

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation  
**LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING & REGULATORY BOARD**  
East Avenue, Quezon City

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**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**  
**NUMBER 2021- 076**

**SUBJECT : SETTING THE APPLICABLE PASSENGER CAPACITY IN PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES (PUVs) NATIONWIDE**

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**WHEREAS**, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed Proclamation No. 922 entitled “Declaring a State of Public Health Emergency Throughout the Philippines” on 8 March 2020 in view of the reported COVID-19 cases in the country;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Memorandum Circular No. 2020-061 dated 15 October 2020, the Board has prescribed the required health protocols in all PUVs, mandating the observance of “one seat apart” system for passengers inside the PUVs nationwide;

**WHEREAS**, the Covid-19 infection rate in the Philippines has substantially declined as a result of the unceasing vaccination drive of the government across the country, as the economy is gradually opening and recovering;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the recommendation of the Department of Transportation (DOTr) to the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF), the latter issued Resolution No. 146, series of 2021 dated 28 October 2021 granting the increase in passenger capacity at seventy percent (70%), thus the Board consequently issued Memorandum Circular No. 2021-064 increasing the passenger capacity in PUVs operating in the National Capital Region (NCR) and nearby provinces included in the Metro Manila Urban Transportation Integration Study (MMUTIS) Update and Capacity Enhancement Project (MUCEP) to seventy percent (70%);

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Memorandum dated 25 November 2021, the Department of Transportation (DOTr) has recommended to further increase the passenger capacity as cities and provinces are already being placed into lower levels, pursuant to IATF-EID Resolution No. 149-C, series of 2021;

**NOW THEREFORE**, for and in consideration of the foregoing, the Board hereby sets the passenger capacity of road-based transportation services, in accordance to the following guidelines for the period covering **December 9, 2021 to January 4, 2022**:

1. For the National Capital Region (NCR) and nearby provinces included in the Metro Manila Urban Transportation Integration Study (MMUTIS) Update and Capacity Enhancement Project (MUCEP), the passenger capacity **REMAINS** at **SEVENTY PERCENT (70%)** subject to strict observance with the existing IATF-EID and DOH Health Protocols;
2. For Regions **surpassing the 30% vaccination rate as of 01 December 2021**, the

passenger capacity is hereby INCREASED from fifty percent (50%) to **SEVENTY PERCENT (70%)**, subject to the strict compliance with the existing IATF-EID and DOH health protocols. For consideration under this MC are the following Regions: Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), Regions I, II, III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI and CARAGA;

3. For the rest of the Regions, the passenger capacity of road-based transportation services shall remain at **FIFTY PERCENT (50%)**, subject to strict compliance with the IATF-EID and DOH health protocols.

Subsequent to the effectivity of this Circular, in case that regions increase their level of vaccination rate to more than thirty percent (30%), the corresponding adjustment in passenger capacity may be allowed. Accordingly, the Regional Franchising Regulatory Office (RFRO) shall comply with the following guidelines:

- Those surpassing thirty percent (30%) vaccination rate shall be allowed to increase their passenger capacity to Seventy Percent (70%) provided that prior to implementation, the concerned Regional Franchising Regulatory Office (RFRO) shall submit the appropriate Memorandum to the Board, attaching thereto a Certification of Vaccination Rate issued by the Regional IATF or Department of Health (DOH) Regional Office.

For Inter-Regional Routes, the following guidelines shall govern the allowed Passenger Capacity:

- For those going to Metro Manila, the passenger capacity shall be that which is allowed at the point of origin.
- For those coming from Metro Manila, the passenger capacity shall be that which is allowed at the point of destination.
- For inter-regional routes not touching Metro Manila, the passenger capacity shall be that with the lower passenger capacity rate between the point of origin and point of destination.

Attached hereto are the graphic representations of the 70% seating capacity for reference (Annexes "A", "B", "C" and "D").

All other provisions on the observance of required health protocols in the operation of public utility vehicles shall remain in full force and effect.

Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this MC shall be considered as a violation of the terms and conditions of their CPC and appropriate penalties shall be imposed against the operator, in accordance with the provisions of Joint Administrative Order No. 2014-01, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate charges as may be determined and filed by other enforcement agencies.

For violation/s committed by the drivers of PUVs, the Board may recommend to the Land Transportation Office (LTO) for the suspension of their Driver's License, also without prejudice to the filing of appropriate charges against the said driver, as may be determined and filed by other enforcement agencies.

All issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby superseded and amended accordingly.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately following its publication in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation. Let three (3) copies hereof be filed with the UP Law Center-Office of National Administrative Registrar (ONAR).

