

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
CENTRAL OFFICE
NCR Compound, 2nd Street, Port Area, Manila



BAGONG PILIPINAS
DPWH, RMD, HRAS
DATE: 10-02-25
FILE NO. 403
GENERAL

September 25, 2025

Mr. PETRONILO L. ILAGAN

No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88
San Jose, Tacloban City

Dear Mr. Ilagan,

SUBJECT : Request for Presidential Intervention to Repeal DPWH Department Order No. 73, s. 2014, and Reinstate Tree Planting in Road Right-of-Way Areas (DPWH Reference Number LR-CFMC-20256477)

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated September 4, 2025 requesting to repeal Department Order No. 73, s. 2014 and reinstate tree planting in road right-of-way areas which was referred to this Department by the Office of the President for appropriate action.

We acknowledge the points raised in your letter and recognize the relevance and importance of promoting environmental sustainability. Your concerns regarding the ecological value of tree planting along road right-of-way (RROW) areas are valid and well-noted.

As an initial step, we are coordinating with the DPWH Legal Service to review the provisions of Department Order No. 73, series of 2014, and to evaluate the legal implications and feasibility of amending or repealing the said policy. This review will also consider current environmental laws, safety standards, and inter-agency coordination requirements.

We appreciate your initiative in bringing this matter to our attention and assure you that your proposal will be given due consideration in line with the Department's commitment to balance infrastructure development with environmental preservation.

Further updates will be provided once the review process has progressed.

Thank you.


GENE RYAN A. ALTEA
Director IV
Bureau of Maintenance

cc: Undersecretary ERIC A. AYAPANA, Technical Services, NBCDO, and Operations for External Convergence Projects
Director RANDY R. DEL ROSARIO, CESO III, Stakeholders Relations Service
Director GLIRICIDIA C. TUMALIUAN-ALI, Legal Service
Director RYAN JOSEPH A. SARTE, Office of the President

7.1.1 MALD/EDC

Website: <https://www.dpwh.gov.ph>
Tel. No(s): (02)5304-3000





Republic of the Philippines
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
CENTRAL OFFICE
 DPWH Central Office, Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila



BAGONG PILIPINAS

DPWH **IRAS**

DATE: 9/23/25

FILE No.: 403

General

September 18, 2025

Director GENE RYAN A. ALTEA
 Bureau of Maintenance
 2nd St, Port Area, Manila

Dear Director Altea:

SUBJECT : Suggestions on the DPWH Department Order No. 73, series of 2014

May we respectfully endorse an email from Mr. Petronilo L. Ilagan through Presidential Action Center with PACE Code No. PM-GDP-09-05-2025-004, seeking intervention in addressing a policy matter of urgent environmental and national significance on Department Order No. 73, series of 2014. The details are enclosed to this letter.

Please reply directly to Mr. Ilagan (phhaiyanadvocacy6500@gmail.com), copy furnished this Office through email at citizens_feedback@dpwh.gov.ph.

For your information and appropriate action. Thank you, Sir.

Very truly yours,


RANDY R. DEL ROSARIO, CESO III
 Director IV
 Stakeholders Relations Service

17.1.1 MGG/AVS

PACE Code Number **PM-GDP-09-05-2025-004**
 DPWH Reference Number **LR-CFMC-20256477**

RECEIVED
 BOM DPWH
 OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Date: 24 SEP 2025

By: SRC-1778 LTD





Office of the President
Malacañang

08 September 2025

SECRETARY VIVENCIO B. DIZON
Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)
Bonifacio Drive, Port Area
1000 Manila

Dear Secretary Dizon,

May we respectfully refer, for any action you may deem proper, the attached letter with enclosure/s, addressed to **PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.**, with details provided below:

PACE Code	PM-GDP-09-05-2025-004
Name of Client	PETRONILO L. ILAGAN
Contact Number / Email	0905-497-9574 / phhaiyanadvocacy6500@gmail.com
Address	No.1 Bayview Homes Subd., Brgy. 88, San Jose Tacloban City
Nature of Request	Suggestions
Details	Request to repeal DPWH Department Order No. 73, Series of 2014

A reply direct to the party/ies concerned, copy furnished the Center, citing the abovementioned PACE Code, will be highly appreciated. Further, the purpose of this letter is to only forward the attached correspondence and should not, in any way be construed as interceding in the recipient's own evaluation and action, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


DIR. RYAN JOSEPH A. SARTE
Head

GDP
Enclosure/s: a/s
cc.: party/ies concerned

PRESIDENTIAL ACTION CENTER
PACE Building, Malacañang Complex, JP Laurel Street,
San Miguel, Manila City 1005, Metro Manila, Philippines
T: 8249.8310 local 8175 | E: pace@op.gov.ph



