

AYALA ALABANG VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, NARRA ST., AYALA ALABANG VILLAGE MUNTINLUPA CITY

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16 December 2014

DE LA SALLE ZOBEL SCHOOL

University Avenue Muntinlupa City

ATTENTION

: Brother Bernie Oca

RE

: Proposed Color-coding Scheme

Dear Bro. Bernie,

This refers to our last meeting held December 2, 2014 whereby I informed you, on behalf of the Ayala Alabang Village Association ("AAVA") Board of Governors of its collective decision to implement a color-coding scheme for motor vehicles ferrying students of De La Salle Santiago Zobel School ("DLSZ") to reduce the number of vehicles entering and exiting the village during school days. You then made an appeal to once again try another alternative of clustering students who live closest to each other and encourage them to car-pool.

Please recall that in our previous discussion, the root cause of the traffic problem has been identified; it is the increased number of students enrolled in DLSZ who are not residents of Ayala Alabang Village (the "Village") without foresight or regard to the ensuing traffic and pollution implications that would be created. The current DLSZ population is four thousand three hundred students, and about seventy percent or over three thousand of which are non-residents.

This number of non-resident students require some 1,200 vehicles to ferry them to the school. Since it appears that this number will only increase over time, the board of governors have agreed that the only way to then reduce the number of vehicles ferrying students is for DLSZ to provide more school buses and require car-pooling among the students. With this number of 1,200 cars ferrying outsiders into the village, we started trying these alternatives early in the year with the goal of reducing this number to 800 vehicles by end of November 2014. While the number went down to over 1,000 by September, it went up again to over our starting base number of 1,200 by October.

Despite the implementation of a bussing system and the so called "efforts" of DLSZ to encourage students to car-pool, the number of vehicles has recently increased to 1,787. The problem has actually worsened. This result simply proves that the parents of the students have prioritized their convenience over the welfare of the affected homeowners and are not cooperating with AAVA and the DLSZ Administration.

The AAVA Board has given you immeasurable leeway since April 2014 to try all possible means to reduce the volume of vehicles ferrying students into DLSZ. However, we feel that the school's management had not exerted the required effort to encourage and compel the parents of your students to snare the burden of sacrifice to reach the desired goal of reducing vehicle volume within the Village for the mutual benefit of the students and the residents of the Village.

While we are more than willing to accommodate DLSZ students to enter the Village and receive a good education, our hospitality has to be reciprocated by a real and concerted effort on the part of the school's administration, student body and parents to preserve the welfare and well being of our residents who are affected by the volume of cars and students regularly entering the Village. The AAVA feels that there is a lack of genuine desire on the part of DLSZ to create change that will improve the situation. The product of this indifference is the continued suffering of residents from the nuisance, pollution, congestion, noise, traffic and the risk to life and limb posed by the sheer number of vehicles within the Village, some of whom have blatantly disregarded traffic regulations imposed by the AAVA. We have been extraordinarily patient during the last eight months; however, we need to see results.

Therefore we, the Board of Governors have no other option but to move for the implementation of a color-coding scheme by our village management and security, which will start and take effect on February 3, 2015. The system will be as follows:

- 1. Only vehicles with white school stickers can enter the village through Madrigal gate on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Those vehicles with green stickers are not allowed to enter the village;
- 2. The opposite is true on Tuesdays and Thursdays when only the green stickers can enter the village through Madrigal Gate while those with white stickers cannot enter the village;
- 3. All school buses, whether privately owned or owned, which are officially commissioned or authorized by DLSZ are exempted from the scheme and can enter the village any time, similar to the shuttling service you offered your students some weeks ago;
- 4. Likewise, all service vehicles of DLSZ whether cars, vans or buses are exempted from the scheme;
- 5. Parents are allowed to pick up their children who stayed in school after class hours for extra-curricular activities regardless of the color of their stickers after 6 pm.

6. The AAVA may suspend the color-coding scheme for special events officially sanctioned by DLSZ (i.e. family days, graduations, school fair, etc.) provided that the school makes a formal written request at least seven (7) days from the date of the scheduled event. The AAVA will inform the DLSZ of its decision within two (2) days from its receipt of the formal request.

We will appreciate your full cooperation in the orderly conduct of our color coding system for the benefit of all concerned.

Yours truly

Epifanio S. Joaquin

President

Copy furnished:

Village Manager - Arturo V. Briones

AAVA Board Governors

Chairman Ruben Baes, Barangay Ayala Alabang

Mayor Jaime R. Fresnedi, Muntinlupa City