide ease and convenience to our taxpayers. Hopefully, with this reminder, we can eliminate the long lines of people queuing just to settle their tax obligations with the city government," Cuña said.

To date, the city government, on orders of the mayor, has extended the working days and hours of the different offices involved in tax assessment and payments in time for the first quarter deadline for the payment of business taxes and fees.

Arlie O. Calalo

ManilaStandardToday

A6 | THURSDAY | JANUARY 17, 2013

Tax queues irk QC businessmen

By Rio N. Araja

ABOUT 3,000 business operators in Quezon City were visibly displeased as they queued up at the city hall to pay their taxes before the January 20 deadline.

Garry Domingo, chief of the city's Business Permit and Licensing Office, admitted there was a bottleneck in the evaluation of gross sales declarations and the tax assessments because they shortened some procedures in the business permit issuance and renewal applications.

"There was a bottleneck because taxpayers were no longer required to line up at the treasury division to apply for their community tax certificates, or cedula, a requisite in tax payments. Taxpayers go straight to the assessment and billing sections without securing CTCs," he told the Manila Standard.

The city government tried to simplify the tax payment and renewal process for business permits by removing at least four steps to hasten the process.

The city also incorporated the payment of the community taxes in the business tax bill. But individual taxpayers will still have to queue up for their residence certificates.

- Tax
- business operators
- business permit
- community tax
- taxpayers
- bussiness tax bill

MANILA BULLETIN
Friday, January 4, 2013 5

Fewer Business Inspections In QC

By CHITO A. CHAVEZ

To make the city more business-friendly, the Quezon City (QC) government said the city's special assessment task force has come up with a scheme that reduces the number of inspections that business establishments have to undergo.

Tadeo Palma, secretary to the mayor, said that business establishments will now have to undergo just one integrated inspection system, a move which he believes would discourage the business community from dealing with fixers.

Some city hall clients said that they are greatly inconvenienced by the numerous inspections they have to undergo to set up businesses in the city government.

But with the new scheme, Palma said that the formation of a task force that will require only the most essential requirements for businesses would boost the city government's efforts to rid the city of red tape and discourage reliance on fixers in transacting business at city hall.

"The city government under the Bautista administration will continue to institute reforms for the benefit of the business community as a way of improving the city's system of governance," Palma said.

QC Mayor Herbert Bautista created the task force in his continuous bid to provide the city-based businessmen with a friendly business atmosphere.

City administrator and task force chairman Victor Endriga said the scheme will also ensure taxpayers' adherence to and strict compliance with the approved procedures.

Other members of the task force include the city assessor, who will sit as co-chairperson for land and improvements; business permits and licensing officer, who will be designated as co-chair for businesses; the city treasurer, city building official, city health officer, environmental protection and waste management officer and the city fire marshal.

The task force will also be mandated to constitute a composite team of inspectors that will conduct a ground or actual inspection of all the taxpaying units in the city to determine and verify the factual bases of the taxes, fees and charges paid or collected by the city government.

A composite team will conduct a joint inspection of establishments for structural and fire safety compliance, sanitation and potability of water, environmental compliance and disclosure of locally taxable machineries and structures.

The operation of the Quezon City special assessment task force was created following the launching of the Philippine Business Registry (PBR) system at city hall.

With the adoption of the new system processing time to facilitate new business registration in Quezon City will now be reduced to a mere 30 minutes.

Business requirements

THE DAILY tribune
Monday, December 31, 2012 2

'Bistek' urges taxpayers to take advantage of expanded working days for tax payments

Quezon City Mayor Herbert "Bistek" Bautista has called on the city's taxpayers especially those renewing their business permits and licenses to take advantage of the expanded working days and hours that will be instituted among the local offices involved in tax assessment and payments for the month of January.

The expanded working days and hours would mean that all QC revenue-generating offices will be open starting Jan. 2, 2013 from 8 a.m. and even extend beyond 5 p.m. on weekdays and on Saturdays and Sundays for as long as there are taxpayers to be served, to enable them to settle their tax obligations on time and avoid paying penalties for late payments, he said.

The deadline for tax payments without penalty, as provided under the Local Government Code, is Jan. 20, *The Tribune* was told.

Earlier, members of the city's revenue generation cluster conducted a walk through of the different steps that will be taken by a taxpayer during the processing of business applications and renewal, and even tax collection and payments.

Cluster members include city treasurer Ed Villanueva, city assessor Rodolfo Ordanes, business permits and licensing office chief Garry Domingo, market administrator Noel Soliven, city health officer Dr. Antonieta Inumerable, city building official Engr. Isagani Verzosa, Jr., civil registry chief Ramon Matabang, department of public order and safety chief Elmo San Diego, fire marshal F/SSupt. Bobby Baruelo, liquor licensing and regulatory board chief Alberto Galarpe, cultural and tourism affairs chief Rosario Yara and Alex Abila, officer-in-charge of the Amoranto Sports Complex.

Villanueva is head of the city's revenue generation cluster.

Already, the city government is introducing a more simplified procedure for business permit renewals beginning January 2013.

The simplified procedure involves cutting down by at least four steps the process of facilitating the renewal of business permits in QC in a bid to provide ease and convenience to city taxpayers.

In addition, the city government will also be introducing a new strategy to avoid long queues in the issuance of the 'cedulas' or the community tax certificates. Beginning next year, the city will start incorporating the amount of payment for the community tax in the business tax bill.

Manual issuance of "*cedulas*" still applies to individual taxpayers and walk-in taxpayers.

The introduction of the new strategies was adopted after Mayor Bautista's chief of staff, Aldrin Cuña, convened the city's revenue generating cluster, in preparation for next year's tax payment period.

"From eight procedural steps, now, it's down to four," Cuña said.

Meanwhile, Cuña said all low-risk establishments, such as *sari-sari* stores and business establishments with gross sale below P500,000 except for partnership and corporation, may pay their taxes at the various treasury department branches outside of QC Hall. These are located at Novaliches, La Loma, Cubao, Talipapa and Galas.

Arlie O. Calalo

QC Business Permit Procedures

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MANILA BULLETIN
THE PHILIPPINES' LEADING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER

Thursday, December 20, 2012

QC Simplifies Taxpayers' Biz Process

By **CHITO A. CHAVEZ**

The Quezon City (QC) government has introduced a more simplified procedure for business permit renewals beginning January, 2013, to assist the public.

The simplified procedure cuts down by at least two steps the process of facilitating the renewal of business permits in Quezon City for taxpayers.

Under the new procedure, the tourism assessment step shall be dropped since not all businesses are covered by the tourism ordinance.

Upon assessment, taxpayers shall be immediately informed whether their businesses are covered by the tourism ordinance or not.

It was observed that taxpayers lined up for hours at the tourism desk only to be told that their businesses are not covered by the tourism ordinance.

In addition, the Quezon City government will also be introducing a new strategy to avoid long queues in the issuance of the "cedulas" or the community tax certificates.

Beginning next year, the city will start incorporating the amount of payment for the community tax in the business tax bill.

Manual issuance of "cedulas" still applies to individual taxpayers.

The introduction of the new strategies was adopted after Mayor Herbert Bautista's chief of staff, Aldrin C. Cuña, convened the city's revenue generating cluster, in preparation for next year's tax payment period.

"From six procedural steps, now, it's down to four," Cuña said.

Meanwhile, Cuña said all low-risk establishments, such as sari-sari stores, may pay their taxes at the various treasury department branches outside of Quezon City Hall which are located at Novaliches, La Loma, Cubao, Talipapa and Galas.

The city government will also be extending the office days and hours of all the offices involved in tax assessments and payments for the month of January to accept tax payments.

The Philippine STAR B-6 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2011

QC gov't vows to improve business permit, licensing system next year

As a response to the survey which rated the Philippines as the worst place to set up business in Asia, the Quezon City government vowed to improve its business permit and licensing system (BPLS) in 2012 by reducing the length of time in getting clearances.

The recent Doing Business Survey focused on Quezon City as the sample city for the Philippines, with registered business establishments of 59,712, one of the largest in the country.

The same survey cited one of the significant reforms in the area of resolving insolvency, where the Philippines passed the Financial Rehabilitation and Insolvency Act, which provides a legal framework for liquidation and reorganization of financially distressed companies.

Based on the survey, Quezon City has 15 procedures and 35 days to issue business permits.

Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista committed to reduce the steps in acquiring construction permits, which involves 30 steps and 85 days.

Bautista also cited the "turf" attitude existing in regulatory offices in city hall as a factor in slow and inefficient procedures in administering business permits. He said "Turfing should be eliminated and agencies should coordinate to improve (business licensing) processes."

