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### **DECISION LETTER ON INITIAL SUBMISSION**

June 25, 2024

#### MISS RAYNE ANGELICA O. NAVAL

School of Teacher Education and Humanities Saint Mary's University Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya

RE: JEEP-PS: Pioneering Smart Mobility Solutions through Advanced E-jeep

Tracking Technology with Arrival Information in Selected Towns in Nueva

Vizcaya

**SMUREB code:** 2024 0656

Subject: Request for Ethical Clearance

Dear Miss Naval,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your application for ethics review and the following supporting documents dated June 3, 2024.

- 1. Accomplished REB-FO-006: Protocol Application Form
- 2. Research Proposal (Chapter 1 and Chapter 2) Manuscript with ICF and CV

The above documents underwent an expedited review which generated the following:

# **Findings**

The study intends to propose smart-mobility solutions through the implementation of E-Jeepney tracking technology with arrival and departure information in Nueva Vizcaya. The study participants consist of drivers, operators, commuters, and administrators. There are no vulnerabilities identified since the respondents of the study do not belong to a vulnerable group since they are all legal age. The age range of the study participants should be specified. There potential risk of discomfort or inconvenience on the part of the study participants should be discussed in the ethical consideration and provide a procedure for mitigating the risk.

## Recommendations

- 1. No terms of reference.
- 2. There should be disclosure of conflict of interest.
- 3. Include mechanisms/interventions to address the vulnerability issue/s if any.
- 4. Present the procedure for recruiting participants.
- 5. There is a potential risk of discomfort or inconvenience on the part of the study participants.
- 6. Present the procedure for mitigating the risk of discomfort or inconvenience.
- 7. Present the study's dissemination plan.
- 8. The informed consent form should be included in the protocol document.
- 9. Consult with the adviser and the panelists on the following technical concerns and indicate in the resubmission form how these concerns will be addressed:
  - a. The time element should be included in the general study objective.
  - b. Present the breakdown of study population per category of respondents
  - c. Present in detail the procedure for the selection of study participants.
  - d. Present the breakdown of sample size per category of respondents.
  - e. The age range of the study participants should be indicated.

# **Specific Instruction**

Your request for ethics clearance has been reviewed, with the finding that your submitted protocol requires **minor revision**. Incorporate all the *recommendations* and resubmit your protocol document with the accomplished REB-FO-009. Please **highlight all changes in the revised manuscript for submission**. Your certificate of approval will be issued as soon as the Research Ethics Board approves your resubmission. Good luck with your research undertakings.

Very truly yours,

HARRISON T. VILLANUEVA, Ph.D.

Vice Chair

Noted b

JASON ARNOLD L. MASLANG

Chair, SMUREB