QC - BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT COLLECTIONS, REFORMS

2 MANILA BULLETIN
THE PHILIPPINES' LEADING NATIONAL NEWSPAPER
July 19, 2014

Make QC business friendly –Bautista

By **CHITO CHAVEZ**

The Quezon City government is set to formulate additional reforms to make the erstwhile capital "business-friendly" and competitive in trade and commerce starting 2015.

Mayor Herbert Bautista, in an office order, directed seven city hall offices and departments to formulate policies that would help businessmen do their job in the area.

His goal is to ultimately encourage the city's economic growth through the entry and expansion of business while providing support to the dynamism of the construction sector.

The business permits and licensing office (BPLO), city treasurer's office (CTO), city planning and development office (CPDO), QC information technology and development office (QCITDO), department of the building official (DBO), city assessor's office, and communications coordination center (CCC) were asked to detail all the steps, logistical, funding, draft policy direction and other requirements to initiate reform programs.

Bautista wants an immediate modification in medium and long-term improvement of the process in forming amended policies that affect business transactions in the city.

He said the city government wants to tackle the role of the barangays in business and building permit issuance as provided for in the Local Government Code of 1991.

He asked the city hall departments to review the revenue code to study the possibility of advanced payment of local clearance fees (up to 3 years).



20TH QCAFCBI ANNIVERSARY RITES: Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. is honored by Filipino-Chinese business leaders for his business-friendly economic programs during the 20th anniversary celebration and 10th induction ceremonies of the Quezon City Association of Filipino-Chinese Businessmen, Inc. (QCAFCBI). The association's new president John C. Kaw and honorary president William Li led the new set of officers of the QCAFCBI in expressing the group's gratitude to the Mayor during the induction rites. The inducting officer was Dr. Alfonso A. Uy, president of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and industry, Inc. (FFCCCII). Inducted with Kaw were: executive vice president Benjamin Co and vice presidents Lorenzo Ching Peng Kung, Dy Pue Le, Cecilio Pedro, Luis de Jesus, Joseph Lim, Anson Tan, Miguel Tan, and Manuel Ormoc. Other officers of the association are comptroller George Chua Cham and deputy comptrollers Leonardo Chua, Tai Kuo Hsing, Wilson Lim, and Daniel Ching; executive secretary Bobby Chua Ching; and treasurer Robert Yu. *(Story on C-2)*

Belmonte lauds strong QC-business sector tie-up

Quezon City is now assured of continuing economic growth stretching even decades beyond 2010 largely due to the strong partnership between the city government and the local business sector.

This was pointed out by Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. during the 20th anniversary celebration and 10th induction ceremonies of the Quezon City Association of Filipino-Chinese Businessmen, Inc. (QCAFCBI), held at the CityBest Seafood Garden at Tomas Morato Avenue.

In his extemporaneous speech as guest of honor, Belmonte lauded the city's business leaders, including the members of the QCAFCBI, for their dedication and commitment to the building of a strong economic foundation for a rapidly growing Quezon City.

"Without this partnership with the Quezon City government, it would have been very difficult, if not impossible, for us at QC Hall to make significant gains in our efforts to build a prosperous quality community," the Mayor said.

The association's new president John C. Kaw and honorary president William Li led the new set of officers in expressing gratitude to Belmonte for his business-friendly economic programs. They also assured the Mayor of their full support in the task of propelling the city to greater heights of economic growth.

With Kaw, inducted were executive vice president Benjamin Co and vice president Lorenzo Ching Peng Kung, Dy Pue Le, Cecilio Pedro, Luis de Jesus, Joseph Lim, Anson Tan, Miguel Tan, and Manuel Ormoc.

Also inducted were comptroller George Chua Cham and deputy comptrollers Leonardo Chua, Tai Kuo Hsing, Wilson Lim, and Daniel Ching; executive secretary Bobby Chua Ching; and treasurer Robert Yu.

The inducting officer was Dr. Alfonso A. Uy, president of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (FFCCCII).

Vice Mayor Herbert M. Bautista, Joy Belmonte of the QC Ladies Foundation and several councilors were also at the anniversary celebration. Other guests included Energy Secretary Angelo Reyes, Rep. Annie Rosa Susano and NCRPO chief Director Roberto L. Rosales.

Business Asso. anni. rites

QC - Business

THE PHILIPPINE STAR
16 SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2009

QC sees bright prospects for 2009

Positive developments are expected to make Quezon City continue to rise above other cities this year despite the anticipated global crisis, a top city official said yesterday.

Business Permit and License Office (BPLO) chief Pacifico Maghacot believes the Year of the Ox will bring good luck to the city government as 10,000 new business establishments are projected to register in the city.