To make these changes possible, Bautista said he will create an executive order or approve an ordinance facilitating changes in the business permits and licensing system.

While Quezon City is focusing on improving its business permits and licensing system, other local governments should also follow suit.

Trade and Industry Undersecretary Cristino L. Panlilio said Quezon City's initiative should be adopted by other LGUs. He added that working on the ease of doing business is a part of attracting investors to the country.

Meantime, Guillermo Luz, Private Sector Co-Chairman of National Competitiveness Council (NCC) said there is a need to identify the problems in the local and national level, and advise the LGUs to institutionalize a system for LGUs that will remain even with changes in the leadership. The NCC will coordinate with Regional Development Councils (RDCs) to work on competitiveness rankings at the local level.

Luz also linked the improvement of business permits and licensing system with higher revenue collection by the LGUs, and explained that improved rankings will boost country's ability to attract investments, provide jobs, and eventually translate to a higher GDP and poverty alleviation.

By MA. ELISA P. OSORIO

Manila Standard Today

A6 | TUESDAY | OCTOBER 9, 2012

Big businesses pick QC, Bautista claims

By Rio N. Araja

WITH its 61,332 big businesses, Quezon City has the highest number of registered enterprises, Mayor Herbert Bautista said in his third State of the City address.

The mayor said the number also increases by 12,000 every year and "represent a pool of capital of more than P284 billion, which grows by P5.43 million each year. Altogether, these enterprises paid business taxes of P4.56 billion in 2011 and P4.16 billion as of end of September."

From January to September this year, the city was able to generate P1.51 billion in real property taxes.

"Altogether, we expect total revenue collections to reach over P11.3 billion by end of 2012," Bautista said.

Citing statistics from the Building Official, he said the value of construction of private establishments and residential units was estimated at P198 billion with the generation of 132,024 direct labor opportunities.

He said Quezon City is well-positioned in the business process outsourcing industry, continued expansion of the health and wellness industry, wide-scale growth of environment0-bsed industry and aggressive promotion of tourism.

"Several information technology giants are in Quezon City. We can even spread the welcome mat even wider. IBM Philippines has chosen the locality as its headquarters," he noted.

The world's largest telecommunications firms, Nokia Siemens, is also in the city, he said.

He took into account the high quality medical treatment the city can offer, such as the first stem cell therapy initiated by the National Kidney and Transplant Institute and St. Luke's Medical Center.

"I aspire for our city to become the "Global Growth Generator," the 3G city," he added.

To attract more foreign and local investors, he said they have made registration of businesses easier by reducing transactions to a 20-minute process.

- QC containing largest no. of registered businesses
- large firms (Nokia, IBM, etc.) located in QC
- QC BUSINESS

March 30, 2012
MANILA BULLETIN

QC Reduces Business Registration Steps

By **CHITO A. CHAVEZ**

The Quezon City government has further reduced by at least seven procedural steps the business registration system at city hall making the process more convenient to the public.

With the new Philippine Business Registry (PBR) process, Tadeo Palma, Secretary to the Mayor, said that city hall's clients reliance with "fixers will be a thing of the past".

"Aside from the comfort provided to the clients, the system makes it unnecessary for them to deal with fixers or facilitators in their business registration process," Palma noted.

Mayor Herbert Bautista assured that processing time to facilitate new business registration in Quezon City will be reduced to a mere 30 minutes.

Quezon City's business registration system will be the first system to be protected by the PBR. "We hope to increase the competitiveness ranking of Quezon City with the adoption of this new system," Bautista added.

He also expressed optimism that the new system could increase business activities and investment opportunities for the city including foreign direct investors.

The launching of the system also complements this year's priority economic development thrusts of the Bautista administration.

PBR is a web-based system adopted by the national government to facilitate business-related transactions through the integration of the services of at least seven government agencies involved in business registration.

The seven national agencies include the Department of Trade and Industry, Securities and Exchange Commission, Cooperative Development Authority, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Social Security System, Home Development Mutual Fund (Pag-IBIG) and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.

QC Business Permit registration

MANILA BULLETIN
THE PHILIPPINES' LEADING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER
March 30, 2012 5

QC Reduces Business

By CHITO A. CHAVEZ

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. Business Registration Procedure

THE DAILY tribune
News
Tuesday, January 3, 2012

QC gov't introduces easy steps for traders to renew business permits

The Quezon City government has introduced easy and new steps that will be friendly and comfortable to traders who will apply for the renewal of their permits at the City Hall.

This was announced by Mayor Herbert "Bistek" Bautista who has long wanted to make the city more "business friendly."

Starting Jan. 2, taxpayers will have 11 easy steps to follow in securing business permit to enable their businesses to operate legally in the city, Bautista said.

Among the steps are the issuance of tax declaration, Bureau of Internal Revenue (Step 2), initial evaluation, cultural and tourism affairs office, issuance of tax bill for business tax, community tax certificate/cedula, final evaluation/ SEC I-view/rebill, signature of Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) chief for final approval, signature by City Treasurer for payment, payment of taxes at payment lounge, and releasing of mayor's permit.

However, City Administrator Victor Endriga said that the local government also created a special lane called "Millionaire's Club" for those business establishments which will pay P1 million and above tax for their businesses.

The Millionaire's Club will have a separate area located at the second floor of the QC Hall building in processing their new application or renewal of their mayor's permit.

Members of the club will have a relaxing day even processing their business permit due to the convenience that awaits them at the Millionaire's lounge, where ushers and usherettes will assist them and will do the step to step application/ renewal of their business permit.

Refreshments such as cookies, breads, coffees and sodas will also be available at the Millionaire's Club lounge.

"Millionaire's Club members will just go to the second floor and sit down. Our assigned ushers and usherettes will process their business permit in a day," Endriga said.

The QC government is targeting to break the record of last year's first day total payment of business permits and will recognize the so-called early bird taxpayer, according to the city administrator. **Arlie O. Calalo**

QC Business permits - issuance

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS SINCE 1900
2 MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

January 3, 2012

Millionaire's lane for permit applicants

By **CHITO A. CHAVEZ**

The Quezon City government will set up a separate section for those applying and renewing business permits whose payments exceed ₱1 million.

The "Millionaire's Club" is one of the new steps initiated by city hall in the application and renewal of business permits in 2012 to keep fixers and other syndicates away from the city hall compound.

City Administrator Dr. Victor Endriga said the Millionaire's Club will have a separate area at the second floor of the city hall.

It will feature a lounge, where ushers and usherettes will assist those applying and renewing business permit.

Refreshments such as cookies, breads, coffees and sodas will also be available.

"Millionaire's Club members will just go to the second floor and sit down. Our assigned ushers and usherettes will process their business permit in a day," Endriga said.

Mayor Herbert Bautista said that city hall clients will have to follow 11 easy steps in securing business permits.

Among the steps are the issuance of tax declaration, Bureau of Internal Revenue (Step 2), initial evaluation, cultural & tourism affairs office, issuance of tax bill for business tax, community tax certificate/cedula, final evaluation/SEC i-VIEW/rebill, signature of Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) Chief for final approval, signature by City Treasurer for payment, payment of taxes at payment lounge, and releasing of mayor's permit.

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* QC Business Permit - Payments
* Millionaire's Club

A2 | MONDAY
December 19, 2011
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Quezon City building official defends permit

By Rio N. Araja

A QUEZON City official on Sunday slammed the wealthy residents of Katipunan Avenue and students of Ateneo de Manila University for suing him over the construction of a 42-story condominium in the area.

The building permit issued to SM Development Corp. to put up its Blue Residences is legal, according to Isagani Verzosa Jr., the city's building official.

"As far as my office is concerned, the permit issuance was above-board," he told the **Manila Standard**.

"It is just unfortunate that I have been named one of the respondents."

Verzosa said the Building Official Department issued the permit only after the previous (17th) city council and the Planning Department approved the building's construction.

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- Quezon City
- building construction
- building permit

THE DAILY tribune
Sunday, December 11, 2011 4

Birthing clinics in QC required to get license first before operating

Daily Tribune 12/11/11 B-2

The Quezon City government is now requiring birthing clinics, whether public or private, to secure a license before they operate to protect would-be clients from any form of medical malpractice.

"With the new ordinance, the city government can now check the legitimacy of birthing homes that operate all over the city," according to Mayor Herbert Bautista who hailed the passage of the ordinance principally authored by Councilor Jessica Castelo-Daza.

To ensure compliance, the city health department and the business permits and licensing office were directed to conduct periodic inspection of these clinics.

