

# Committee Daily Bulletin

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## DISCUSSION WITH AGENCIES/ENTITIES

COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Metro Manila Development	Planned demolition of the Tandang Sora flyover and closure of the road intersection on Tandang Sora and Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Quezon City), discussed with concerned government agencies and private entities the planned demolition of the Tandang Sora flyover and the consequent closure of the intersection on Tandang Sora and Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City to give way to the construction of the MRT-7 Tandang Sora Station.</p> <p>Rep. Castelo said he recognizes the importance of the MRT-7 project, which is part of the "Build, Build, Build" program of the government, in addressing the perennial traffic problem in Metro Manila. However, he said, it is also important to hear the complaints of the commuters and motorists who will bear the brunt of the expected monstrous traffic in the area upon the closure of the Tandang Sora flyover and intersection, which is scheduled on February 23. As it is now, traffic is heavy on Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City while the MRT-7 is under construction.</p> <p>Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) General Manager Jose Arturo Garcia Jr. said that providing alternative routes and clearing all roads of obstructions like illegally parked vehicles and ambulant vendors will ease traffic in the area and provide relief to the riding public.</p> <p>Rep. Francisco Datol Jr. (Party-List, Senior Citizen) suggested the creation of a task force involving the barangays in Quezon City to help traffic enforcers manage the traffic flow in affected areas.</p> <p>The representatives from the local government of Quezon City, led by Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte, requested that the closure of the Tandang Sora flyover and intersection be postponed for one week from February 23 to give the Quezon City government ample time to inform its constituents about the matter and determine ways to mitigate traffic in the area, including conferring with homeowners associations of subdivisions whose roads may be used as alternative routes. The request was supported by representatives of various homeowners associations and hospitals in Quezon City.</p> <p>Garcia promised to relay the request to the Department of Transportation (DOTr), the implementing agency of the MRT-7 project, for its approval.</p> <p>Meanwhile, House of Representatives Acting Secretary General Dante Roberto Maling underscored the importance of proper information dissemination to the public about such traffic changes along the areas covered by the MRT-7 project to avoid negative reactions from the residents of Quezon City and other commuters passing through the area.</p> <p>Rep. Castelo directed EEI Corporation, the project contractor, to conduct an aggressive information dissemination on the matter, including the publication of advisories in leading newspapers and other means possible.</p>