To date, a total of 58,196 business establishments were recorded in the city last year, the biggest ever in the city's history.

Maghacot said this figure may increase to 69,196 "by the end of 2009 due to the opening of more malls, and (information technology or IT) centers in the city."

He said 2008 had been a good year since many unemployed residents were given job opportunities due to the completion of new malls such as The Block of SM, Trinoma and Waltermart and the IT building along Commonwealth Avenue.

Maghacot attributed the rise in the number of new businesses in the city to a policy on "minimally-regulated businesses" introduced last year by Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

The rule allows certain businesses to enroll in the city's Automatic Renewal System. This means that after paying taxes and fees due the city government, their business permits are automatically issued or renewed. A total of 18,177 establishments enrolled in the ARS last year.

He added that the system has made Quezon City the fastest business permit processor in the country.

Maghacot said Quezon City is being emulated by other cities and agencies in the country for best practices in business registration, citing that the League of Cities will soon forge an agreement to adopt a Quezon City-style business registration system among its member-cities nationwide.

– Perseus Echeminada

QC Business establishment – registration

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS SINCE 1900
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
Tuesday, February 26, 2008 7

QC frowns on group's survey

By SEL BAYSA

The Quezon City government yesterday described as "highly objectionable" the methodology used by a management institution of its recent survey on how to start business in the city for its project study entitled "Doing Business in the Philippines."

Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr., expressed dismay with the result of the survey which criticized the seven steps the city government adapted for the acquisition of a Mayor's permit.

Starting a business in Quezon City, according to the dubious survey, requires an applicant to go back and forth to the city hall where he spends six days to secure documents needed for the release of a mayor's permit.

Mayor Belmonte resented the survey stating that after the sixth day, the applicant has to wait for another four days for the release of the permit.

Meantime, QC treasurer Victor B. Endriga said the institution should have been more cautious in conducting the survey as he challenged the institution officials to send a representative to apply incognito for a business permit "to find out what a business friendly city means."

Endriga expressed belief that the survey was overshadowed by the surveyor's biasses relying to speculations and surmise that are far beyond the framework of obtaining a true and authentic knowledge of the matter.

He said Mayor Belmonte has ordered the simplification of the releases of a Mayor's Permit using a single document which will likewise serve as an official receipt.

QC Business procedure

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LOCAL HISTORY

MANILA BULLETIN

Metro Bulletin

4 Sunday, November 6, 2005

A booming business center in Quezon City

BANAWE STREET

By CHARISSA M. LUCI
Photos by MANNY LLANES

(1) If you're looking for car accessories, spare parts and gadgets, the place to go is Banawe Street in Quezon City.

Hosting various auto shops since the 1970s, Banawe Street has become an avenue of the automotive industry.

Nearly a three-kilometer strip from E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd. to Del Monte Ave., the street houses more than 100 auto shops.

"The street is famous for its automotive shops. You can't deny that the street is always associated with car accessories and spare parts," said Jimmy Chua, 40, manager of JetCar, one of the auto shops lining the street.

Chua said the shops first started to mushroom on the other side of the street—nearly a two-kilometer strip from E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd. to the corner of Quezon Ave.

"It was only in 1987 when our area started to engage in the bustling automotive business," he said.

He said he started his business along the street in 1989.

'Business robbers'

The proliferation of car parts thieves who, he said, are scaring off customers, resulting in losses to the legitimate auto shop traders.

"Thieves haunt the place. They will pretend repairing or checking your car, until you find out that your side mirrors are gone," he said, adding that even policemen have been victimized.

(2) He said there should be proper implementation of the ID system to weed out illegitimate freelancers. To further secure the area, police visibility should be intensified, he added.

"We can't blame them (freelancers) because they need to earn a living. But we can provide them with legal work if we can make them legitimate freelancers by implementing the ID system. Not only the police authorities should work, but also the corresponding local government units," he said.

Most of the legitimate establishment owners expressed apprehension over the proliferation of illegitimate freelancers because they force walk-in customers and car owners to transact with them.

To address the problem, Chua said shop owners should not tolerate the unscrupulous acts of illegitimate freelancers.

"We don't buy stolen car parts. We have our distributors. If we buy, we assure that we get our official receipts and the transaction is legal," he said as he refuted claims that many shops in the area sell stolen automotive parts.

Earlier reports said police operatives, led by Supt. James Brillantes, chief of the Quezon City Police District-District Intelligence and Investigation Division (DIID), have arrested six persons accused of selling car parts taken from stolen vehicles, following the confiscation of some ₱500,000 worth of second hand vehicle spare parts along the street. (3)

"There is a growing market for spare parts from carnapped vehicles and this is one way of curbing the carnapping menace," Brillantes said.