Their compliance with the city's licensing requirements shall also serve as requirement in securing accreditation with the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth) as provided under Republic Act 4226 or the Hospital Licensure Act, the local government said.

Under the newly approved QC Birthing Homes Regulatory Ordinance, failure of the owner to secure the necessary business permit shall mean immediate issuance of cease and desist order from the city government.

For non-accreditation with Philhealth, the ordinance imposes a fine of P5,000 in cases where operators of birthing homes fail to secure permit to operate within 30 days from receipt of notice from the business permits and licensing office and the city health department.

The city may also issue temporary closure orders to violators until they have complied with the city's licensing requirements.

Should there be non-compliance with the minimum required equipment and facilities, the city imposes a fine of P5,000 should operator of the birthing clinic fail to make the proper installation of the required medical facilities within 30 days from receipt of first notice from the city health department.

Meanwhile, the ordinance also penalizes clinics that refuse to admit birthing mothers without any valid reason.

Fines to be imposed range from P1,000 to P5,000, the ordinance said.

Aside from the penal provision, the ordinance also imposes closure order that may range from one week to one month. For more than five instances of verified reports of violation, the city may issue to the violator a permanent closure order.

The ordinance also considers a violation the failure of birthing homes to undertake the required new born screening test, BCG (except for newborns delivered by pregnant women with untreated pulmonary tuberculosis) and Hepatitis B birth dose immunization despite non-waiver by the birthing mother and her spouse or the biological father of the newborn.

According to Castelo-Daza, the ordinance highlights the city government's continuing commitment to promote higher standards of maternal obstetrics health care which has been included in the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations in an effort to end poverty.

"It is imperative for the city government to devise means in order for birthing mothers to have easy access to affordable but safe birthing homes to reduce maternal and infant mortality," she said.

As indicated in the city's poverty profile, about 1.8 percent of women in QC die each year from childbirth and other pregnancy-related causes, prompting the city government to launch efforts to strengthen the delivery of maternal health care services which include, among other things, compliance with four pre-natal visits, provision of tetanus toxoid, laboratory screening, micronutrient supplementation, nutrition assessment and breastfeeding education.

Expansion of the city health network was provided for in the 2011 budget for the construction of the Novaliches super health center; health centers in Payatas B, Kamuning and Bagbag as well as Sentrong Sigla centers in Escopa, Maligaya, Pinyahan, Toro Hills, Napocor area and Doña Nicasia.

"We should also take advantage of maximizing the services and facilities of our city health centers to address the medical needs of our constituents, especially from QC's underprivileged communities," the mayor said.

Arlie O. Calalo

QC Business Permit
xx
QC ordinance (approved)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2011
B2-3

QC easing business permits issuance system

By Abigail L. Ho

THE QUEZON City government will pass an order or ordinance that will drastically reduce the number of steps required to secure business and construction permits and licenses in the city by next year.

Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista said the order would institute changes in the way business and construction permits and licenses were being issued now.

One of the issues that the order hoped to address, he said, was the "turf" mentality of employees of regulatory offices at the Quezon City Hall.

"The turf mentality should be eliminated and agencies should coordinate to improve (business licensing) processes," he said in a statement, adding that this kind of attitude greatly contributed to the slowness and inefficiency of the process of issuing permits and licenses.

According to the latest Doing Business Survey, which used Quezon City as the sample city for the Philippines, the city's business permit issuance system had 15 procedures that took 35 days to complete from application filing to permit issuance.

The construction permit issuance system was composed of 30 steps and took 85 days to complete.

Apart from introducing changes to the system, Bautista said a dedicated inspection team would be created to facilitate the processing of various permits.

Quezon City has the largest number of registered businesses in the country with 59,712.

According to Doing Business Survey author Sylvia Solf, local governments and regulatory offices should work together to streamline their procedures, especially as more and more businesses are acquiring business permits.

Co-author Jean Marie Lobet added that unnecessary steps in the system should be removed and the whole system be made less complex. The government should also work on reviewing and reconciling conflicting local and national laws on business regulations.

Trade Undersecretary Cristino Panlilio said other local government units should follow Quezon City's lead and streamline their own business permit and licensing systems.

QC Business Permit

The Philippine STAR

NOVEMBER 23, 2011

QC gov't vows to improve business permit, licensing system next year

By MA. ELISA P. OSORIO

As a response to the survey which rated the Philippines as the worst place to set up business in Asia, the Quezon City government vowed to improve its business permit and licensing system (BPLS) in 2012 by reducing the length of time in getting clearances.

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To make these changes possible, Bautista said he will create an executive order or approve an ordinance facilitating changes in the business permits and licensing system.

While Quezon City is focusing on improving its business permits and licensing system, other local governments should also follow suit.

Trade and Industry Undersecretary Cristino L. Panlilio said Quezon City's initiative should be adopted by other LGUs. He added that working on the ease of doing business is a part of attracting investors to the country.

Meantime, Guillermo Luz, Private Sector Co-Chairman of National Competitiveness Council (NCC) said there is a need to identify the problems in the local and national level, and advise the LGUs to institutionalize a system for LGUs that will remain even with changes in the leadership. The NCC will coordinate with Regional Development Councils (RDCs) to work on competitiveness rankings at the local level.

Luz also linked the improvement of business permits and licensing system with higher revenue collection by the LGUs, and explained that improved rankings will boost country's ability to attract investments, provide jobs, and eventually translate to a higher GDP and poverty alleviation.

QC Business Permit

2 MANILA BULLETIN
Thursday, January 20, 2011

QC to close apartment-type clubs used for immoral acts

By CHITO A. CHAVEZ

Reacting to mounting public complaints, the Quezon City government said yesterday it will close down apartment-type clubs and joints, particularly those whose permits allow them to operate only as restaurants.

Mayor Herbert Bautista, disgusted with the increasing number of such nightspots, ordered the city's Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) to take the necessary steps to allow the city government to enforce the closure order.

He directed BPLO chief Pacifico Maghacot to send teams including undercover city personnel to review and monitor the activities inside the illegal nightclubs after reports revealed that these were being used as sex dens.

Bautista said the city grants permit for club businesses but under no circumstance should they be abused and used as prostitution dens or similar erroneous practices like trafficking of women and minors.

Based on the mayor's standard for a club business, the latter should have a size or area bigger than 100 square meters, or bigger than an apartment unit.

"We cannot afford to continue the practice of allowing a small space like an apartment to be declared a club because such size is only appropriate for an eatery. A club should have an ample space for parking, big kitchen, and enough number of lavatory or comfort rooms for its clients," the mayor said.

Maghacot, for his part, said a strict review and inspection of club businesses is ongoing.

To date, Maghacot said his office had closed down a videoke bar for violation of city ordinance number SP-91, S-93, also known as the Quezon City Revenue Code of 1993, for operating without permit.

The closure order was served last Jan. 6 to Inday Videoke Bar located at 135 IBP Road Barangay Payatas A.

Maghacot said more closure orders will be served by his office by the end of the first quarter of the year due to various complaints of non-compliance with the law such as operating without permit, no fire clearance, no health or sanitary permit and noise pollution particularly during night time.

"The closure order served to Inday Videoke and other establishments should serve as a warning to businessmen to abide by the law," Maghacot said.

Maghacot said his office is targeting the closure of two errant establishments per week.

"This is part of the program of Bautista's administration in ensuring public welfare particularly for a clean environment, and to minimize noise pollution especially at night time," Maghacot said.

QC Business Permit ...
Sex dens closure

Q.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY
LOCAL HISTORY

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS SINCE 1900
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
Tuesday, January 11, 2011 5

QC goes high-tech in issuing permits

By **CHITO CHAVEZ**

To facilitate the issuance of permits, the Quezon City government has computerized the processing of documents, beginning this month.

Department of Building Officials (DBO) chief Isagani Verzosa Jr. said the automation scheme will dissuade the public from dealing with fixers and other unscrupulous individuals in obtaining building, occupancy, demolition and fencing permits.

With the automation program, all applications for permits at DBO can be easily detected under its tracking system with real time status determination as they are now electronically encoded to form part of city-wide database for all buildings. Data records will also be transferred to a master data bank where the City Assessor could also have access for his reference.

Verzosa added that the connection with the Assessor's Office provides a quicker issuance of needed tax declarations and other data about a building.

He said that one of the best features of the program is its SMS capability, where the public or applicants for permits may simply text the computer for the status of their applications.

"The public can now follow up using the texting system. They can just inquire on the status of their applications at the number written in the follow-up slip given to them after they filed their applications," Verzosa said.

