

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Metro Manila
Nineteenth Congress
Third Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-second day of July, two thousand twenty-four.

RESOLUTION NO. 261

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE STRONG SUPPORT AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE INCLUSION OF THE PROPOSED "LUZON EASTERN SEABOARD ROAD NETWORK" IN THE GOVERNMENT'S INFRASTRUCTURE FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS AND THE EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "NORTH LONG HAUL RAILWAY PROJECT," AND URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PRIORITIZE THE PREPARATION OF THE FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF BOTH PROJECTS

WHEREAS, in his first State of the Nation Address, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. highlighted the vital role of infrastructure in rebuilding the economy;

WHEREAS, to support this objective, the government launched the "Build-Better-More" infrastructure program which consists of 198 identified high-impact Infrastructure Flagship Projects (IFPs) that are sustainable, resilient, and innovative initiatives aimed to redefine the economic landscape, advance social

and regional development, and propel the country's competitiveness level at par with our neighboring countries;

WHEREAS, big-ticket infrastructure projects bring economic benefits and develop the potential growth of the countryside, reduce travel time, lower logistics costs, ease road congestion, enhance inter-island connectivity, promote industrialization, provide access to markets and government services, generate livelihood and employment, provide opportunities for investments to local businesses, and attract investors;

WHEREAS, to pursue rural development, the Luzon Eastern Seaboard Road Network is envisioned to link the economic activities across regions;

WHEREAS, proposed to be implemented in phases, from 2023 to 2024, the Luzon Eastern Seaboard Road Network is estimated to cost Php86.13 Billion as per masterplan of the Department of Public Works and Highways indicative 785-kilometer (km) stretch traversing Regions I, II, and IV-A with 8 identified road sections as follows: 1) Sta. Ana-Bolos Point (45 km); 2) Bolos Point-Palanan (209.49 km); 3) Palanan-Dinalungan (127.65 km); 4) Dinalungan-Baler (83.687 km); 5) Baler-Dingalan (89.752 km); 6) Dingalan-Infanta (97 km); 7) Infanta-Mauban (80.81 km); and 8) Mauban-Atimonan (52.098 km);

WHEREAS, the North Long Haul Railway Project, an identified Infrastructure Flagship Program of the Marcos administration under the Department of Transportation, is an 800-km interregional railway system in Northern Luzon connecting the National Capital Region (NCR), Region I, Region II, and Region III, to be implemented in 4 phases: Phase 1 covers the 236-km NCR-La Union line; Phase 2 involves the 116-km La Union-Ilocos Sur line; Phase 3 includes the 67-km Ilocos Sur-Ilocos Norte line; and Phase 4 comprises 434-km traversing the Cagayan Valley Region;

WHEREAS, this project will consist of passenger railway stations, cargo terminals, maintenance depots, operations control centers, connectivity to seaports, and trans-oriented developments envisioned to link strategic airports and seaports along its route;

WHEREAS, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) confirms that the North Long Haul Railway is under project preparation and the Luzon Eastern Seaboard

Road Network, which is still undergoing pre-feasibility studies, has yet to be submitted to the NEDA Board-Investment Coordination Committee;

WHEREAS, neither of the 2 projects is listed in the IFPs approved by the NEDA Board nor included in the priority programs and projects of the Department of Public Works and Highways under the Public Investment Program 2023-2028 and Three-Year Rolling Infrastructure Program 2024-2026;

WHEREAS, considering the huge impact and national significance of the proposed projects, it is the collective sense of the proponents and stakeholders that these projects will greatly contribute to the economic development of Regions I, II, and IV-A: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, To express the strong support and endorsement of the House of Representatives on the inclusion of the proposed "Luzon Eastern Seaboard Road Network" in the government's Infrastructure Flagship Programs and the early implementation of the "North Long Haul Railway Project," and urging the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Department of Transportation to prioritize the preparation of the feasibility studies of both projects.

Adopted,


 FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ
Speaker

This Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on November 6, 2024.


 REGINALD S. VELASCO
Secretary General