Brillantes said arrested suspects, all residents of Quezon City, will face charges of violating Presidential Decree 1612 or the Anti-Fencing Law and Quezon City Ordinance SP 1526 that prohibits the sale of items with unknown sources.

Police also warned buyers of stolen car spare parts that they face arrest if caught. Under the law, selling or even buying of stolen car parts in any parts of the city is prohibited and punishable by imprisonment.

Last year, the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), the Quezon City government, and the Banawe Automotive Association Inc. (BAA) forged ties to declare an all-out war against illegitimate traders.

Oldest noodle house

At the junction of the street is the 55-year-old Ma Mon Luk, a Chinese restaurant known for its mami (noodle soup) and siopao. Named after its founder, the noodle house was founded by a Cantonese grade-school teacher who migrated to the Philippines in 1918 with nothing but the shirt on his back. With persistence and his love for Chinese cuisine, Ma Mon Luk became a noodle magnate in 1940s following the expansion of his business. His restaurant was first located on Azcarraga Street (now Claro M. Recto Avenue), but he transferred it to Quezon Blvd. in Quiapo, near Life Theater in 1950. Accounts

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LOCAL HISTORY

showed that Ma Mon Luk's branch on Quezon Blvd. was the most enterprising in the '50s as it sold an average of 1,000 mami dishes and 1,000 siopaos a day. From then on, the restaurant expanded and opened various branches around Metro Manila. Called the exponent of Filipino-Chinese cuisine, Ma Mon Luk died on Sept. 1, 1961 at the age of 65. He died of throat cancer.

Old hospitals

Banawe Street also hosts the National Orthopedic Hospital. It was first known as the Philippine Civilian Affairs Unit (PCAU) Emergency Hospital No. 1. It was inaugurated on Feb. 9, 1945. Before having its present name in 1947, it was renamed as the Mandaluyong Emergency Hospital during the Commonwealth period. Its historical marker showed the construction of the building was authorized by the 3rd Congress of the Republic of the Philippines under Republic Act 1200, 1411 and 1613, and approved by then-President Ramon Magsaysay.

Near the hospital are shops selling hospital, medical, and orthopedic supplies.

Aside from the government-run hospital, private hospitals can also be found along the street.

In 1957, the Children's Medical Center opened its doors with 100 beds. The hospital was founded by Dr. Fe del Mundo, a famous pediatrician and a Ramon Magsaysay awardee in 1977. Del Mundo also established the Institute of Maternal and Child Health aimed at training doctors, nurses, and paramedical personnel.

Bert Pascua, 59, a resident, said the site of the hospital was once a muddy area in Quezon City.

Three years after the children's hospital was built, Mt. Banawe Hospital was founded by former Defense Secretary Alejo Santos, a guerrilla leader during Japanese times who later served as defense minister of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos, said Ambrosio Candila, 36, a former nursing aide.

Candila said the hospital was closed in 1996.

A few steps away from the hospital is the district convent of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary founded by Mother M. Catherine of Giuliano di Roma, who was beatified by Pope John Paul II on April 14, 1985.

Old residents said the convent was built in 1947.

Commercial area

Aside from automotive shops, various fastfood outlets including, Shakeys, Chowking, Max's, McDonalds, Dencio's, Yellow Cab, and Jollibee dot the street.

Also lining the street are various branches of banks, including PS Bank, Export and Industry Bank, Allied Bank, Metrobank, International Exchange Bank, Philippine National Bank (PNB), United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB), Equitable-PCI Bank, and East-West Bank.

Government offices, including that of the Philippine Public School Teachers Association, and the National Labor Relations Commission under the Department of Labor (DoLE) are also located in the area.

'Banawe'

The street is named after the 20,000-hectare rice terraces handcarved by Ifugao tribesmen more than 2,000 years ago. Up in the Mountain Province, the Banawe Rice Terraces, popularly called as the Ifugao Rice Terraces, are known as the Eighth Wonder of the World. It is said that the winding terraces "would reach more than halfway around the world or ten times the length of the Great Wall of China if placed end to end."

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MANILA BULLETIN

Metro Bulletin

8 Tuesday, October 4, 2005

Quezon City seeks to lure more traders

"We always welcome traders to put up business in Quezon City, but we will not be a party to any attempt to lure firms that have already been established in other place to transfer to the city."

This was emphasized by Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. as he reiterated yesterday his government's policy of deploring piracy of businesses already existing in neighboring cities and towns in Metro Manila.

He said "the city government is not out and will never be engaging in such an unconscionable competition against our neighbors."

