

DATELINE PHILIPPINES

Escudero, Villar top Ibon survey

SENATORS Francis Escudero and Manuel Villar led the list of possible presidential candidates, according to a nationwide survey conducted by Ibon Foundation Inc. in April 2009.

The survey, conducted from April 17 to 26 and released on May 20, asked a total of 1,496 respondents who they would vote for president if elections were held today.

Respondents were first asked to list down their choice for president (open-ended), and then they were asked to select a candidate from a list provided in the survey questionnaire.

Escudero topped the list for both survey questions. Of the respondents, 13.17 percent wrote down his name for the open-ended

survey question, while 16.98 percent chose his name from a list.

Escudero was followed by Senators Manuel Villar (11.83 percent open-ended, 14.64 percent from list) and Loren Legarda (8.29 percent open-ended, 12.10 percent from list), and former president Joseph Estrada (8.02 percent open-ended, 9.63 percent from list).

For the open-ended question, 7.55 percent mentioned Senator Panfilo Lacson, while 8.76 percent of the respondents chose



Sen. Francis Escudero

Vice President Noli de Castro's name from the list provided.

Ibon said its latest nationwide survey was undertaken to find out the people's perception on the economy, livelihood, government



Sen. Manuel Villar

performance, and other issues. The survey used a multi-stage probability sampling scheme and had a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points. (Inquirer.net)

Comelec: Poll surveys allowed by law

by SHEILA CRISOSTOMO
Inquirer.net

THE Commission on Elections (Comelec) ruled last May 21 that electoral surveys are allowed under the law.

In rejecting a complaint against the Social Weather Stations, the poll body said the Fair Election Act recognizes surveys as the opinions or perceptions of voters.

"At the most, the survey is just a fearless forecast on the result of the elections to be held," read the Comelec resolution.

"In conducting such survey, therefore, respondent is not violating any election office."

Upholding the recommendation of its law department, the Comelec said the complaint of lawyer Oliver Lozano had no sufficient legal basis.

"A cursory reading of the compliant-affidavit would readily show that it is based merely on a newspaper article... regarding the survey conducted by respondent," read the Comelec resolution.

The Comelec said its law department was correct in declaring that the complaint is insufficient after conducting a preliminary investigation.

"For it contains only bare allegations, without specifying what

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State Route (SR-2) Freeway Terminus Improvement Project

Join us at the upcoming Community Workshops and Public Hearing to review and comment on the SR-2 Initial Study/Environmental Assessment.

Community Workshop
June 9, 2009
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Mayberry Elem. School
2414 Mayberry Street
Los Angeles, 90026

Community Workshop
June 11, 2009
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Barlow Hospital Williams Hall
2000 Stadium Way
Los Angeles, 90026

Public Hearing
June 16, 2009
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Mayberry Elem. School
2414 Mayberry Street
Los Angeles, 90026

Metro and Caltrans have released the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) for the State Route 2 Freeway Terminus Improvement Project. Please plan on attending any of the above meetings to learn more about the evaluation of alternatives, including: traffic, safety, noise, aesthetics and other environmental considerations.

The 45-day public comment period is from May 18 to July 2. Public comments will be recorded by a court reporter during the community workshops and public hearing. If you're interested in mailing your comments, please send them to Irv Taylor at One Gateway Plaza MS 99-22-2, Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952, or by e-mail to taylori@metro.net. Mailed comments need to be postmarked no later than July 2, 2009.

For more information, please visit the project website at www.metro.net, or call the project helpline at 213.922.3010



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