The computation of fees and order of payment will also be computer-generated, under the new system. With the system in place, the annual inspection and safe building program of the city can be systematically scheduled and implemented with quick periodic management reports to be given to the City Executive.

QC - Tax payment procedure

THE DAILY tribune
Monday, January 9, 2012 4

Secueasy supports QC's peace & order campaign

Secueasy, a company specializing in security and surveillance system has expressed has support to the peace and order campaign of Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista as the city government starts to implement the "no CCTV no permit" policy to all business establishments. Bautista directed business permit and licensing office (BPLO) chief Pacifico Maghacot to implement a no-CCTV no-business permit policy starting this January as deterrent to criminal activities in the city. "We will strictly implement the new policy on CCTV. No CCTV installation, no business permit," Bautista added. Aside from high-risk establishments, Bautista earlier had called the city's 142 barangays to also set up CCTV cameras in key areas of the community. He directed them to tap their calamity funds for this purpose. The mayor vowed to install CCTV cameras over the next three years along strategic areas in the city, specifically on densely-populated communities to further improve the city's crime resolution and efficiency rate. Secueasy, for its part, is offering big discounts to Quezon City businessmen who will avail themselves of their CCTV package. "Traders from Quezon City can avail themselves on our special promo of up to 20 percent discount on our do-it-yourself CCTV system" Francis Landicho, spokesman for Secueasy said. Secueasy is one of the most popular and cost effective ways of providing security in homes and work places. The technology behind this security equipment is incredibly advanced, and it is even possible to hook the cameras to an ordinary television, to computer or cell phones and watch toe footage. A wide array of vandal proof, day and night cameras are available like the Speed Dome cameras, Special and Box camera for concealment, Color Dome camera and the popular infrared cameras. For more information call 2882231, 2887331, 09228625719 or visit their main office, located at 200 M. H. del Pilar St., Tinajeros, Malabon City.

QC BPLO - Business Permit Requirement

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS SINCE 1900
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

QC sets guidelines, schedules for renewing business permits

By **CHITO A. CHAVEZ**

The Quezon City government announced that the city's business establishment owners can renew and pay their business permits fees up to January 31 and comply with the documentation and other requiremer 's up to March 31 this year.

Gregorio Banacia of the city's Public Affairs and Information Service Office (PAISO) issued the statement to allow business firm owners operating in the city ample time to settle their obligations to the city government this year.

Earlier, Pacifico F. Maghacot officer-in-charge (OIC) of the Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) said all business establishments must renew their permits as the automatic renewal system is suspended.

He added that the move was made in a bid to upgrade the business database of Quezon City.

To facilitate the renewal of business permits, Maghacot said that business establishment owners should fill out a survey form and renewal form inside the BPLO offices at the ground floor of the main building with BPLO staff on hand to assist the business clients.

Maghacot urged the public to strictly adhere to the new business renewal rules to avoid penalties, closure of business establishments and other inconveniences.

Banacia added that city government has reformatted and continued to improve the business renewal schemes to suite the clients' convenience and avoid their possible reliance to fixers.

QC Business permit renewal rules

The Philippine STAR

p.B-2 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2010



PADLOCKED: Quezon City administrator Victor Endriga padlocks 9 West Spa along West Avenue for violating provisions of the Local Government Code and the QC Revenue Code. Endriga, by authority of Mayor Herbert Bautista, ordered the revocation of the mayor's permit issued by the city government to the establishment following the issuance of the closure order. Assisting Endriga in serving the closure order is P/Supt. Constante Agpaoa, police detachment chief of QC Police District's Station 10 (Kamuning). Also ordered closed and padlocked was Happy Sauna along E. Rodriguez for the same violation.

Business Permit Revocation

Manila Standard TODAY
A6 | MONDAY August 23, 2010

World Bank arm helps QC cut red tape

By Roderick T. dela Cruz

THE private sector investment arm of the World Bank has partnered with the Quezon City government to reduce transactions from as many as 18 steps to two.

The International Finance Corp. and city hall has put up a one-stop shop for business registration, renewal and other procedures that would enable applicants to obtain licenses and permits within the day.

"This a significant achievement for the country's largest city, with 2.7 million residents and thousands of informal businesses," IFC said in a statement.

According to Mayor Herbert Bautista, the move takes on a wide economic scope.

"This is our city's immediate response to President Aquino's challenge for local governments, that we must streamline the process of starting businesses, which will contribute to national productivity," he said.

IFC said the upgrade is aimed at bringing small and medium-scale enterprises into the mainstream as formal registration would help them tap resources needed to expand and support job creation.

The agency also cited as benefit increased city revenues, allowing it to improve social services for many of its residents, more than half of whom are migrants from other cities and provinces.

"With more small and medium-size firms registering, enterprises will have better access to credit, more legal protection, and stronger support from the local government," said Rashad Kaldany, IFC Vice President for Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East and North Africa.

"This will help to invigorate the private sector and support sustainable economic growth."

A pilot test in January posted a 28 percent year-on-year increase in business registrations as of end-June 2010.

IFC teamed up with Quezon City under the Regulatory Simplification project supported by the Australian Agency for International Development and the Canadian International Development Agency.

The program covers four cities in Metro Manila backstopped by the League of Cities of the Philippines, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of the Interior and Local Government, National Competitiveness Council, and the Ateneo School of Government.

IFC World Bank Group

Business registration

QC Buss.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

Editor: ANTONIO F. KATIGBAK
Assistant Editor: ROMAN F. FLORESCA

Sunday, August 22, 2010 **B-1**



QC LAUNCHES BOSS: Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr. joins Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista in a ribbon cutting ceremony marking the formal launching of the QC Business One-Stop-Shop (BOSS), a new business registration system intended to further simplify the process of doing business in the city. Ochoa, former QC administrator, lauded the city government for adopting the system, which he said, can be used as a template for the whole country. The city government has partnered with the International Finance Corp. of the World Bank and the Ateneo School of Government to implement the new system, which the mayor described as QC's contribution to the promotion of national productivity. With them are Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte; Trade Secretary Gregory Domingo; Trade Undersecretary Zeny Maglaya; IFC vice president for Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East and North Africa Rashad Kaldany; representatives from the Ateneo School of Government, Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and other IFC officials. JOEY VIDUYA

QC Business One Stop Shop (BOSS) - launching

The Philippine STAR
AUGUST 21, 2010

QC posts 28% hike in business registrations

By TED P. TORRES

The Quezon City government has posted a 28-percent increase in business registration as a direct result of its newly-initiated one-stop-shop registration system.

The new system, which was set up in collaboration with the International Finance Corp. (IFC), condenses the registration process from 18 to just two, enabling applicants for a business license to complete the process in just a day.

The IFC is the private sector investment arm of the World Bank.

The one-stop shop was introduced in January this year in an attempt to reduce red tape in business registration and allow businesses to operate efficiently, compete and create jobs.

"This is our city's immediate response to President Aquino's challenge for local governments, that we must streamline the process of starting businesses, which will contribute to national productivity," Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista said.

He explained that the reform targets small and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs), in particular, as formal registration will help them access the resources they need to expand and support job creation. The largest city in Metro Manila, has a population of 2.7 million.

"It will also increase the city's revenues, allowing it to improve social services for many of its residents, more than half of which are migrants from other cities and provinces," Bautista added.

The IFC, meanwhile, explained that the system was introduced to offer easy access for SMEs based in Quezon City to business opportunities. That, in turn, results in easier access to credit, legal protection and stronger support from the local government units.

"This will help to invigorate the private sector and support sustainable economic growth," Rashad Kaldany, IFC vice president for Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East and North Africa. He was in the Philippines to meet with IFC clients and partners, including the Philippine government.

Kaldang said the World Bank likes to create opportunities for people to escape poverty and improve their lives.

"We do so by providing financing to help businesses employ more people and supply essential services, by mobilizing capital from others, and by delivering advisory services to ensure sustainable development," he added. The IFC was involved in new investments reaching a record $18 billion in fiscal year 2010.

The IFC has partnered with the Quezon City local government for the regulatory simplification project. The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) were likewise part of the program. It is being piloted in four Metro Manila cities with the help of the League of Cities of the Philippines, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the National Competitiveness Council and the Ateneo School of Government.

business registration

August 21, 2010 5
MANILA BULLETIN

QC cuts down business registry time

By JEFFREY G. DAMICOG

The Quezon City government launched yesterday a business center that aims to cut down the processing time of business registration.

Called the "Business One-Stop Shop," City Mayor Herbert Bautista said that "this is the Quezon City government's immediate response to the challenge of President Aquino to reduce the red tape in business registration."

