DHSUD, QC eye rental housing for informal settlers

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To provide decent housing to families who cannot afford to own one, especially those living in danger zones, the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) and Quezon City government are eyeing to implement a rental housing program.

In a meeting on Thursday, DHSUD Secretary Jose Ramon Aliling and Mayor Joy Belmonte agreed to explore a partnership focused on rental housing under the Marcos administration's Expanded Pambansang Pabahay para sa Pilipino (4PH) program.

"I am glad that Mayor Belmonte and I share the same vision in pushing for rental housing in Quezon City," Aliling said in a statement, noting that the initiative is in line with President Marcos' directive to relocate families living in danger zones to a more decent and safer living environment.

For her part, Belmonte said the QC government is fully supporting the rental housing modality under the Expanded 4PH Program, citing existing housing projects in the city with a similar scheme.

"We are really in favor of rental, because many families cannot afford (house) ownership in highly urbanized areas because of high cost. So now we are aligned (with DHSUD) in offering rental housing instead," Belmonte said in Filipino.

Belmonte added that the city government is ready to allot land where the rental housing projects with DHSUD could be constructed.

The DHSUD is set to pilot a housing rental project inside the University of the Philippines-Diliman campus in Quezon City later this year or early next year, following talks with university officials in June.

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