



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 Caraga Region
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

DEPED-DIVISION OF SURIGAO DEL SUR	
RELEASED	
DATE:	November 21, 2025
TIME:	3:12 PM
SIGNATURE:	

Division MEMORANDUM
 No. 519, s. 2025

To: All Public Schools District Supervisors/ District In-Charge
 All School Principal/School Heads/TIC's
 All other concerned

**REMOVAL OF UNAUTHORIZED BARRIERS AND OBSTRUCTIONS ALONG
 NATIONAL HIGHWAYS SPECIFICALLY NEAR THE SCHOOL ZONES**

1. In compliance with Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Department Order No. 73, Series of 2014, and Section 23 of Presidential Decree No. 17, all concerned are hereby directed to act immediately. This directive is based on DPWH's letter dated November 4, 2025, reiterating the removal of unauthorized structures within the national road right-of-way.
2. All unauthorized barriers, barricades, and other obstructions along national roads, especially near school zones, must be removed without delay. These structures endanger public safety and disrupt traffic flow.
3. Attached herewith are the following for your reference: (1) DPWH official letter, (2) memorandum from Regional Director Alex B. Ramos, and (3) Department Order No. 73, Series of 2014.
4. PSDSs/DICs and school heads shall review these documents carefully to understand the legal basis and urgency of this directive.
5. Strict compliance is expected.

LORENZO O. MACASOCOL, PhD, CESO V
 Schools Division Superintendent

Encl.: As Stated
 References: None
 To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
 Under the following subjects:

SAFETY

SGOD/ram
 11/18/2025



Address: Balilahan, Mabua, Tandag City, Surigao del Sur, 8300
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 Email Address: surigaodelsur.division@deped.gov.ph
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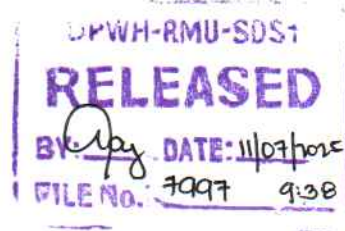


Republic of the Philippines
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
SURIGAO DEL SUR 1st DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE
 Tandag City, Surigao del Sur



November 4, 2025

Mr. LORENZO O. MACASOCOL, Ph.D, CESO V
 Schools Division Superintendent
 Surigao del Sur Division
 Balilahan, Tandag City, Surigao del Sur



SUBJECT : Removal of Unauthorized Barriers and Obstructions along National Highways

Dear Mr. Macasocol:

Good day!

We sincerely appreciate your continued efforts and initiatives in promoting the safety and security of both pedestrians and motorists. However, it has been observed that unauthorized barriers, barricade, and other obstructions have been installed along certain sections of the national highway specifically near school zones. These installations pose potential hazards, delay, confusion, and inconvenience to the travelling public.

In line with the provisions of Department Order No. 73, Series of 2014, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 23 of Presidential Decree (PD) No. 17, also known as the Revised Highway Act, as amended, immediate removal of all obstructions within the National Roads is hereby directed. We regret to inform you that pursuant to this Department Order, we request the immediate removal of unauthorized barriers, barricade, and other obstructions within the national road right-of-way.

Attached herewith is the memorandum from Regional Director Alex B. Ramos of DPWH Office XIII and the copy of the Department Order No. 73, Series of 2014 for your reference. Should you require assistance with the removal, please inform us so that appropriate support may be provided.

We sincerely appreciate your prompt action, cooperation, and understanding on this matter.

Very truly yours,

RUEL B. BANTUGAN, MPA
 District Engineer

&

FOR & IN THE ABSENCE OF THE
 DISTRICT ENGINEER

[Signature]
ANIABELLE L. TAMAS
 ASST. DISTRICT ENGINEER





JUL 07 2014

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Manila

097.130.1024
07.08.2014

DEPARTMENT ORDER)
NO. **73**)
Series of 2014)

**SUBJECT : PROHIBITED USES WITHIN THE
RIGHT-OF-WAY OF NATIONAL
ROADS**

The presence of fallen electrical and other utility poles, tangled/twisted transmission/distribution and other lines of cable, communications and utility service providers; and felled trees along national roads as a result of natural and man-made calamities create imminent danger to lives and properties and hamper speedy relief operations, prompt delivery of basic goods and services and the immediate restoration of damaged public infrastructure facilities.