The business center will facilitate business permit processing within 25 minutes up to a maximum period of nine days if the business establishment requires an ocular inspection.

Within the new business center, personnel of concerned agencies are lined up and put in a single location.

Previously, the process involved 12 steps and took several days as business applicants were required to queue long lines at several departments to submit their documents.

"The aim is to encourage the formalization of business and, spur investment growth by reducing the time, cost and steps for new business registration at the city level," said Pacifico Maghacot, head of the city government's Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO).

The city government partnered with the International Finance Corporation (IPC) of the World Bank and the Ateneo School of Governance in developing the system.

With the new process, three basic documents are required upon application – barangay clearance, business registration with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) or the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and a title to property or tax declaration if the applicant is the owner of the area or a contract of lease if the applicant is renting the space.

The business permit is subject to the completion of other requirements like locational clearance, fire safety and inspection certificate and sanitary permit, which have to be submitted within 90 days from the date of application.

According to IFC, the reform targets small and medium-scale enterprises as formal registration will help them access the resources needed to expand and support job creation. The project will also increase revenues of the city government.

"With more small- and medium-sized firms registering, enterprises will have better access to credit, more legal protection and stronger support from the local government," Rashad Kaldany, IFC vice president for Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East and North Africa, said.

Business registration

Monday, January 25, 2010
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Officials clash over QC vendors' BIR list-up

A Quezon City Council legislative officer said that it is a standard procedure for councilors to prepare a resolution before making privilege speeches on issues of their concerns.

Vizconde "Jun" Bamba Jr. a city council legislative officer issued the statement after Councilor Aiko Melendez of the city's second district objected to the suspension of the question hour during the discussion of the possible exclusion of market vendors from paying the ₱500 registration fees required by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).

On Dec. 16, 2009, the BIR, Philippine Association of Local Treasurers and Assessors (PHALTRA) and Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF) signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) rejecting renewal applications for market permits without the BIR registration.

With the memorandum taking effect on Jan. 4, 2010, Dr. Victor B. Endriga Quezon City Treasurer said that registering with the BIR is the first step for market vendors to allow them to renew their business permits.

Before a huge crowd at the Quezon City Council Session Hall gallery, Melendez and councilor Janet "Babes" Malaya of the city's fourth district disagreed as the dialogue to exclude market vendors from paying the ₱500 registration fees heated up.

In an emotional speech, Melendez urged her fellow councilors to immediately resolve the issue that is causing sleepless nights and many anxious moments on the part of the market vendors drawing huge applause from the gallery.

Citing its urgency, Melendez said the city council has to act instantly as the market vendors have long suffered from poverty and will likely have their resources further with the additional BIR requirement.

Melendez, who is a vice-mayoral candidate like Malaya, claimed them that the vendors and the poor have suffered greatly after allegedly misled, used and abused by rogue politicians who promise them better lives just to get their votes.

After her speech, Malaya who had a prepared resolution regarding the matter called for the suspension of the question and answer hour infuriating Melendez who objected to her rival's motion.

A stunned Malaya said that there is no point in continuing with the question hour since a resolution was already filed urging the secretary of finance to exclude the city vendors from various market associations from the agreement into among PHALTRA, BIR and BLGF.

Instead of replying to Malaya's response, Melendez angrily walked out of the session hall but came back minutes later citing her love for the vendors as the reason for her return.

Malaya immediately asked that Melendez's name be made as the principal author of the resolution with her name being placed at the bottom list of the co-introducers.

Bamba said that there is already a prepared resolution so there is no need to continue with the question hour citing that even vice mayor Herbert Bautista questioned Melendez on the grounds of her objection.

Before the period of discussion, Malaya as chairman of the committee on justice and human rights filed a resolution invalidating the MOA of the BIR, BLGF and PHALTRA. (Chito A. Chavez)

* QC Council – Renewal for Market permit
* Business Permit requirements

Tuesday, January 19, 2010 5
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

QC cuts biz registry time by 80%

By CHITO A. CHAVEZ

In a bid to cut down on red tape, the Quezon City government has reduced the processing time of registering a new business in the city by 80 percent.

Falling under the Simplified Registration System (SRS), the visits of the taxpayers in various offices of the city hall have been reduced from eight to one while the procedural steps were trimmed from 12 to three.

Also, the taxpayers will no longer wait for 18 days and make multiple inquiries on concerned offices to secure their permits and obtain other registered documents.

Under the city's new scheme, the participating offices in the issuances of related permits are clumped together establishing a one-stop business center for the comfort of the taxpayers.

Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. said that new system adopted by city hall is a joint project of the Ateneo School of Government and the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank.

"We are playing the game plan of the World Bank whose study focuses on new businesses," Belmonte added.

Other Metro Manila cities like Taguig, Mandaluyong, and Manila have also adopted similar ploys in a bid to provide comfort to the public enticing them to settle their obligations to the government honestly and promptly.

The city's business permit and licensing office (BPLO) and treasurer's office are working closely together to implement simplification procedures.

In the first week of January the BPLO has been releasing an average of 45 new business permits daily higher than the normal business permit release of 27 recorded last year.

Last year the BPLO issued 61,786 business permits in 2009 five percent higher or 2,927 more permits issued in 2008.

Of the total, 9,944 new permits were issued 2.2 percent higher or 212 more permits issued in 2008 with the contractors, retailers, wholesalers and other businesses with fix rates being issued the most number of permits.

In a big boost to the city government's collection the BPLO collected P3.49 billion in business taxes with the figure expected to rise as the Belmonte administration continues to introduce steps to facilitate business registration in the city.

In 2009, the city government introduced the Automatic renewal System (ARS) where receipts for payment of city taxes are used as legal permits itself.

The system benefited some 30, 000 minimally-regulated establishments heightening the city's reputation for having a business-friendly environment.

QC Business Registration System

XX

Business Permit & Liscensing OFFICE

THE PHILIPPINE STAR
TRUTH SHALL PREVAIL

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2009

QC simplifies business registration process

Quezon City is establishing a one-stop business center (OSBC) to provide faster and better services to new business applicants.

This is to implement the city's Simplified Business Registration Process (SBRP) under Executive Order No. 16 issued by Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

The objectives of the executive order are: To provide the new registration process for new applicants consistent with Quezon City's vision to be a model of effective governance and responsible leadership, with its citizens as partners in building a community enjoying quality of life; and to render quality services that make the city an ideal community where people live, work, and do business in a hospitable, progressive, and peaceful environment.

The Mayor's order applies to all establishments (sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, all applicants) applying for business permit for new businesses pursuant to the Local government Code and Article 21 of the Quezon City Revenue Code, as amended.

To be situated at an area designated by the city administrator, the one-stop business center will make it faster and easier for new business applicants to secure registration documents and permits.

Under the SBRP order, all an applicant has to do is to go to OSBC for all the services he or she needs, provided that he or she already had secured the necessary documents from the Department of Trade and Industry or Cooperative Development Agency and a barangay clearance.

In some registration cases, however, an applicant may be advised to secure the requirements from other national government agencies like the clearance from the Laguna Lake Development Authority and the Environment Compliance Certificate from the Department of Environment and Natural resources.

The QC business permit and licensing office, in coordination with relevant departments of the city government, shall implement the necessary documentation, communications and marketing of the SNRP.

The QC information technology office shall also undertake the necessary upgrade of its system to fully support the implementation of the SBRP order.

QC Simplified Business Registration Process
QC Executive Order no. 14

Manila Bulletin Aug. 25, 2009, p. 5

QC may close down Internet shops

By **CHITO A. CHAVEZ**

Quezon City authorities yesterday said it may be forced to close down Internet and computer shops for accommodating students even during class hours.

With the growing number of complaints of distractions, Councilor Jimmy Borres of the third district of Quezon City expressed concern over the rising number of students cutting classes spending their time inside the Internet shops instead of attending their school duties.

He asked the Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) to cancel the permits of errant computer shops vowing to seek the assistance of barangay officials to ensure that the students are barred from the Internet café premises.

Borres also advised the parents to keep their "communication lines with their children open" in a bid to discourage them from being engulfed by peer pressure and bad company.

"Mahalaga din ang kalinga ng mga magulang. Wag po natin ipagkait ang ating panahon sa kanila para po malaman ng ating mga anak kung gaano natin silang kamahal. Di po sapat na good provider lang po tayo importante po ang bonding kahit po gaano po tayo kabala sa ating mga trabaho. Let us spend quality time with the children," Borres added.

Borres warned delinquent Internt café owners to mend their ways to avoid fines, stiff penalties and other unfavorable circumstances they may get into due to their illegal business operation.

