

## Republic of the Philippines

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Manila

JAN 3 1 2023

DEPARTMENT ORDER	) SUBJEC	CT: COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING
	)	POLICIES ON RELEASE OF FUNDS
4.	)	FOR EXPENDITURE ITEMS
17	)	REQUIRING ISSUANCE OF SARC
NO	_)	UNDER FY 2023 GAA
Series of 2023		
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In line with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) issuance of National Budget Circular (NBC) No. 590 dated January 3, 2023 prescribing the policies, rules and regulations on the release of funds in FY 2023 as authorized under the Republic Act (R.A. No. 11936) or the FY 2023 General Appropriations Act (GAA), all Regional Directors, Project Directors, and District Engineers are hereby directed to strictly comply with existing policies for the release of Special Allotment Release Order (SARO) and implementation of infrastructure projects including but not limited to the following:

- a. the project should be completed and paid within the validity of the appropriation or until 31 December 2024;
- b. the project should be implementation-ready as vetted by the Implementing Office;
- no other funding has been requested or released for the same purpose (project/activity);
- d. the lot where the project will be implemented is owned by the Government;
- e. the location, areas or sites of all infrastructure projects are not included in the critical geo-hazard areas or no build zones identified or certified by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau;
- f. the standards of construction, rehabilitation, improvement or repair of all infrastructure projects in all areas and zones, including the standards on rehabilitation or construction of government buildings or office spaces, and the acquisition or outright purchase of lots and buildings, are consistent with the pertinent rules and regulations of the Department or other relevant agencies, which shall consider, among others, the structural strength and climate and disaster resilience required for infrastructure projects in all areas and zones; and
- g. the planning and construction of infrastructure projects to be implemented within the National Integrated Protected Areas are done in a way that eliminates or minimizes the risk of biodiversity loss while the specifications thereon are in accordance with those determined by the Department, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Major infrastructure projects may only be undertaken in said areas if intended to enhance biodiversity. All concerned shall consider climate data and risk assessment and green building.

standards in the planning, designing, construction, engineering and renovation of government buildings and facilities.

In addition, the above officials are likewise directed to adhere to the existing rules on modification of allotments as provided under the GAA and the Department's issuances. Those that can not be modified or otherwise unimplementable should immediately, or until 30 June 2023, unless due to force majeure, be declared as such and their funds returned as savings accordingly.

Non-compliance with this Order and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations shall render the concerned Regional Directors, Project Directors and District Engineers legally liable and shall be dealt with accordingly.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Department of Public Works and Highways Office of the Secretary

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