In view hereof, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 23 of Presidential Decree (PD) No. 17, also known as the Revised Philippine Highway Act, as amended, declaring as unlawful for any person to usurp any portion of a right-of-way, to convert any part of any public highway, bridge, wharf or trail to his own private use or to obstruct the same in any manner; and the provisions of the National Building Code of the Philippines (PD No. 1096) and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, and in the interest of public safety and convenience and of the common good, all Regional/District Engineering Offices are hereby directed to immediately remove or cause the removal of all obstructions and prohibited uses within the right-of-way (ROW) of all national roads within their respective jurisdictions and henceforth prohibit the presence/occurrence of the following structures, objects and such other similar items and activities along our national roads as well as strictly disallow the building, erection, construction, planting, and fabrication of the same, thus:

1. All kinds of temporary and permanent structures, such as buildings, houses, shanties, stores, shops, stalls, sheds, canopies, billboards, signages, advertisements, fences, walls, railings, basketball courts, barangay halls, garbage receptacles, and the like;
2. Posts and towers of Electric Cooperatives and Major Electric Power Distributors; distribution lines; posts for cables of phones and mobile service providers;
3. Driveways and ramps occupying or protruding to the sidewalk;
4. Trees, shrubs, and plant boxes;
5. Humps, whether permanent or temporary;
6. Dumping and storage of construction materials, such as sand, gravel, cement, lumber and steel bars, earth spoils, waste materials, debris, embankment, heaps, and the like;
7. Vehicles and equipment, including junked items that are parked, occupying or protruding to the sidewalk or shoulder;
8. Vending, repair of vehicles, and other businesses within the sidewalk and other parts of ROW;

9. Disposal of household/commercial/industrial wastewater and sewage into the sidewalk, curb and gutter, and carriageway;
10. Raising of animals or allowing them to roam within the ROW;
11. Washing and drying of clothes, crops, and similar items;

Should clearing operations for road widening; improvement and/or rehabilitation are to be conducted, no compensation shall therefore be paid and allowed on the removal of these obstructions.

It is further directed that in cases where Applicants from Utility Agencies (collectively, Electric Cooperatives and Major Electric Power Distributors, Phones, Mobile, and Cable Service providers and the like) and its respective contractors shall request the construction, building and/or erection of posts and towers for their distribution lines, subject Applicants should therefore be advised that they should now commence the acquisition of their own right-of-way to fulfill their specific mandate. Note further that in the context of this Order, the ROW shall include the carriageway, curb and gutter, sidewalks, shoulders, canals and other portions within the defined road right-of-way.

On obstructions, the following tabulated formats under Annexes "A"; "B"; and "C" hereof shall be used by the Regional/District Engineering Offices with these duly filled-up formats to be submitted to this Office (copy furnished the Bureau of Maintenance, this Department) every end of the 1st and 2nd semester of the year.

- 1) Annex "A": Inventory of Obstructions within the Right-of-way of National Roads;
- 2) Annex "B": Due notices to the concerned persons and entities of the noted obstructions and prohibited uses and directing the voluntary removal of the same;
- 3) Annex "C": Status Report on the Removal of Obstructions.

This Department Order shall take effect immediately and shall supersede the following Departmental Issuances:

- 1) DO No. 29 s. 2012: *Removal of Illegal Structures and Obstructions within Right-of-Way of National Roads;*
- 2) DO No. 15 s. 2000: *Tree Planting along National Roads;*
- 3) DO No. 38 s. 2006: *Amendment to Department Order No. 15, series of 2000, Re: Tree Planting along National Roads;*
- 4) DO No. 52 s. 2003: *Removal of Obstructions and Prohibited Uses within the Right-of-Way of National Roads*


ROGELIO L. SINGSON
Secretary

Department of Public Works and Highways
Office of the Secretary



WIN4102416



Republic of the Philippines
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
REGIONAL OFFICE XIII
 J. Rosaes Avenue, Butuan City



OCT 23 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO : DISTRICT ENGINEERS
 This Region

407-1-1
 OCT 23 2025
 407-1-1

ATTENTION : Chief, Maintenance Section

SUBJECT : Department Order No. 73, Series of 2014, "Prohibited Uses Within the Right-of-Way of National Roads"

It has been observed that checkpoints, barricades and humps of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and Philippine Army are installed on the carriageway of our National Highway. Road barriers near the school zones are also noted. These obstructions have caused hazard, delay, confusion and inconvenience to the travelling public for not following the appropriate warning signs, proper location/distance and color scheme.

Though, the purpose of the PNP, Phil. Army and DepEd is to promote security and safety, the DPWH would emphasize that Philippine Highway Standards and certain conditions shall be considered. With the issuance of Department Order No. 73, series of 2014, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 23 of Presidential Decree (PD) No. 17, also known as the Revised Highway Act, as amended, immediate removal of all obstructions within the National Roads is hereby directed.

Please be informed that the Department of Economy, Planning and Development Regional Office XIII, Butuan City, have consulted this Office for the standard guidelines with regard to the matter. In response, submit on or before **October 28, 2025**, the corresponding report with geotagged photos to facilitate appropriate action, viz:

Type of Obstruction	Road Section & Kilometer Station	Location (Barangay, Municipality/City, Province)	Remarks
Agency: (PNP/Phil. Army/DepEd)			
1.			
2.			

For strict and immediate compliance.

ALEX B. RAMOS
 Regional Director

By Authority of
 the Regional Director:

VINCENT RODERICO O. ACEBES
 Engineer V
 Chief, Planning and Design Division

R13.3 MRP/CLRC