Being parents themselves, Borres asked errant businessmen if their conscience do not bother them when they play major roles in putting the lives of the young students astray.

"Di lang pagkita ng pera ang mahalaga dapat maging makatao naman tayo. Paano natin maaatim na magpasasa sa yaman at karangyaan kung ang kapalit nito ay ang pagkapariwara ng mga kabataan? Nakakarimarim ang ganitong gawain," Borres said.

Quezon City Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista also stressed the need for government authorities to exercise restrictions on web access especially by elementary pupils and high school students whose morals have steadily been distorted.

The lenient regulations of Internet shops prompted students to use their computer facilities even during school hours and weekdays causing a major bane for parents whose children have gone wayward eventually giving way to temptations.

Bautista is now calling for strict computer shop regulations that would protect young people.

MB Aug. 25/09, p. 5

Computer shops business regulation

, FEBRUARY 18, 2008 C-6

The Philippine STAR

QC gov't teams up with IFC to simplify business procedures

By TED P. TORRES

The local government of Quezon City and the World Bank's International Finance Corp. (IFC) have forged a cooperation agreement to reduce and simplify business transactions at city hall.

IFC, the private sector investment arm of the World Bank, said for local governments, complicated and lengthy processes in business transactions prevent the collection of accurate, precise information about local economic activities, which can be used to develop more effective support programs. For businesses, it limits access to key resources, support and the potential for growth.

The IFC will focus initially on simplifying procedures for obtaining licenses and permits for business activities.

"IFC's advisory services program for business simplification is consistent with our city's aim to streamline business procedures, given the continuous expansion of local businesses and the demand from the private sector for more efficient procedures," said Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte.

IFC's head of advisory services for the Philippines Euan Marshall said they have designed the program to facilitate the sharing of expertise between IFC and the local government of Quezon City.

Marshall described the city as one with a wealth of experience in undertaking innovations that support private sector development and business growth, while IFC has global experience in business environment reform.

"We aim to achieve simplified and transparent regulatory procedures that stimulate private investment, reduce informality, and support the productivity and growth potential of smaller businesses in the city," Marshall said in a statement.

Quezon City is one of the 20 cities covered by a "Ease of Doing Business" survey that IFC launched in 2007, in partnership with the National Competitiveness Council and the Asian Institute of Management (AIM).

It has been cited as among the most progressive cities in the country and has contributed huge dividends to the National Government due to its high revenue collections.

The IFC added that the program is an integral part of its strategy in the Philippines.

"This kind of work, which improves the business climate, also helps attract more private investments to the country," Marshall added.

According to the IFC report, objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement, faster and fuller reforms are needed to improve the country's performance in the ease of doing business.

The Philippines is ranked 133rd in terms of ease of doing business worldwide, lower than in the previous year.

The IFC has been investing in the Philippines for more than 40 years. As of October last year, IFC had an exposure of $661.96 million in the country.

To complement its growing investments, IFC is also expanding its advisory services to include public-private partnerships and supporting the development of small and medium enterprises.

QC business procedures

MANILA BULLETIN
September 9, 2007 3

QC simplifies permit system

The Quezon City government has simplified the systems and procedures for the evaluation and approval of building plans and occupancy permit.

Under Office Order 25 issued by Quezon City Mayor Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte Jr., processing and documentation of city building plans, such as architectural, structural, sanitary and plumbing and electrical, will now only take five working days to complete.

Engr. Joselito Cabungcal, Quezon City buiding official and officer-in-charge of the engineering department, is tasked with immediate implementation of the mayor's order.

Belmonte also required the building officials to officially inform every applicants of any dely in the processing and documentation.

The mayor's order improving the existing systems and procedures in securing building and occupancy permits in the city was in compliance with the mandates of R.A. No. 9485, otherwise known as "An Act to Improve Efficiency in the Delivery of Government Services to the Public by Reducing Bureucratic Red Tape and Preventing Graft and Corruption."

The order covers all applications for building and occupancy permits, including related ancilliary permits applied for single detached residential buildings of not more than 300 sq. meters with the residential zones, and stall inside buildings with approved buildings/occupancy permits.

The simplified systems and procedures will allow the applicants to commence construction of project upon receipt of building permit, provided that such construction will be under the direct supervision and responsibility of a licensed architect/engineer hired for the purpose.

Under the new processing system, the applicants and hired architecture/engineer shall assume full responsibility in complying with the National Building Code and zoning ordinance.

A cease and desist order shall be issued to the applicants if nonconformities and detrimental or hazardous to public safety. The order shall stay until such corrections are approved.

The order also provides that the locational clearance requirement shall be submitted immediately by the applicant and that the city health department's requirement for water analysis shall be required only for the areas not served by Maynilad and Manila Water companies. (Raul Gonzales)

securing Building permit

August 20, 2007
MANILA BULLETIN

QC business permits processed in 7 days

By RAUL V. GONZALES

The Quezon City government assured that it will take only about seven days to process business permits in Quezon City during the peak period of renewal and business permit applications.

Assistant City Administrator on Internal Affairs and Business Permit and Licensing Office (BLO) officer in charge Pacifico F. Maghacot said that during lean months, which usually takes place sometime after the deadline registration and renewal of business permits, the processing of permit applications is done in two days time.

He said that Mayor Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte Jr., also directed the city's income-generating agencies, like the BPLO and City Treasurer's Office, to simplify measures in processing business permits application to shorten their releasing time, as part of a package of incentives in attracting more investors.

Quezon City's shortened procedure in processing business permit application proved to be the quickest among local government units in Metro Manila.

Business permit application is being processed in seven days during peak season and three days in lean months in Makati. Manila from six to 11 days, while Marikina with 14 days.

Business permit processing

THE PHILIPPINE STAR
14 MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2007

QC starts crackdown on 'no-receipt' traders today

The Quezon City government will start apprehending today business establishment owners and other people involved in trade in the city who refrain from issuing receipts or sales invoice.

Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. warned that fines shall be imposed to violators.

Covered by the campaign are contractors, retailers and mall owners and their respective tenants or stall holders.

The city will be imposing a fine of P4,000 for first time violators; P5,000 for second time offenders and the revocation of business permit and closure of business establishments for the third and subsequent offenses.

The apprehension of erring traders not issuing receipts and sales invoices to their customers is provided under City Ordinance 1663, approved and passed by the 26-member city council on March 20, 2006.

Under the measure, the city requires the issuance of sales invoice and receipts for every P100 and above transactions made.

City treasurer Victor Endriga has ordered the deployment of revenue examiners on different commercial establishments in Quezon City to apprehend would-be violators. To date, about 60,000 to 70,000 establishments are doing business in the city.

The treasurer's office, through its examination division, started educating taxpayers on the provisions of said city measure last month.

"What we did was to properly educate city taxpayers on the importance of issuing sales invoices. While we do not have the exact figures that could determine the city's losses from these unscrupulous traders, it is imperative that we find ways and means to properly collect taxes from them," said Francisco Basa Jr., examination division chief.

Basa said 941 business establishment owners and operators have been issued ordinance violation receipts since the start of the campaign, warning them to issue the required receipts or sales invoice.

Basa said several apprehensions have been made at Farmer's Market in Cubao, SM Fairview and the Anonas area.

. business establishments - receipt issuance

THE DAILY tribune
Metro
Cris Martinez, Editor ❑ e-mail: metro@tribune.net.ph
Tuesday, August 14, 2007

QC dad exposes 'syndicate' in business processing

"Is there a syndicate in Quezon City?"

This was the question asked by Quezon City Councilor Dante de Guzman in a privilege speech delivered yesterday during the city council's regular session.

In his speech he called "Deal or No Deal," the councilor, who heads the city's blue ribbon committee which conducts probes on anomalies, said there is group that has reportedly been influencing the way the local government handles processes particularly the putting of businesses in the city, the costs of which he said have been increasing unduly.

De Guzman claimed he himself saw how money changed hands, saying it amounted to at least P100,000, which he presumed to be a bribe. The money was allegedly contained in a briefcase that a businessman known to him gave to an unnamed individual in his presence.

He said he was invited to witness the consummation of the transaction.

De Guzman also insinuated that some city officials, presumably members of the same "syndicate," are receiving monthly *payolas* from businessmen.

Pressed by several councilors to name names, De Guzman vowed to divulge all specific departments and people involved in the alleged pay-out during the city council's next session, saying he is stili studying all the legal aspects of his two-part exposé.

De Guzman declined to verify Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista's question of whether the process he was referring to had anything to do with the granting of business permits.

He also stressed he does not want to drag the name of Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. and that of Bautista in the operation of what he called the "Syndicate Inc."