He pointed out that the continued business boom, particularly in corporate investments, in Quezon City was the result of the local government's effort in setting up the tone for a climate favorable for business; creating incentives in making it easier for businessmen to put up business like the speedy issuance of business permit and the establishment of the Central Business District Development Program; and good governance.

Belmonte said proof of the city's expanding business potentials include the Cyber City in Libis, the bustling Commonwealth Avenue, Metro-Cubao, and the SSS Towers on East Avenue.

According to him, the Central Business District to be set up at the North and South Triangles is expected to bolster the city's bid to become a business center shortly.

Meanwhile, city Treasurer Victor B. Endriga cited the wide range of policies of the Belmonte administration that are conducive to commercial and industrial growth

Endriga said the local government provides enterprises operating in the city fast-track licensing services and simplified system of investment accreditation to hasten economic development. "Any delay in the business operation can hamper economic growth and dampen the entrepreneurial spirit," said Endriga.

He also revealed that the government helps improve the quality of manpower and services by providing on-the-job training sessions for local residents hired as employees of business firms operating in the city, as well as promote strategies to sustain business viability at the city's expense.

Endriga also disclosed that the city government provides the roadmap to forge partnership between and among various business interests to galvanize their global competitiveness. The city also provides financing assistance by linking up enterprises with banking institutions, technology transfer in collaboration with city-based world-class universities, marketing and distribution through trade fairs exhibiting products produced in the city, among others.

"Significantly, Quezon City has vast tracks of land and breathing space that make for wholesome business operations," Endriga added.

"We don't only welcome businessmen into our fold; we see to it that they succeed and the city succeeds with them," Endriga stressed. (Sel Baysa)

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QC economic development

2 METRO TODAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2004

QC trade plan spurs business boom

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LOCAL HISTORY

■ By M. PUNONGBAYAN
Correspondent

MORE businessmen are again investing in Quezon City where at least 40 new establishments open daily, despite the economic crisis in the country.

Local business establishments have also paid taxes religiously which made the city government the richest local government unit in terms of tax collection.

Pacifico Maghacot, chief of the Quezon City Business Permits and Licensing Office, said Metro Manila's businessmen are again investing in Quezon City.

He told TODAY that there are now some 67,000 business establishments operating in Quezon City.

He said the renewed investments are the result of the efforts of Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. to promote a business-friendly environment while strictly enforcing business tax collections.

Maghacot, said the booming business can also be attributed to growing population and have now reached 2.3 million residents while manila only has 1.5 million residents.

Belmonte said Quezon City is also as proud to be the country's most business-friendly city where businessmen are assured of the support of the city government.

He said the city administration had reduced the bureaucratic red tape for applicants for new business permits and licenses.

Quezon City shopping malls and arcades have attracted more shoppers from other parts of Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

"More people and more customers, of course, means more profits for businessmen," Maghacot said.

He said most businessmen are putting up restaurants ranging from gourmet outlets to small carinderias. Groceries and small variety stores have also been opening in many neighborhoods.

Maghacot said the city government is doing everything to identify business establishments that are not registered so that the city can legalize their operations and collect taxes from them

"*Malaki pa 'yung* underground economy which we will utilize with the help of the Sangguniang Panglungsod through local legislative actions," he stressed.

Business taxes form the bulk of Quezon City's annual revenues which have reached P6.6 billion including the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA).

Belmonte said Quezon City receives P1.4 billion in IRA a year but business taxes is the main contributor to the Quezon City budget followed by real property tax collections.

He said the city government is proud of its achievement of becoming and maintaining its status as the richest local government unit in the country.

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QC Establishment - QC

Sun., May 11, 2003

Metro 2

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Chamber says QC now business-friendly

It is a keenly contested honor, that of being the country's Most Business-Friendly City which the recent Gathering of Business-Friendly Cities and Municipalities convention has settled.

The more than 300 delegates composed of city and municipal mayors and their administrators agreed the distinction now belongs to Quezon City.

The Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry has played a key role in having the honor to go to the capitol City. QCCCI, this year's Most Outstanding Chamber in the Philippines awardee, said the delegates were impressed by the following relevant measures taken by the city, namely:

1. Executive Order No. 30 issued last November, simplified applications of business permits now issued within the same day. Renewal issued within an hour, provided, in both cases, fire safety, sanitary and electrical clearances are updated.

2. The city offers 20 percent discount on real property taxes and 10 percent discount on business taxes, in both instances, wholly paid annually. Amusement taxes for Filipino films and live concerts reduced up to 35 percent, one of the lowest in the NCR.

3. "One-stop-shop" version of the City Treasurer's Office where taxpayers wait in an airconditioned "taxpayers lounge." Free coffee and juices are offered. (Eli B. Cinco)

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