



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

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BCDA AND CLARK OFFICIALS CONDUCT SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS MISSION TO CHICAGO



Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin (9th from left) and Clark Development Corporation President and CEO Noel Manankil (8th from left) pose with Mr. Siva Yam (11th from right), President of the US-China Chamber of Commerce, company executives and other participants of the "Opportunities in Clark" seminar and luncheon held at the Union League Club of Chicago on 16 April 2019.

Chicago, 17 April 2019 – The Philippine Consulate General in Chicago lauded officials of the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) and the Clark Development Corporation (CDC) for the successful conduct of their trade and investment mission to Chicago on 15-16 April 2019.

The mission was part of BCDA and CDC's investment roadshow in the United States to promote Clark as the Philippines' next growth area and heart of the Philippines' \$160 billion "Build, Build, Build" infrastructure program.

The mission culminated in an executive seminar and luncheon held on 16 April 2019 at the exclusive Union League Club of Chicago. Entitled "Opportunities in Clark," the seminar was organized by BCDA, CDC and the Consulate in cooperation with the US-China Chamber of Commerce led by its President, Mr. Siva Yam. The seminar was attended by members of the chamber and other executives.

Ms. Laura Ortega, Executive Director of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Godfrey Angara, Assistant Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity, also participated in the seminar.



Consul General Jamoralin delivering the opening remarks

In her opening remarks, Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin highlighted the dynamic and sustainable Philippine economic growth, which the International Monetary Fund forecasts to be the fastest in Southeast Asia in the next five years. She also recalled the proven track record of Clark as a logistics hub and American gateway to the Asian region for almost one hundred years. She also enlightened participants on the deep historical ties between Clark Airbase and the Midwest.



CDC President Manankil delivering the keynote presentation

Mr. Noel Manankil, President and CEO of CDC, delivered the keynote presentation, which provided a clear, comprehensive and visually appealing overview of Clark and the business opportunities it presented. He highlighted the connectivity and attractiveness of Clark, with a world-class international airport, Grade A road network and highways connecting to Manila and Subic Bay Freeport, a high-speed rail to Manila that will be operational in 2020, topnotch Internet connectivity, and affordable and dependable utilities. He also discussed the incentives being enjoyed by more than 1,000 foreign and local locators and the exciting ongoing projects in Clark, including the first-rate venues for the upcoming Southeast Asian Games. Mr. Manankil encouraged the participants to visit Clark and to eventually invest and locate there.



Seminar participants actively participate in the executive seminar and luncheon.

Mr. Yam expressed appreciation for the visit of the delegation to Chicago. He noted that the very impressive presentation garnered a lot of positive feedback that could lead to a trade mission to Clark this year.



*Left photo: Delegates at the UL LLC headquarters (L-R): Engr. Alveen Tabag, Mr. Hooper Monroyo, Ms. Zoraida Camello, Ms. Eva Gabor-Tejada, Atty. Joanna Capones, Consul Ryan Gener, Mr. Joey Erandio and CEO Manankil
Right photo: CEO Manankil (right) discusses Clark with Engr. Barbara Guthrie of UL LLC.*

On 15 April 2019, the delegation, together with Mr. Yam and Consulate representatives, visited Underwriters Laboratories (UL) LLC in Northbrook, Illinois. UL LLC is a global independent safety science company with more than a century of expertise innovating safety solutions. Ms. Barbara Guthrie, Vice President for Corporate Sustainability, toured the delegation around the facilities and operations of UL. The delegation invited UL LLC to locate in Clark, and noted that the best practices and world-class safety standards set by the company could be utilized in developing New Clark City.

On the same day, Consul General Jamoralin hosted a working lunch with the delegation, and introduced its members to Mrs. Alejandra C. Clemente, Chairperson of Rajah Tours International Inc. to discuss the Very Important Pinoy (VIP) Tour in July, which will make a stop in Clark, and possible collaboration on future tourism projects. Consul General Jamoralin also toured the delegation around the chancery of the Philippine Consulate General. **END**