**SO ORDERED.**

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED THROUGH TELECONFERENCE**

on 07 December 2021, Quezon City, Philippines

**EFFECTIVITY**  
DATE: 09 DEC 2021

  
**ATTY. MARTIN B. DELGRA III**  
Chairman

  
**P/Col. JOEL C. PERNITO (Ret.)**  
Board Member

  
**ENGR. SHERWIN MYLIL S. BEGYAN**  
Board Member

Attested by:

  
**MARIA KRISTINA E. CASSION**  
Executive Director

# ANNEX A

Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board  
PUB (COACH) 70% SEATING CAPACITY

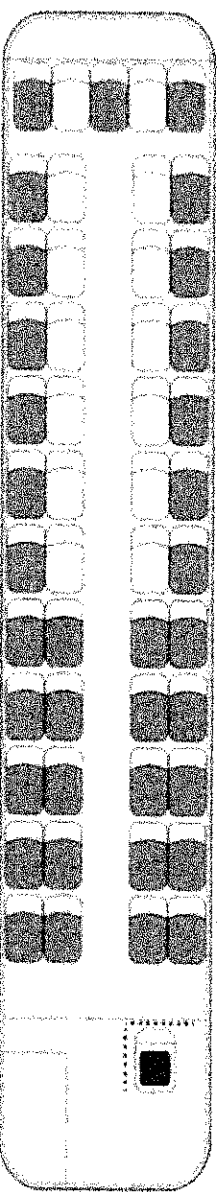
**PUB TYPE**  
**Seating Capacity**

**Allowed Passengers**

## ILLUSTRATION ON SEATING CAPACITY

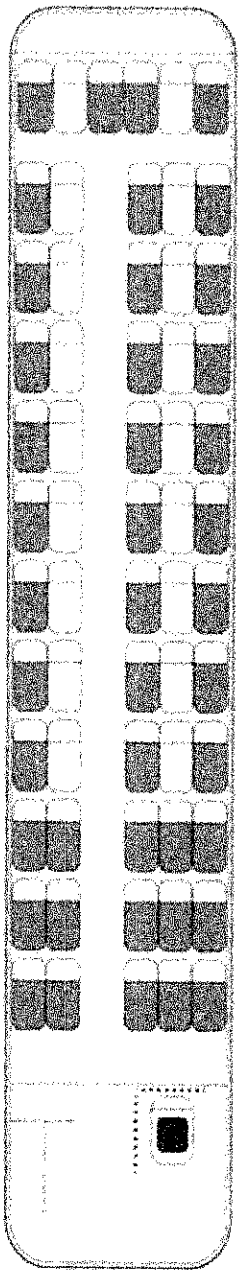
**Coach Type**  
**(2x2)**

**49 PAX**  
**34**



**Coach Type**  
**(2x3)**

**61 PAX**  
**43**



**Legend:**

- Driver
- Allowed Passenger
- Not allowed for seating
- ..... Non-permeable transparent barrier

# ANNEX B

Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board  
 PUB (LOW-ENTRY/FLOOR) 70% SEATING CAPACITY

**PUB TYPE**

**Seating Capacity**

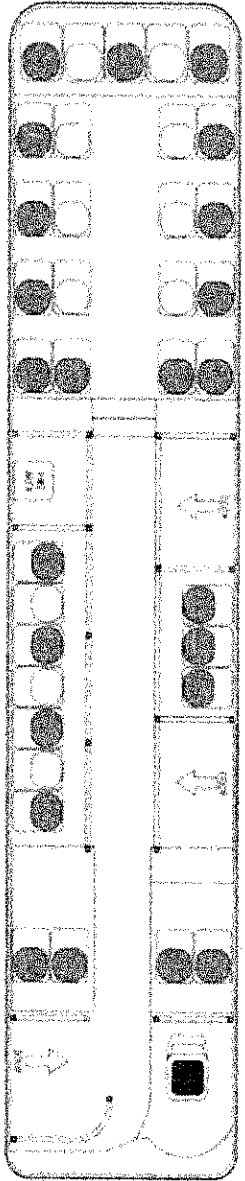
**Allowed Passengers**

**ILLUSTRATION ON SEATING CAPACITY**

Low Entry  
(2x2)

35 PAX

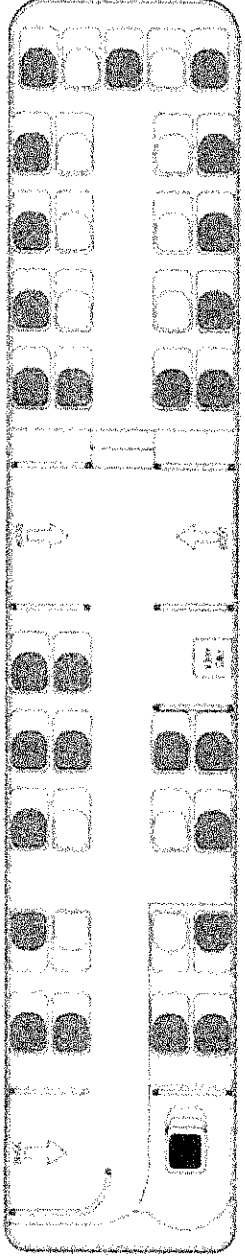
24



Low Entry  
(2x2)

