

Seventeenth Congress
Second Regular Session

A circular purple ink stamp from the House of Representatives. The outer ring contains the text "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES" at the top and "BILLS & INDEF DIVISION" at the bottom. In the center, the word "RECEIVED" is printed in large, bold, capital letters. Below "RECEIVED", there are three horizontal lines for recording the date, time, and the name of the person who received the document. The date "07 SEP 2017" is handwritten on the first line. The time "2:10 pm" is handwritten on the second line. The name "Joseph" is handwritten on the third line.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The traffic in Metro Manila has been the subject of widespread criticism and is notorious within and without the Philippines. Waze, the GPS-based navigation app, has even dubbed Metro Manila to have the “worst traffic on earth”. This unfortunate situation adversely affects not only automobile-owners and commuters but the pedestrians as well. Due to heavy traffic and road congestion, our major thoroughfares in the Metro have become very unsafe for people who choose to walk to get from one place to another. Even people who prefer to ride bicycles are displaced by the worsening condition of traffic in Metro Manila.

The passage of this bill seeks to address the traffic problems identified earlier. The construction of elevated walkways and bike-lanes along the Epifanio Delos Santos Avenue (EDSA) will provide a safer and more secured passageway for pedestrians and bicycle riders alike. As proven by some of the most industrialized countries in the world, elevated walkways and bike-lanes have the capacity to provide a more efficient and streamlined mode of transportation to the residents of a specific area. And by opening to the public such an important space, this endeavor will also promote healthy living and a cleaner environment by encouraging Filipinos to seek an alternative to riding automobiles.

Furthermore, the passage of this bill will also fulfill one of the main thrusts of the Duterte administration that is to invest on and create more infrastructures for the benefit of the Filipino people and our future generations.

Thus, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

MANUEL ANTONIO F. ZUBIRI
Representative
3rd District, Bukidnon

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

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House Bill No. **6353**

Introduced by **REP. MANUEL ANTONIO F. ZUBIRI**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING ELEVATED WALKWAYS
AND BIKE-LANES ALONG EDSA**

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the **“Inclusive Mobility Act of 2017”**.

Section 2. Definition of Terms. –

“Elevated walkways and bike-lanes” shall refer to a platform constructed above the ground which shall serve as thoroughfare for pedestrians and bike-riders.

“EDSA” shall refer to the Epifanio Delos Santos Avenue, the longest and busiest thoroughfare in Metro Manila.

“MMDA” shall refer to the Metro Manila Development Authority, upon whom the administration of the elevated walkways and bike-lanes and enforcement of laws and regulations related thereto shall be delegated.

Section 3. Scope. – This Act shall require the establishment of elevated walkways and bike-lanes at strategic locations to be identified and designated by the MMDA after appropriate studies along the entirety of EDSA, taking into consideration, among others, public safety and convenience, volume of foot traffic, and other factors.

Section 4. Regulation of the elevated walkways and bike-lanes. – All parts of the elevated walkways and bike-lanes shall be designed, constructed, and maintained in strict compliance with prevailing rules and regulations.

The public safety and security of the elevated walkways and bike-lanes shall be the primary consideration in their design and construction. In this connection, the MMDA shall ensure that sufficient safety measures such as but not limited to the installation and continued operation of high definition CCTV cameras, deployment of round-the-clock roving security personnel, and the like are strictly implemented for the operation of the elevated walkways and bike-lanes.

Section 5. Responsibility for Administration and Enforcement. – The MMDA shall serve as the government agency primarily responsible for the full implementation, administration, and enforcement of the provisions of this Act. In this capacity, the MMDA shall coordinate with all national and local government offices and agencies concerned, including without limitation, the Department of Budget, the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Philippine National Police, and the appropriate local government units in Caloocan City, Quezon City, Pasig City, Mandaluyong City, Makati City, and Pasay City, which governmental offices and bodies are

hereby enjoined, under pain of possible administrative and/or criminal sanctions, to render their full and unqualified support and cooperation to attain the purposes of this Act.

Section 6. Prohibition Against the Establishment and Operation of Commercial Establishments within the Elevated Walk-Ways and Bike-Lanes.

- The establishment and operation of any and all commercial establishments, billboards, advertisements, and the like within the elevated walk-ways and bike-lanes shall be strictly prohibited. The installation and maintenance of any structure that may impede the visibility of the interior of the elevated walk-ways and bike-lanes and/or otherwise interfere with the smooth flow of traffic therein shall likewise be prohibited. Violators of this Section shall be prosecuted to the fullest extent of appropriate criminal laws and ordinances.

Section 7. Appropriation. – The funds required for the implementation of this Act shall be taken from the budget of the Department of Public Works and Highways for the current fiscal year.

Thereafter, the amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year immediately following its enactment into law and and every year subsequent thereto.

Section 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the MMDA, in full consultation with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), shall adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations, to carry out the provisions of this Act and which shall be effective fifteen (15) days following their publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) major daily newspapers of general circulation.

Section 9. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 10. Repealing Clause. – All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to this Act are hereby deemed accordingly repealed or amended.

Section 11. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,