

**PRESS RELEASE
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PITX remains operational amidst ECQ in NCR Plus Bubble

The Parañaque Integrated Terminal Exchange (PITX) will continue to perform standard functional operations as the NCR Plus Bubble is put under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) from March 29 to April 4. The NCR Plus Bubble is composed of Metro Manila, Cavite, Rizal, Bulacan, and Laguna.

PITX, the country's first landport, ensured that it will not suspend terminal operations since based on the latest IATF Guidelines, public transportation is allowed to operate and is exempted from the earlier and longer curfew of 6:00 PM to 5:00 AM.

"Most of our passengers at PITX are part of the workforce; they are essential workers who need public transportation to be available so they can earn for a living, especially in this time of pandemic. We'll stay open to be of assistance," said PITX Corporate Affairs and Government Relations Head Jason Salvador.

During the first ECQ in 2020, the IATF did not allow public transportation to operate, forcing the terminal to temporarily shut down for almost four (4) months.

"It's business as usual for us this time," Mr. Salvador said. "We have the commitment of our transport partners, and we are also actively working with the government to make sure that our passengers can go home safely."

PITX TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

The IATF allows APORs, workers in permitted industries/offices/establishments, and those accessing essential goods/services to travel. Anyone below 18 years old and over 65 years old, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, other health risks, and pregnant women are also advised to stay home unless part of those allowed to go out.

To ensure strict compliance, PITX requires everyone entering the terminal to bring **any valid ID** and prepare supporting documents (e.g., Certificate of Employment, quarantine pass) for presentation upon entry. Transport operators are checking the said requirements as well before allowing passengers to board.

Vehicle Capacity

For public vehicles, only 50% maximum capacity is allowed.

- Buses – One seat apart, no standing passengers. (50% excludes driver and conductor)
- UV express – Two passengers per row; 1 passenger beside driver
- Jeepneys – One seat apart, no standing passengers, only one passenger allowed beside the driver if no conductor (50% excludes driver and conductor)
- Shuttle service – One seat apart; Guidelines in accordance with DTI-DOLE JMC No. 2020-04-A
- Tricycle – Only one passenger in the side car; no passenger beside or behind the driver
- Taxis/TNVs – Two passengers per row; one passenger beside the driver

- Motorcycle taxis – Subject to strict compliance with MC No. 03 s. 2020 by the National Task Force for COVID 19

Provincial buses are allowed to travel, provided that it carries only APORs as passengers, and that these are point-to-point trips.

PITX COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS

Only take-out and delivery options are allowed for restaurants in PITX. Management encourages customers to use food delivery apps to also aid delivery riders in their means of livelihood.

Non-essential businesses such as retail and shopping stores are closed. Meanwhile, convenience stores such as 7-11, Lawson, and Alfamart will remain operational.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The following preventive health measures are strictly implemented at PITX:

1. Mandatory wearing of face masks and face shields

Everyone entering PITX will be required to wear a face mask and face shield while inside the terminal premises. No face mask and face shield, no entry.

2. Physical distancing

A distance of 1.5 to 2 meters between individuals shall be strictly observed in the terminal. Floor stickers, signages, and other markings are installed for passengers' compliance.

3. Mandatory temperature scanning

- Everyone shall undergo temperature scanning prior to entry. Those with a body temperature of above 37.5°C, as well as those exhibiting symptoms of COVID 19 shall be denied entry to the terminal and will be escorted to a designated isolation area.
- A team of medical personnel will perform an initial assessment on the individual using the DOH Decision Tool for COVID-19, before deciding whether to clear for release or refer the case to the Parañaque LGU.
- The Isolation Area shall be properly disinfected upon release of the individual.

4. Shoe disinfection

Everyone shall pass through the shoe disinfection station prior to entry for proper footwear sanitation. Hand-sanitizing stations are also found in different key terminal areas for terminal users. Thorough sanitation and disinfection of the facility will also continue.

5. Ample signages and reminders

Reminders for the safety measures shall be posted throughout the terminal premises for the guidance of passengers.

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About the Parañaque Integrated Terminal Exchange

The Parañaque Integrated Terminal Exchange (PITX) is the country's first landport, and the first ever integrated and multimodal transport hub in the Philippines. It aims to improve the overall commuting experience of Filipinos by providing seamless interconnectivity between different modes of public transportation. PITX is operated by MWM Terminals, Inc. under a 35-year Build-Transfer-Operate contract.