No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City

Email: humanenadvocacy3500@gmail.com Website: www.humanenadvocacy.com

Mobile no: +639 05-497-9574 / +639 62-105-9169

4 September 2025

His Excellency
President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos, Jr.
Malacañang Palace
Manila

Office of the President
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

OP Copy



Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

090425-MIRO-190519

Thru: **HON. LUCAS P. BERSAMIN**
Executive Secretary

Subject: **Request for Presidential Intervention to Repeal DPWH Department Order No. 73, s. 2014, and Reinstate Tree Planting in Road Right-of-Way Areas**

Your Excellency:

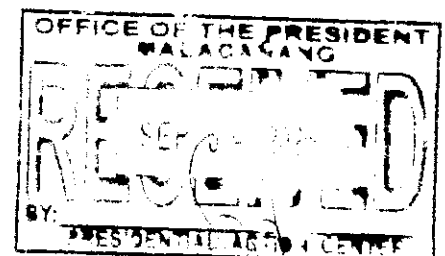
Warm greetings!

We write to earnestly seek your intervention in addressing a policy matter of urgent environmental and national significance. DPWH Department Order (DO) No. 73, Series of 2014, which prohibits tree planting within road right-of-way (RROW) areas, has unintentionally hindered efforts to build climate resilience, enhance roadside safety, and promote environmental stewardship.

While DO No. 73, s. 2014 was issued in response to the devastation caused by Super Typhoon Yolanda, its continued enforcement more than a decade later prevents the integration of green infrastructure strategies that could help mitigate worsening climate risks. Restoring tree planting in RROW areas would:

- Reduce urban heat, flooding, and soil erosion;
- Improve air quality and biodiversity; and
- Support national greening and climate resilience initiatives.

We have formally appealed to DPWH Secretary Vince Dizon and DENR Secretary Raphael Lotilla to revisit and repeal this policy. However, given the urgency of climate action and your administration's strong environmental leadership, we respectfully request your guidance and endorsement to direct the DPWH and DENR to jointly formulate updated, science-based guidelines for safe and sustainable roadside tree planting.



We are enclosing copy of our letter to DENR for your review. We would be honored to work closely with your administration in transforming this advocacy into a nationwide program that balances road safety with environmental sustainability.

Thank you very much for your time and leadership. We remain steadfast in supporting your vision for a safer, greener, and climate-resilient Philippines.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PR' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
President

Enclosure:
Letter to DENR Secretary Raphael P.M. Lotilla

No. 1 Beta Bayview Homes Subd. Barangay 88, San Jose Tacloban City
Email: Website:
Mobile no: +639 05-497-9574 / +639 62-105-9169

3 September 2025

HON. RAPHAEL P. M. LOTILLA
Secretary
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

Thru: HON. ARTURO N. SALAZAR, DM., CESO IV
OIC-Regional Executive Director

Subject: Request for DENR Support for the Repeal of DPWH Department
Order No. 73, Series of 2014

Dear Secretary Lotilla,

Warm greetings!

We respectfully write to request your invaluable support in our advocacy to repeal DPWH Department Order (DO) No. 73, Series of 2014, which prohibits tree planting within road right-of-way (RROW) areas. This policy, which superseded earlier issuances that permitted tree planting, has unintentionally discouraged environmental protection, climate resilience, and sustainable roadside landscaping in the country.

We believe that restoring tree planting within RROW areas is critical for mitigating urban heat islands, reducing flood risks, improving air quality, enhancing roadside aesthetics, and contributing to biodiversity conservation—all consistent with the DENR's mission of environmental sustainability and the government's commitments under national climate action plans.

We understand that DPWH Secretary Vince Dizon is currently focused on addressing massive corruption within the Department, a mission he has made clear as his top priority. However, we are confident that with the DENR's strong endorsement, Secretary Dizon will also recognize the national significance of this policy reform and find time to address this pressing environmental concern.

For your reference, we are attaching a copy of our letter to Secretary Dizon appealing for his action on the repeal of DO 73, Series of 2014. We respectfully request your office to consider issuing an endorsement or support letter to Secretary Dizon advocating for the reinstatement of tree planting initiatives along RROW areas and the repeal of this outdated policy.

We thank you for your leadership in protecting and restoring our environment, and we look forward to your positive action on this urgent appeal.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PETE L. ILAGAN', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN
Chairman and CEO

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Proverbs 9:10)