



Makati @ 352:

Toward a Resilient and Livable Smart City

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Makati has proven to be a model of resilience and adaptability in the face of adversity. The city has emerged stronger from the pandemic and is poised for an even more prosperous 2022 with its strong leadership, efficient governance, and commitment to the welfare of its citizens.

Under the leadership of **Mayor Abby Binay**, Makati has taken a proactive approach to COVID-19, implementing a wide range of measures to safeguard the health and welfare of its citizens.

These measures include free COVID-19 testing and treatment, food and other essential items to residents in need, a 24/7 hotline to provide information and assistance to residents, and the immediate and efficient distribution of cash assistance to low-income residents through the GCash component of its Makatizen Card.

In August 2021, Makati released the state-funded P511.98-million cash aid via electronic cash transfer. The city government released 52 percent of that amount to 233,679 qualified residents on the first day of distribution.

The city has also invested heavily in digital solutions to continue providing efficient services despite the pandemic.

Makati City's response to COVID-19 has been exemplary, and it is clear that the city is well-prepared to face any future challenges with a proactive leadership.



BAKUNA MAKATI PROGRAM

Rolled out on March 5, 2021, the Bakuna Makati program not only provided Makatizens several venues for on-site vaccination against COVID-19, but offered the first Vaccination On-The-Go (VAX-OTG) site at Circuit Makati. This innovation, the first in the country, greatly helped senior citizens, persons with disabilities, as well as those with comorbidities.

The city set a target of 437,192 individuals, roughly 70 percent of the population, to achieve herd immunity. As of May 24, 2022, Makati has administered 1,348,253 doses of anti-COVID vaccine and 530,318 individuals have been fully vaccinated. The city has also given 256,412 booster shots to residents and non-residents.

CONTINUITY OF SERVICE

During the pandemic, Makati maximized the use of technology to ensure the continued delivery of social services and dispense daily functions at City Hall. Even with the lockdowns, businesses and residents were able to renew their papers, pay taxes and other obligations online.

In October 2021, Makati created a one-stop-shop or satellite office at SM Makati. The Makatizen Hub is still open Monday to Friday, 10AM to 5PM, to decongest Makati City Hall. It accommodates residents and employees applying for their Makatizen Card and in other transactions, including the updating and issuance of Digital Vaccination Certificate of individuals going abroad, and payments for Mayor's permits, health certificates, and real property and business taxes.

Patients with kidney problems receive free dialysis apart from their PhilHealth benefits. The city has partnered with private dialysis centers around the city so more patients can be accommodated while minimizing their risk of exposure to COVID-positive patients.

Yellow Card holders continue to enjoy the health privileges that come with being a member of the Makati Health Plus program. The city gives free medicine, especially maintenance medicine for high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, and other medical conditions.



NO ONE LEFT BEHIND

When classes were suspended in 2020 because of the pandemic, Makati turned to technology to ensure that young Makatizens continued to learn through the blended learning format.

The city and DepEd-Makati provided students with OTGs that contained lessons and modules. Mobile Learning Hubs or jeepneys equipped with computers and other learning materials were deployed to assist students and parents without internet access. The city also gave teachers laptops and internet loads so they could continue to teach without fail.

In September, 61,547 students from Kinder to Senior High School, including Special Education (SPED) and Alternative Learning System (ALS) students, each received modules, a bag, uniform, leather shoes, AB or Air Binay rubber shoes, school supplies, and other essential supplies needed for Oplan Balik Eskwela 2021.

IBA ANG ALAGANG MAKATIZEN

Because life and love continue amid the pandemic, Makati has introduced the "Mask Wedding" at the Washington Sycip Park in Legaspi Village, an outdoor venue where strict health and safety protocols are observed.

The city government has also stepped up its health delivery initiatives through a partnership with Life Nurture Inc. for the first public-private partnership (PPP) hospital in the Philippines: the Makati Life Medical Center on Malugay Street in District 1.

Makati Life is envisioned as a 14-floor smart hospital equipped with the best medical technologies and medical informatics, and is also pandemic-proof. Designed as an inclusive hospital, it will expand the city government's platform to deliver excellent treatment and health care to all Makatizens in the city's two districts.

The P9.77-billion hospital with 360 beds, 192 doctor's clinics, and multiple specialty centers will be rolled out in phases, starting with the opening of 24/7 primary and urgent care facility within first half of 2022. By yearend, in-patient services will be started with the first 100 beds in place. The hospital is targeted for full completion by the first quarter of 2024.

Makati Life has received the Public-Private Healthcare Partnership of the Year Award from the Healthcare Asia Awards.

The Makati Columbarium is also near completion. The facility, which occupies the 4,000-square meter lot along Kalayaan Avenue where the municipal cemetery used to be, has two buildings that will house a chapel, viewing areas, cremation area, and 14,784 urn vaults.

By offering free cremation and inurnment services at the columbarium, the city ensures that all Makatizens, regardless of economic stature, will have a dignified burial.

Recently, Mayor Abby led the inauguration of new community complexes in barangays Valenzuela, Comembo, Rizal, Palanan, West Rembo, Olympia, and San Antonio. She envisions these facilities as buzzing hubs of activities for Makatizens of all ages that will strengthen unity and cooperation and promote wellness in every community.

CHAMPIONING THE ENVIRONMENT

Mayor Abby Binay wants Makati to be at the front and center of climate action initiatives and in championing the environment.

Makati has been actively pushing climate initiatives and serving as an example to other cities in the country and Southeast Asia.

In August, Makati submitted its pledge to the Race-To-Resilience initiative that encourages cities all over the world to commit to undertaking risk and vulnerability assessments and concrete resilience actions.

For Makati, it is imperative to lay down sustainable solutions and participatory methods that consider local needs and priorities and make communities and private sectors joint actors in climate adaptation.

The city also revamped the Makati Local Climate Change Action Plan and the Makati Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Plan to mainstream climate change adaptation in day-to-day functions and integrate these measures into urban planning and design. This will provide Makati the flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.

Mayor Abby considers the Makati Subway her legacy project. The intra-city subway is expected to have a significant impact on city workers' mobility, with two million per day predicted to use the train system. It will also significantly affect air quality. By 2048, the subway is expected to reduce 2.3 million tons of carbon dioxide each year.



A LEGACY OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

For the fourth straight year, Makati City has received an "unmodified opinion" from the Commission on Audit (COA). This means that all of the reports "were presented fairly and in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles."

The Ospital ng Makati (OsMak) has received its second ISO 9001:2015 certification for complying with international standards in promoting quality healthcare.

Likewise, OsMak was granted a five-year accreditation from the Philippine Board of Emergency Medicine (PBEM), making it the first government hospital-based emergency medicine training program to ever receive a five-year accreditation.

ONWARD AND FORWARD

Now in her third term, Mayor Abby is committed to leaving behind a legacy of good governance and sustainability. Under her leadership, Makati has become a leader in disaster preparedness, climate action, and urban resilience. These initiatives will ensure that Makati remains a livable city for future generations.