



PRESS RELEASE

METRO PACIFIC and DPWH fast track implementation of NLEX-SLEX Connector project

Metro Pacific Tollways Development Corp. (MPTDC) and its subsidiary, Manila North Tollways Corporation (MNTC), have formally submitted the Post-Award Requirements to the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in compliance with the conditions precedent for the construction and operation of the eight-kilometer NLEX-SLEX Connector Road.

Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC) Chairman Manuel V. Pangilinan handed the requirements to DPWH Secretary Mark A. Villar during a simple ceremony held at Shangri-La, The Fort. Assisting Pangilinan are MPIC President Jose Ma K. Lim and MPTDC and MNTC President Rodrigo E. Franco. MPIC is the parent company of MPTDC and MNTC.

MPTDC bagged the P23.2-billion NLEX-SLEX Connector Road project after no comparative proposals were submitted to the DPWH on the deadline set by the implementing agency July 25. MPTDC designated MNTC as the project company for the Connector Road.

DPWH Secretary Mark Villar said the award of the NLEX-SLEX Connector is part of the Duterte administration's effort to fast-track much-needed infrastructure projects while ensuring faithful compliance with all the legal requirements.

“Once completed, the NLEX-SLEX Connector Road Project will decongest Metro Manila traffic and provide better access to seaports and airports. It will reduce travel time from NLEX to SLEX by at least 60%. Instead of the usual 1.5 to 2 hours, traffic time would now be reduced to about 20 to 30 minutes,” Villar said.

“MPTDC’s early compliance is consistent with the Department’s commitment to deliver efficient infrastructure. This is a good start. It is after all the Duterte Administration’s first PPP project,” he added.

For his part, MPIC Chairman Manuel V. Pangilinan said the MVP Group is very pleased with the present government’s approval of important infrastructure projects.

“We are happy that infrastructure projects such as the NLEX-SLEX Connector Road is moving at a faster pace. Our team looks forward to the timely construction and completion of the project as we aim to provide convenient travel to our motorists,” Pangilinan said.

The NLEX-SLEX Connector Road will traverse 5th Avenue/C3 Road in Caloocan City passing through Blumentrit and España, connecting with the Skyway Stage 3 at PUP Sta. Mesa. The elevated roadway will utilize portions of the existing right of way of the Philippine National Railway.

MPTDC President Rodrigo E. Franco said, “MPTDC and MNTC have complied with all the requirements stated in the Notice of Award, 10 days in advance, to jump start the construction of this vital infrastructure that will provide seamless connection for motorists going to and from the North and South.”

Among the requirements submitted are the construction performance security amounting to P471 million and proof of payment of the project’s Transaction Advisory fees sourced from the Project Development and Monitoring Facility. Also submitted are letters of intent and term sheets from reputable financial institutions relating to credit facilities of up to P23.2 billion to cover the project cost.

Through its toll road subsidiaries, MPIC is the largest toll road developer and operator in the country, handling 60 percent of the country’s 320 kilometers of toll roads.

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