De Guzman said he has received a formal complaint, and also expressed willingness to have the syndicate and its operations, investigated before the committee that he heads.

He also suggested that the council's committee on trade, commerce and industry investigate the complaint.

Councilors urged ~~but failed to~~ make de Guzman name names. They said the whole name of the city government is being implicated in the scandal, advising the councilor that it is in his interest to give specific names of ~~people~~ and departments. **Eric Dorente**

QC Business Permit Processing

4 MANILA BULLETIN SINCE 1900
Friday, July 27, 2007

QC eases renewal of business permits

By RAUL V. GONZALES

The Quezon City government assured residents that it will take only about seven days to process business permits in the city during the peak period of renewal and business permit applications.

Assistant City Administrator on Internal Affairs and Business Permit and Licensing Office (BLO) officer in charge Pacifico F. Maghacot informed Mayor Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte Jr. that during lean months, which usually take place sometime after the deadline of registration and renewal of business permits, the processing of permit applications is done in two days' time.

The mayor directed the city's income-generating agencies, like the BPLO and City Treasurer's Office, to simplify measures in processing business permits application to shorten their releasing time, as part of a package of incentives in attracting more investors when he assumed office on July 1, 2001.

Quezon City's shortened procedure in processing business permit application proved to be the quickest among local government units in Metro Manila.

Business permit application is being processed in seven days during peak season and three days in lean months in Makati. Manila from six to 11 days, while Marikina with 14 days.

The four cities require practically the same clearances imposed by the national government in business permit applications, with the first day reckoning for the processing of business permit as the day when application forms with all completed requirements are accepted by the city's BPLO.

Marikina City, Maghacot said, is the only city that delivers the permit upon its release to applying establishment.

The BPLO head said that the implementation of the fire clearance requirement depends on the cities' unique situation.

JUNE 22, 2007 The Philippine STAR

QC shuts down illegal Burger Machine stalls

The Quezon City government has ordered the operator of a popular burger outlet to secure business permits for its outlets or face closure.

Neil Lina, chief of the Quezon City Market Development and Administration Department (MDAD) warned Gilmore Food Corp., which operates the Burger Machine outlets, to immediately comply with the city's market code to avoid getting penalized.

He reported that only 21 out of the 85 outlets were operating legally in Quezon City.

The MDAD has issued 24 cease and desist orders since March, when the city government found out that some of the Burger Machine outlets do not have a business permit.

"The firm has defied the order... (We received reports that) all of the outlets we have closed down have opened up the next day," Lina told **The STAR**. "We have to follow up again to insure that they will comply with the closure order."

He said Gilmore Food needs to settle over P10 million in back taxes with the city government.

Meanwhile, Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte urged the MDAD and the City Treasurer's Office to try collecting the corporation's tax deficiencies without resorting to the courts.

For operating without a business permit, the city's market code prescribes a fine of P1,000 to P5,000, one month in jail or both, depending on the discretion of the court.

– Perseus Echeminada

- illegal business operation
- business permit requirements

Editor: ROMEL A. LARA
DECEMBER 30, 2007 15
THE PHILIPPINE STAR

Quezon City simplifies business permit renewal

Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr., in a bid to make the city more investor-friendly, has ordered a special procedure for the renewal of business permits of minimally regulated establishments for 2008.

In his Executive Order 10 dated Dec. 27, Belmonte ordered the issuance of just one document that will serve as an official receipt and an official business form.

Belmonte also ordered the classification of business establishments into two categories: the high-risk or highly regulated businesses and the low-risk or the minimally regulated. Highly regulated establishments are those that require multiple clearances to operate.

Minimally regulated businesses are those that require the least number of clearances for renewal, such as the barangay and locational clearances.

The city's 60,000 low-risk establishments such as general services, offices, neighborhood stores and other medium-scale businesses will be handled by the city treasurer's office under Victor Endriga.

Pacifico Maghacot, Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) chief, will continue handling high-risk businesses and new applications.

The new order provides that renewals are deemed approved once the required business taxes are paid and applicants need only to present their barangay clearances.

Endriga said that by definition, the high-risk category lists about 5,000 establishments consisting of nightclubs, casinos, hotels and similar businesses.

Under Belmonte's new directive, owners of establishments are given a grace period of 90 days to submit to the BPLO the applicable clearances, based on the nature of the business. – **Perseus Echeminada**

Manila Standard TODAY
A4 | SATURDAY
December 29, 2007

'Streamline business permits'

By Joel M. Sy Egco

QUEZON City vows to be more investment-friendly as business permits and renewals are streamlined starting next month.

City Treasurer Victor Endriga said upon instructions by Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr., his department would handle up to 60,000 establishments, easing the load of the Business Permits and Licencing Office.

"Mayor Belmonte thought of this as a way to make the city more business-friendly," Endriga told **Standard Today**, adding that the executive order was up for signing.

In practice, businesses are classified as "high risk" or "low risk" for lack of a more appropriate distinction.

Under the new scheme, low risk would be moved to Endriga's turf while Pacifico Maghacot, permits and licencing officer-in-charge, would continue handling high-risk businesses and new applications.

A draft executive order provides that renewals would be deemed approved once the required business taxes are paid, and that applicants would need to present only their barangay clearances.

By definition, the high-risk category lists about 5,000 establishments consisting of night clubs, casinos, hotels and the like.

Taking the lion's share is the low-risk category which, according to Endriga's office, grows steadily every year.

"The previous year, there were 55,000 registered businesses. This year, the number grew to more than 57,000," a treasury staff noted.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR
JANUARY 15, 2006 15

QC business databank updating 52,000 entries

By PERSEUS ECHEMINADA

The Quezon City Business Registry Databank (QCBRD), the first interactive business registry system in the country, is now validating and updating information on all business establishments in the city.

Nathan Zulueta, managing director of the QCBRD and president of the Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry Foundation (QCCCIF), said that pursuant to City Ordinance SP 1429, all business establishments are required to submit and update their business information datasheet yearly upon renewing their business licenses.

"The updated and truthful information data shall be considered as a pre-requisite for the issuance of yearly renewal of business license for all commercial, industrial and business establishments operating in the city," Zulueta said.

He said the program which was presented to Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. in a recent executive meeting, has started getting the attention of other local government units.

Since it is impossible to process more than 52,000 registered establishments during the Jan. 2 to 20 business renewal period, the QCCCIF sought the assistance of the Liga ng mga Barangay to accept QCBRD registration, updating and validation in the barangays when business establishments apply for barangay clearances.

QCBRD registration forms are available at all 142 barangay halls and the QC Liga ng mga Barangay Office at City Hall for the convenience of the business community.

QCBRD aims to develop a data system that will store valuable information on all local businesses. It will be the main repository of business data in the city. Now on-line and operational, the database can be accessed through the website *www.qcbizregistry.com.ph* launched last October during the city's 66th foundation anniversary.

City business demographics essential in business decisions are also available in the databank.

Zulueta said the databank is an essential tool in business. For the city government and barangays, the system will provide the information backbone for the eventual introduction of paperless transactions in business registrations and renewals in the near future.

Business data bank

The Philippine STAR METRO

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005

19

By PERSEUES ECHEMINADA

QC launches business registry data bank

The Quezon City government and Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry Foundation (QCCCIF) have announced the completion of the Quezon City Business Registry Data Bank, aimed at promoting and expanding trade and investments in the city through electronic information networking as well as facilitate business partnerships among city entrepreneurs.



Quezon City, under the stewardship of Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr., is the first local government unit in the country to set up the interactive business data bank.

Now on line and operational, the data bank, which can be accessed through the website *www.qcbizregistry.com.ph*, provides business statistics such as groupings and business classifications.

The website was launched last Oct. 12 in time for the 66th foundation anniversary of the city.

Manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, contractors, and other types of businesses can now be accessed through the facilities of ePLDT, which hosts the website and PLDT DSL, the Internet provider.

The project aims to develop a data system that will electronically store information of local business establishments. It will be the main repository of business data in the city

QCCCIF chairman Nathan Zulueta said all business related ordinances, the city revenue code, mechanics and requirements for business registrations and renewals can be accessed through the site.

"Information is an essential tool in business and can guide an individual in business decisions such as expansion, business development, marketing, downsizing and even mergers," he said.

City demographics essential in business decisions are also available in the data bank.

Data and statistics generated by the project will guide the government and private support institutions in policy formulation and program development. Expected to benefit from the project are foreign investors, entrepreneurs, chambers of commerce, NGOs, research groups, academe, trade and industry, especially those the SME sector.

