

Castilla Christian Church

Poblacion, Castilla, Sorsogon

September 14, 2023

Hi brother Mike, Greetings of peace through our Lord Jesus Christ!

I just have to inform you about road widening improvement project in Castilla.

1. The Local Government Unit of Poblacion, Castilla headed by Barangay Captain Sotto together Sorsogon 1st district Congresswoman Escudero, personnel from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the contractor with Barangay Council conducted an informative meeting with the residents to inform that there will be a road widening/improvement project. The project or construction will start this September of 2023 and will end in May of 2024.

2. PREVIOUS BACKGROUND ABOUT ROAD WIDENING

- In April of 2021, the Barangay council of Poblacion, Castilla submitted a proposed project to Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) with regards to road repair of Eco Street.
- The said proposal was dropped or rejected by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) due to lack of budget. Therefore, the residents of Eco Street were informed that the proposal was rejected, so as to say that there would be no road widening. Nevertheless, the residents were in dismay after hearing about the proposal, to is now approved.

3. AFFECTED AREAS

I think this is also something to address because the front area of the Pastoral House will be affected by this project.

- The road improvement and widening are consisting of road repair, drainage and a sidewalk—a total of 5.5 meters from the center.
- The present wall of the Pastoral House in the front is located within the 5.5 meters.
- There are 39 houses and structures including ours will be affected. Some houses will be totally demolished and relocated.
- There would be no compensation from the government or Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the DPWH explained it in detail during our meeting including the existing laws, even titled lots will have no compensation.

4. PREVIOUS REPAIRS OF THE PASTORAL HOUSE

- The previous front area of the Pastoral House was constructed mostly with light materials. If I am not mistaken, there was a repair done within 2011-2020.
- In the summer of 2022, we initiated to have it repaired again that costs us Php 70,000-80,000, because the structure will collapse if repair is not done (too old light materials)

The previous repair in 2022 includes:

- Ceiling – we used woods and plywoods
- Sidewalks – concrete
- Front wall – concrete
- Concrete flooring (front)
- Steel window (front)
- Steel door (front)
- Grills – to cover 2 old windows
- Roof – Galvanized Iron (G.I.) sheet

Most of the repairs was done in our initiatives.

5. OUR PRESENT SITUATION

- Since road repair will happen sooner, front area will be demolished. It has to be repaired again.
- This time may we appeal for your support especially through prayer its repair again.
- We don't have budget for its repair. I think it would be proper if PAMI will also have to consider supporting us in this concern.
- Our location is getting smaller.
- Since this land is owned by PAMI

6. SUGGESTION

- At least one of PAMI local leaders should visit Castilla to verify our situation (if somebody is willing)
- For us to have at least a small kitchen again and a laundry space.

✓ **No more parking space for motorcycle**

**We will send pictures.

OTHERS:

1. September 1st of 2023 – Information meeting with LGU (Local Government Unit)
2. September 13th of 2023 – Final meeting with Local Government Unit (LGU), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and the Contractors.