
METRO MANILA TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT SYSTEM DECLARATION 2010

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED CABINET SECRETARIES REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS (DOTC), DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH), DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH), DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES, AND THE METROPOLITAN MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MMDA), recognize the urgent need to address the everyday problem of Metro Manila Traffic and transport and their adverse effects on the safety, mobility, civility and productivity of Metro Manila's daily commuting and pedestrian public.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE that Metro Manila is the hub center of commercial, industrial, financial, educational, political and cultural activities in the Philippines, and it serves as the country's primary link to Asia and the rest of the world.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE too that the mobility of people, efficient movement of goods, and access to services through Metro Manila's network of roads, settlements, commercial centers are important everyday concerns to improving the quality of life in Metro Manila.

WE UNDERSTAND our collective responsibility to advance and strengthen programs which, when woven collectively by the agencies we represent, will result to a seamless, more efficient and sustainable transport system for Metro Manila.

WE DECLARE our responsibility to one another, to our fellow citizens residing, traversing and earning their living within Metropolitan Manila, to the greater community and to our descendants.

WE NOTE that the causes of traffic include limited capacity of the existing roads to cope with increasing volume of private and public vehicles, illegal structures and other obstructions along the carriageways, poor road geometry and engineering, inadequate traffic signal systems, poor public transport system, frequent vehicular accidents, poor enforcement of and compliance with traffic rules and regulations, and instant flooding in selected areas on rainy days.

WE RECOGNIZE that safety is a priority among public and private sectors alike, and accidents arising from factors like poor directional signs, faded or non-existing lane markings, mechanical defects, road defects, inadequate lighting, basic road courtesy and discipline, are controllable solutions to minimizing casualties and fatalities.

WE RECOGNIZE that mobility is a concern of all Metropolitan pedestrians, commuters, and vehicle owners and measures must be made to reduce waiting, travel, and turn-around time of commuters, vehicles and goods to achieve efficiency and improve productivity.

WE RECOGNIZE that the call for civility among road users requires an environment that promotes self-discipline, shared responsibility, respect for others and high regard for the public welfare.

WE VALUE the importance of institutionalizing coalitions between civil society and government to promote good governance, empower the citizenry and improve the quality of life of Metro Manila residents and regular road users.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE the need to implement immediate, medium-and long-term plans to mitigate and eradicate the life-threatening affects of environmental degradation due to violations of the Clean Air Act.

Against this background:

WE PLEDGE full support to crafting a Metro Manila Transport & Traffic Plan 2010-2016 through a Joint Summit with full representation from our respective agencies, with support and inputs from various stakeholders representing local government units, the private sector, civil society organizations, academe, media, local communities and the riding/pedestrian public.

WE PLEDGE to re-visit legislative documents, ordinances and resolutions that contradict the promotion of the goals of safety, mobility, civility and productivity in the field of transport and traffic management.

WE COMMIT to mobilize teams from our respective agencies to engage in multi-stakeholder meetings to formulate, plan and coordinate immediate, short-term and medium-term projects & initiatives for a safer, more efficient and environment-friendly delivery of metro-wide transport services.

WE PLEDGE to fully cooperate with other traffic & transport groups in the implementation of proposed projects and resolutions which contribute to an efficient, seamless transport and traffic system for Metropolitan Manila.

Quezon City, Metropolitan Manila, 03 December 2010.

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