



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Department Order No. 2015-018

Subject: PREMIUM POINT-TO-POINT BUS SERVICES FOR GREATER MANILA¹

Introduction

1. Express bus service is defined as a type of bus service that takes passengers to a specified destination with fewer stops between origin and destination (OD) points in order to achieve significant travel time savings.
2. The Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) Order No. 97-1097 (as amended): "Providing Standard Classification for All Public Transport Conveyances", includes Express Services under Item 1. Public Utility Buses (PUB) and provides the legal basis for authorizing express bus services. This Departmental Order defines a category of express service in the Greater Manila area entitled "Premium Point-To-Point (P-To-P) Service".
3. P-to-P buses operate non-stop between off-street loading and unloading areas. Off-street loading/unloading areas may be commercial parking lots, building driveways, school/office/church parking lots, commercial complexes or shopping malls where passengers can alight and board, away from the on-street competition among public transport vehicles. Prospective operators of the P-to-P service will be required to organize their own access to the off-street loading and unloading areas that they plan to use, and to document such access in their applications to LTFRB.
4. The minimum specifications and operating characteristics for Premium P-to-P services are as follows:

Bus	a) Single-deck or double-deck (11-13 meters in length); b) With external color/branding as specified by LTFRB; c) Euro IV or better emission standard or clean alternative fuel with equivalent or better emissions (e.g., electric or hybrid vehicles); d) Maximum four (4) reclining seats per row; and e) Low floor entry (0.28m-0.38m) with space for one passenger with wheelchair, plus foldable or retractable wheelchair ramp at entry.
Ventilation	Airconditioned.
Routes	As determined and authorized by DOTC ²

¹ For the purposes of this Departmental Order, Greater Manila is the metropolitan area covering Metro Manila and the parts of surrounding provinces from where daily commuters to Metro Manila originate.

² DOTC Road Transport Planning Unit (TPU) may identify priority routes for development of new express services based on assessments of travel demand.

Fare

As authorized by LTFRB

Operating Conditions

- a) Service with scheduled trips and designated off-street stops for loading/unloading passengers;
- b) No loading/unloading of passengers outside of designated off-street stops;
- c) With on-board CCTV to enable recording of internal and external bus environment during operation;
- d) With vehicle tracking via on-board GPS device compliant with LTFRB specifications and driver console enabling two-way communication;
- e) With free wifi for all passengers;
- f) No standing passengers;
- g) With automatic fare collection system as one of the options for payment;
- h) Drivers under salary, with no compensation linked to ridership, but with incentives for better customer service and reduction of accidents;
- i) With facility for advance ticketing and seat booking via mobile phone and internet; and
- j) With lay-over area/garage sufficient to accommodate all units (space provision of at least 40 sqm. per unit; this should be over and above the existing garage/depot space of their current bus fleet).

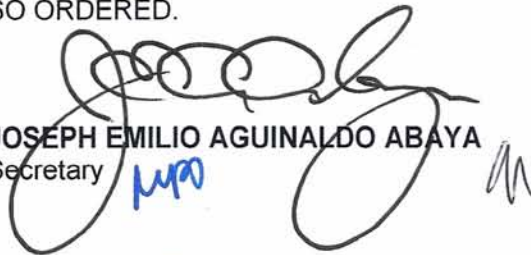
5. Prior to the operationalization of the Premium P-To-P services with the above features and operating conditions, LTFRB is authorized to invite and process applications for special permits to introduce interim P-To-P bus services.

6. LTFRB will have access to the real time GPS signals of all express buses and will monitor vehicle movements to measure travel times and ensure compliance with service standards and specifications (GPS real-time data will also be made publicly available to enable passengers to monitor bus movements/arrival times at terminals, on their phones and on other electronic devices).

7. The LTFRB is directed to promulgate the implementing Memorandum Circular within thirty (30) days from effectivity of this Order. If any part or provision of this Department Order is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions thereof which are not affected shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

8. This Department Order amends and supersedes all issuances inconsistent herewith, and shall take effect immediately following its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

SO ORDERED.


JOSEPH EMILIO AGUINALDO ABAYA
Secretary *MPA*



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