Through the data system, the local government can easily determine the business establishments and locate districts, down to the barangay level, as well as type of businesses.

Q.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY
LOCAL HISTORY

All the 142 barangays in the city will now have a uniform database of business establishments operating in their areas. The city government plans to have all barangay halls in the city fully integrated on line.

There are now approximately 49,420 registered active business establishments in Quezon City, contributing almost P2 billion in business taxes to the local treasury.

Information regarding the online registration to the data bank can be obtained at Suite 805 Prince Jun Condominium, 42 Timog Avenue, Quezon City at telephone nos. 3714519 and 3714575.

Programs eyed to aid informal business sector

The Quezon City government is reaching out to informal business sector, including unregistered hawkers to bring them into the mainstream business community, where they can avail of basic services and access to credit facilities for their businesses.

Belmonte directed the city's Market Development and Administration Department to submit a report on the city's underground economy. He said programs should be conceptualized to identify and legitimize these traders and provide a way for them to access legitimate credit.

The mayor said those in the underground economy have no access to services and facilities because their permits are not issued by the city government but by barangay tanods in exchange for consideration.

"They usually pay a big price for this because they are often victims of harassment from these people," the mayor said.

Belmonte created a seven-man panel, headed by senior adviser and former Budget Secretary Salvador Enriquez, to work and prepare the program for the underground economy.

The mayor issued the directive as the City Council approved an ordinance which encouraged traders to come out so they can be protected as well as have their businesses legitimized.

Council Majority Leader Ariel Inton, principal author of the ordinance, said there are almost 3,000 hawkers in the city's seven public markets.



Araneta Center Inc. president Rene de la Cruz receives the Gawad Quezon award.

Q.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY
LOCAL HISTORY



Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. poses with the city's outstanding citizens for 2005 after they were honored by the city government during a ceremonial dinner at the Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila. This year's recipients of the prestigious Gawad Quezon awards are chess grandmaster Rogelio Antonio, Jr., Raymund Narag, Erlinda Sapiandante, Undersecretary Rene Sarmiento, Prof. Randy David, Dr. Fe Hidalgo, Dr. Edna Azurin, Dr. Tranquilino Elicaño Jr., Napoleon Abueva and Ambassador Sedfrey Ordoñez. Also receiving awards were outstanding institutions Araneta Center Inc., La Funeraria Paz, represented by finance chief Cecilia Caancan (top left), St. Luke's Medical Center and Gawad Kalinga.

JOEY VIDUYA

Q.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY
LOCAL HISTORY

Bgy. Batasan



Vice President Noli de Castro and Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. lead government officials during the distribution of business licenses to Barangay captain Rannie Ludovica, Bgy. Batasan, whose barangays have been chosen as one of the recipients of the *Botika ng Barangay* project during the inauguration of one of its outlets in Bgy. Batasan Hills. A pro-poor project of President Arroyo, the *Botika ng Barangay* provides safe and affordable over-the-counter medicines and generic home remedies to urban poor communities. Joining them are Undersecretary Oscar Inocentes of the Office of Political Coalition Affairs, Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista, Rep. Nanette Castelo-Daza, District IV, Councilor Dante de Guzman and civic leader Berna Romulo-Puyat. JOEY VIDUYA

Q.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY
LOCAL HISTORY

Manila Standard TODAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2005 C3

QC permits go hi-tech

The Quezon City government has fully computerized the applications of building permits which resulted to the dramatic cut of processing time, from several weeks to only three days, a top city hall official said yesterday.

"Building permit application can now be obtained as quickly within three days upon their receipt" engineer Joselito Cabungcal, officer in charge of the city engineering building said.

Cabungcal said that the former processing system was through verification units, applications are stalled over lack of necessary documents.

In the new system, applications will be processed by verification units only if they can handle them.

He said light requirements, like specification requirements of the project will not affect the process of the application, since most of the applicants have a target time to finish their structure or buildings.

Cabungcal said the computerization program is in line with Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr.'s vision to have a business and investment-friendly city. The new method of processing the building permit application entails continuous verification for a faster flow of application processing. application.

Q.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY
LOCAL HISTORY

Malaya

Monday, January 14, 2002

New QC order assailed

A councilor from Quezon City District III has expressed strong opposition to a new requirement imposed by the city treasurer's office on the renewal of business permits.

Councilor Dante M. de Guzman, chairman of the city's Legislative Council for Trade and Commerce, said the Quezon City Treasurer's Office order requiring business establishments with receipts of P500,000 and above to submit their 2000 Financial Statement (FS) and their monthly payments of VAT and non-VAT to the BIR for the year 2001 as requisite for the renewal of permits for 2002 is "potentially burdensome and oppressive or even anti-business.

"The order comes as a burden on small businessman faced with a myriad of problems to survive. It will viewed as anti-business by small traders who live on marginal profits. Imposing this new requirement makes them feel they are distrusted by city hall," De Guzman said.

"A religious enforcement of the QC Revenue Code is the best way to ensure collection of the right amount of tax. It has all the means, safeguards and remedies necessary for the purpose. That way, we do not subject everyone to blanket suspicion of being tax dodgers or cheaters," De Guzman explained.

QC – Business Renewal Permit

MANILA BULLETIN, Mon., Jan. 14, 2002

New QC requirement for 2002 business renewal permit opposed

A councilor from Quezon City District III has expressed strong opposition to a new requirement imposed by the city treasurer's office on the renewal of business permits of certain establishments for the current year.

Councilor Dante M. De Guzman, chairman of the city's Legislative Council for Trade and Commerce, said the Quezon City Treasurer's Office memorandum order requiring business establishments with receipts of ₱500,000 and above to submit their 2000 Financial Statement (FS) and their monthly payments of VAT and non-VAT to the BIR for the year 2001 as requisite for the renewal of permits for 2002 is "potentially burdensome and oppressive or even anti-business."



DE GUZMAN

As past president and ex-officio director of the Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, De Guzman mirrors the business community.

"The order comes as a burden to small businessmen faced with a myriad of problems to survive. It will be viewed as anti-business by small traders who live on marginal profits. Imposing this new requirement makes them feel they are distrusted by city hall," De Guzman further said.

"They might look at the administration as an enemy instead of being a partner which is not conducive to the city's welfare," he added. "Small traders inject life into the local economy by jobs, besides taxes. We should create a climate conducive to their growth and make the city progressive."

"A religious enforcement of the QC Revenue Code is the best way to ensure collection of the right amount of tax. It has all the means, safeguards and remedies necessary for the purpose. That way, we do not subject everyone to blanket suspicion of being tax dodgers or cheaters," De Guzman explained.

"If there is doubt on statement of gross receipts by certain individuals, there is Section 220 of the QC Revenue Code which empowers the city treasurer to examine the books of a particular taxpayer without causing burden on the faithful ones," De Guzman continued.

QC- Business Renewal Permit

TODAY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2002

QC stops issuance of beer licenses to gas stations

■ By M. PUNONGBAYAN
Correspondent

QUEZON CITY Fourth District councilor Ariel Inton said that Liquor Licensing and Regulatory Board (LLRB) chairman Alberto Galarpe suspended yesterday the issuance of new permits and the renewal of existing liquor licenses of stores in all gasoline stations in the city.

Galarpe issued the order after Inton disclosed that numerous gasoline station stores have been blatantly selling liquor to minors.

He directed liquor licensing officer Nila Carig to "hold action on service stores in gas stations for liquor permits renewal and new applications for rental or serving" pending an investigation into Inton's report.

Galarpe assigned inspectors to verify the report and to issue a report on the reported violation of existing laws and ordinances for proper action by the LLRB.

"We will also coordinate with the Central Police District and barangay leaders to monitor gas station stores during wee hours of the morning when the alleged violations take place," Galarpe said.

Inton reported to Galarpe after the councilor received complaints from concerned barangay leaders and residents on the illegal practice of hundreds of gas station shops in Quezon City that "has contributed to an increase in the incidence of drag-racing" in the city's major streets and thoroughfares since drag-racing drivers apparently converge in these gasoline stations for drinking sprees."

Inton said this has also led to an escalation in juvenile and petty crimes at night.

"Consequently, this practice has not only upset the peace and order conditions in our barangays, but worse, has eroded the security and peace of our tax paying residents," Inton stressed in his letter to Galarpe.

He urged LLRB officials to conduct an immediate investigation of the reports "especially since most gas station shops are not licensed as minirestaurants or cocktail lounges.

Galarpe said that erring gasoline station owners face penalties or their permits to serve liquor could be revoked if they are found violating the law.

1. QC - Liquor
2. Business Permit