PPP Center approves funding for advisory services to 3 transportation projects

THE Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center said its Project Development and Monitoring Facility (PDMF) Committee has approved funding to support three transport projects.

The committee approved the applications for funding filed by the Department of Transportation (DoTr) for the provision of transaction advisory services for the unsolicited proposals for regional Airports, the Air Traffic Services (ATS) – Air Navigation Services (ANS) Project, and the rehabilitation, expansion, operations and Maintenance (O&M) of the Light Rail Line 2 (LRT-2).

"The transaction advisory services are proposed to be provided by the International Finance Corp. (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, with extensive experience in PPPs in various sectors," the PPP Center said.

It noted that the unsolicited proposals for regional airports include the upgrade, expansion, and O&M of the Bohol-Panglao, Laguindingan, and Bicol International airports.

"The private sector will undertake the financing, design, constructing, upgrading, commissioning and the O&M of the airports," it added.

Meanwhile, the ATS-ANS project will include transaction advisory services. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**

FULL STORY

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DoE to resume certification of projects for expedited permits

THE Department of Energy (DoE) said it will once again certify energy projects of national significance (EPNS), which will qualify them for expedited permit processing.

Guidelines for the certification process due out in 60 days or so, the DoE said in an advisory dated Oct. 31.

The DoE said it will once more approve applications for EPNS status "to further rationalize and streamline the process of permitting and licensing of energy projects and thereby ensure their timely implementation."

"The EPNS certificates to be issued by the DoE pursuant to the prospective guidelines shall be applicable to energy projects, particularly with processes that are not integrated in the Energy Virtual One-Stop Shop (EVOSS) System," the DoE said.

In 2020, former Energy Secretary Alfonso G. Cusi put on hold EPNS certification to "evaluate the department's effectiveness in securing regulatory requirements of energy projects."

EPNS certification is authorized by Executive Order No. 30, signed by former President Rodrigo R. Duterte in 2017, which expedited the issuance of all regulatory and documentary requirements from local and National Government agencies.

EPNS certificates must be processed within 30 days from the complete submission of documentary requirements. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**

DA launches 3 World Bank-funded projects

THE Department of Agriculture (DA) launched three projects funded by the World Bank aimed at making farms and fisheries more climate-resilient.

"All these three projects will support the development of a more climate-resilient agriculture and fisheries sector in the Philippines," World Bank Country Director for the Philippines Ndiame Diop said.

According to the DA, the World Bank invested a combined $920 million in the projects. These are the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) Scale Up, Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project (MIADP), and the Philippine Fisheries and Coastal Resiliency Project (FISHCORE).

The PRDP Scale Up will be allocated $600 million, FISHCORE $200 million, and MIADP $120 million. — **Adrian H. Halili**

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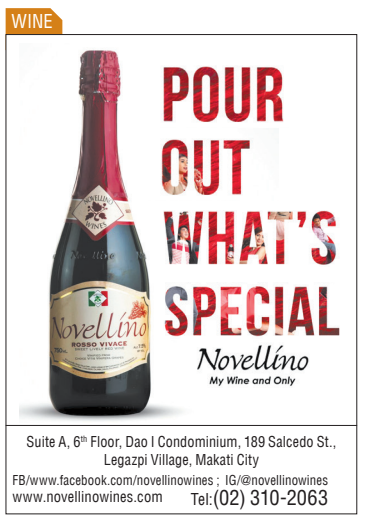

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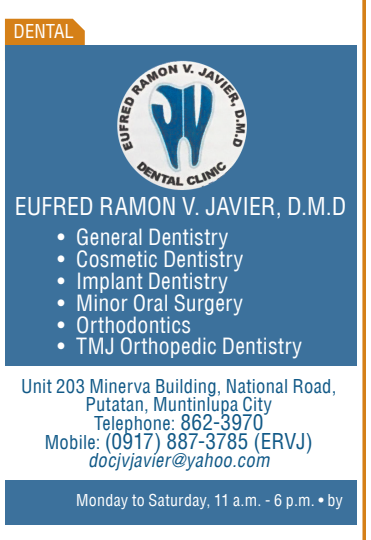

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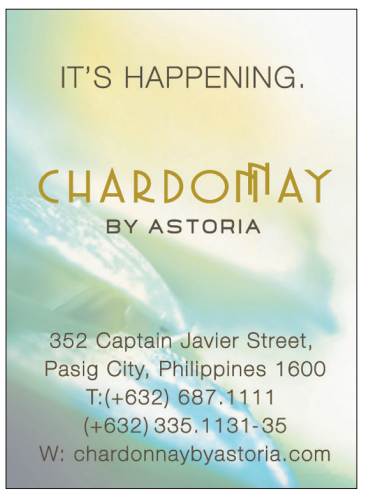

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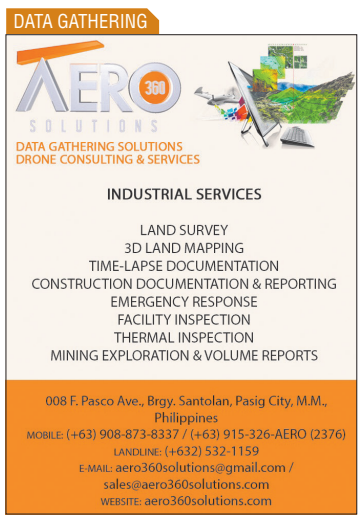

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