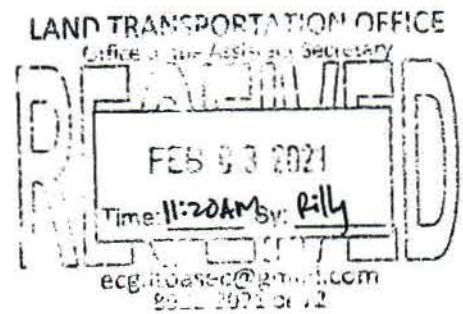




Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 2021 - 003

**Subject : ADDENDUM TO DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 2020-012
REQUIRING CASHLESS OR CONTACTLESS
TRANSACTION FOR ALL VEHICLES TRAVELING ON
TOLL EXPRESSWAYS**

Date : 29 JANUARY 2021



WHEREAS, pursuant to Title XV Chapter 1 of Executive Order No. 292 the Department of Transportation (DOTr) is the primary policy, planning, programming, coordinating, implementing and administrative entity of the Executive Branch of the government on the promotion, development and regulation of a dependable and coordinated network of transportation, as well as in the fast, safe, efficient and reliable transportation services and has the authority to administer and enforce all laws, rules and regulations relative to transportation;

WHEREAS, in the case of *Mirasol vs. DPWH and TRB* (G.R. No. 158793, 08 June 2006) the Supreme Court confirmed the authority of the then DOTC (now DOTr) to "regulate, restrict, or prohibit access to limited access facilities"; and

WHEREAS, to achieve social distancing and maximum efficiency in the use of the tollways, further mitigating and containing the transmission of COVID-19, the DOTr issued Department Order (DO) No. 2020-012 requiring cashless or contactless transaction of all vehicle traveling on toll expressways as valid exercise of its police power in view of promoting public health, good order, safety and general welfare of the people and the State;

WHEREAS, in addition to public health protection and promotion, DO No. 2020-012 also aims to encourage concessionaires and operators of toll expressways to transition to a one hundred percent (100%) electronic toll collection lanes; and to achieve interoperability between existing expressways and toll operations; and

WHEREAS, during transition, toll operations are on *status quo*; hence, there is a need to clarify and supplement DO No. 2020-012 for a more transparent and

systematic implementation of the Cashless and Contactless Toll Transactions Program.

NOW THEREFORE, I, ARTHUR P. TUGADE, Secretary of the Department of Transportation by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, hereby issues this Department Order supplemental to DO No. 2020-012.

Section 1. Objectives and Policies. The following objectives and policies shall be observed during the transition period in the implementation of the Cashless and Contactless Toll Transactions Program:

1. Vehicles with no Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) stickers shall be permitted to enter and traverse existing expressways. There shall neither be fines or penalty imposed upon, nor apprehension of, motorists/registered owners of vehicles with no RFID stickers.
2. Cash Lanes shall be maintained in all expressway toll plazas.
3. Designated "emergency lanes" shall be converted to toll transaction lanes (RFID or Cash). Proper and additional directional signage shall be installed to increase plaza capacity and to avoid confusion among motorists.
4. There shall be no mixed lanes, such that toll plaza lanes are designated either for "RFID" or for "Cash" transactions only. For small toll plazas (i.e., those having two (2) lanes), one lane must be for RFID and the other is for Cash transactions.
5. RFID sticker installation and reloading stations/lanes shall be transferred or repositioned away from the toll plazas, preferably at gasoline stations along the expressway, to relieve the plazas from queuing vehicles availing RFID stickers and/or account reloading.
6. Ambulance/emergency and law enforcement vehicles shall be allowed to pass thru any toll plaza lane.
7. Concerned government agencies shall study and implement, whenever feasible, barrier-less RFID toll plaza lanes for convenient and rapid pass thru of vehicles.
8. Additional toll marshals shall be assigned to assist motorists in major toll plazas.

All concerned attached agencies of the DOTr are hereby directed to observe and ensure a proper implementation of the foregoing objectives and policies.

Section 2. **Supplemental Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).** The Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) is hereby directed to promulgate a supplemental IRR to carry out the objectives and policies under this Department Order, within fifteen (15) days upon effectivity.




Section 3. **Mandatory and Regular Inspection and Audit of Expressway Toll Operations.** The oversight, inspection and audit functions of the TRB over all toll operations shall be exercised regularly, on a monthly basis. The accuracy, readability and verifiability of the system, among others, shall be included in the list of the Key Performance Indicators used for the said purpose.

The TRB Executive Director shall submit a Monthly Report to the Board within five (5) days upon conducting the said inspection and audit.

Section 4. **Separability Clause.** If any part or provision of this Order is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions which are not affected shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. **Repealing Clause.** All other Department Orders, Circulars, Special Orders, Office Orders and/or other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby superseded and/or modified accordingly.

Section 6. **Effectivity.** This Order shall take effect immediately and shall continue in force and effect unless otherwise amended, repealed or revoked.


ARTHUR P. TUGADE
Secretary


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