

## **Meeting Notes: Call with Anthony Ng - North Star, February 19, 2025**

**Participants:** Retailers, DA Secretary Tiu Laurel, Hog Producers

**Farmgate Pricing:** Secretary Tiu Laurel emphasized the need **for a cap on farmgate prices.**

**DA Budget Allocation:** The Department of Agriculture (DA) will utilize the FTI budget to procure both imported and local pork.

Tiu Laurel noted that local production is currently influencing price trends.

In return, the DA will provide vaccines and purchase pork from producers.

### **Food Emergency Measures:**

**Target Pork Price:** Set goal price at 380-390 PHP per kilo.

### **Key Comments:**

Tiu Laurel remarked that engaging in the pig farming business carries inherent risks, stating, "No one forced you to do piggery. It's not every day you make money."

He highlighted that it is not the government's responsibility to subsidize producers, but rather to ensure the public has access to food.

**Anthony Ng's Observation:** He noted that the hog producers are skilled at leveraging theatrics in their discussions.