39 PAX

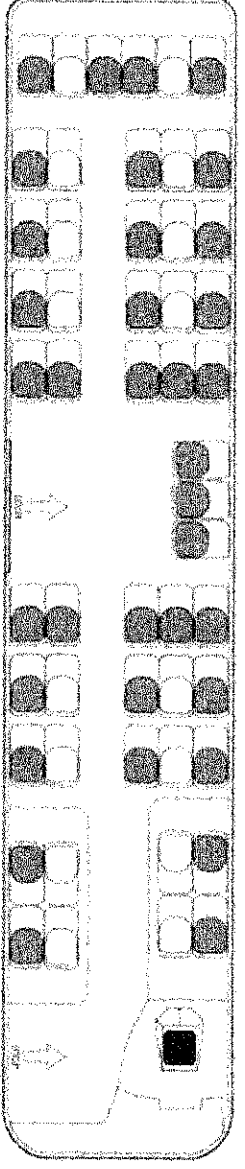
27



Low Entry  
(2x3)

52 PAX

36



**Legend:**

- Allowed Passenger
- Not allowed for seating
- Driver

# ANNEX C

Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board

## TRADITIONAL PUJ 70% SEATING CAPACITY

### TPUJ TYPE

Seating Capacity

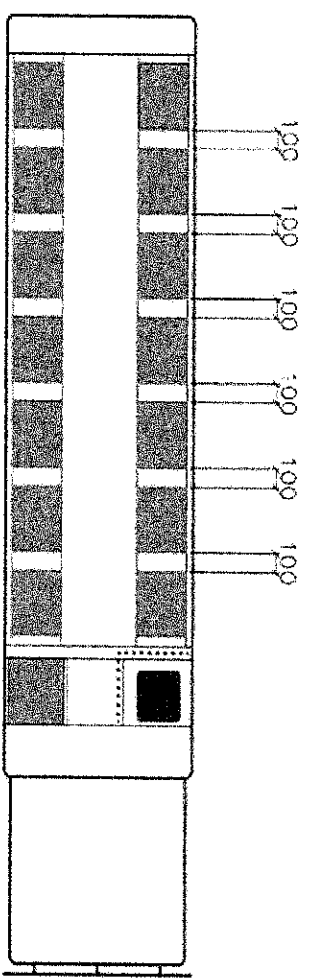
Allowed Passengers

### ILLUSTRATION ON SEATING CAPACITY

### TRADITIONAL PUJ

20 PAX

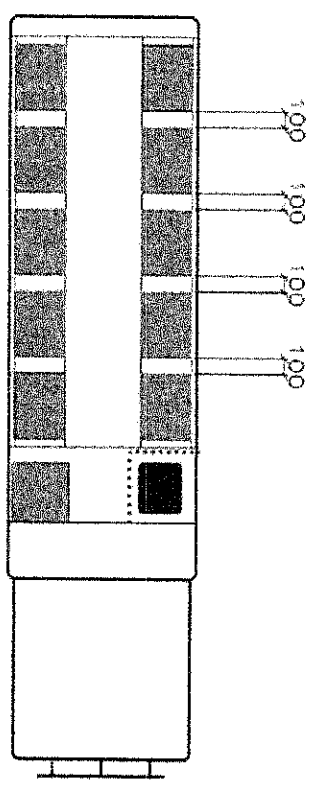
15



### TRADITIONAL PUJ

14 PAX

11



#### Legend:

- Driver
- Allowed Passenger
- Not allowed for seating
- Non-permeable transparent barrier

\*Dimensions in millimeter

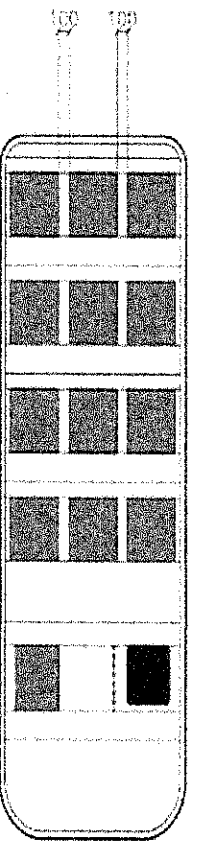
# ANNEX D

Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board  
UV EXPRESS 70% SEATING CAPACITY

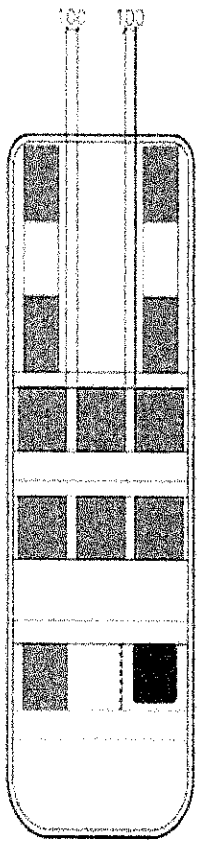
## ILLUSTRATION ON SEATING CAPACITY

**UVE TYPE**  
**Seating Capacity**  
**Allowed Passengers**

**Front Facing**  
**18 PAX**  
**13**



**Front Facing with Perimeter seating**  
**16 PAX**  
**11**



**Legend:**  
■ Driver  
■ Allowed Passenger  
□ Not allowed for seating  
..... Non-permeable transparent barrier  
\* Dimensions in millimeter