

Meralco solutions tapped early in Fort Bonifacio Dev't Corp's master plan



Manny Blas, Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation (FBDC) Head of Commercial Operations said that the success of Bonifacio Global City stems from careful planning of every square meter of BGC and a strategic partnership with Meralco.

Meralco facilities are now being used as enticements for businesses to settle in Bonifacio Global City. In particular, a dedicated electrical substation designed by Meralco for the Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation (FBDC) is proving to be an irresistible attraction to new enterprises to set up shop.

Bonifacio Global City (BGC) is one of the most vibrant, dynamic destinations in the country today.

Apart from all those new buildings rising, there are restaurants and retail openings left and right, as well as art exhibits and sporting events about every weekend.

Part of the attraction is aesthetics. Meralco's electrical grid is routed via underground lines, so a pristine view of the horizon is not obstructed by utility lines. This grid is closely monitored to guarantee continuous electricity to eliminate power interruptions, outages and fluctuations.

Early on, Meralco was consulted in creating the blueprint to custom-build the power infrastructure and related services that transformed the former base to a premier mixed-use destination.

Manny Blas, Head of Commercial Operations of Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation reveals, "The main thing is that Meralco was part of the master plan from the beginning. Meralco was a partner from the start and we are aligned in terms of how we want to develop the city, and the steps toward full development were well coordinated."

Each square meter was carefully planned to maximize energy consumption and distribution in Global City. Nothing is random. Utilities have been designed to bear the load of a fully developed Bonifacio Global City. The plan accounts for just about everything that is happening, and will happen. Spaces have been identified according to their specific purpose, whether residential, office, or retail. Streets have been mapped to ensure optimum traffic flow.

In collaboration with Meralco, FBDC pinpointed four areas where substations were to be built. One substation is already running, in line with the current development status in BGC, which is at 30 percent of the master plan, according to Blas. The other substations are scheduled for completion by 2017.

Due to methodical urban planning, Global City has managed to attract the country's top commercial developers who are shaping the

area into one of Manila's premier destinations for business, residence and leisure. Its provision of underground power lines and strategically located substations would be able to support the upcoming developments of the community.

"We are proud with the partnership we forged with FBDC," said Meralco Vice President and Head of Corporate Business Group, Victor S. Genuino. "We shared in the vision of what a progressive city looks like. FBDC and Meralco worked hand in hand – building from the ground up – to create Bonifacio Global City into what it is, which is simply inspiring."

One such inspiring destination in FBDC is a world-class learning facility called the Mind Museum. Built at a cost of P1-billion, the science museum is the first of its kind in the country. The museum cements FBDC's belief that "science literacy is the currency of this age and of that to come," said New York Times' science writer Natalie Angier. It is meant "to help breed scientific literacy that will help everyone," as stated in the museum's website.

Many of the country's economic drivers are also setting up shop in Global City. The area is one of the prime spots of the Philippines' rapid exponential growth. It is now home to many multinational corporations, international banks, and various business process outsourcing (BPO) offices.

"The main thing is that Meralco was part of the master plan from the beginning... because Meralco was a partner from the start and we are aligned in terms of how we want to develop the city, then the steps toward full development are well coordinated."

- Manny Blas
Head of Commercial Operations
Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation

Among these are recognizable names such as Bank of America, HSBC, Tetra Pak Philippines Inc, Del Monte Philippines, Sunlife Insurance, Splash, BASF, and others.

FBDC has barely scratched the the surface. By working together with entities keen on economic strides such as Meralco, the developers will continue to blaze the trail and set shining examples of what a progressive city looks like. But more importantly, how a progressive city is built.



At the heart of Fort Bonifacio Global City is Bonifacio High Street, a bustling, family-friendly block filled with rows of specialty stores and shops amid parks. It is just one of the many reasons Global City has incredible consumer appeal.