



BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR
BELIZE CITY COUNCIL

STAY INFORMED WITH YOUR CITY'S

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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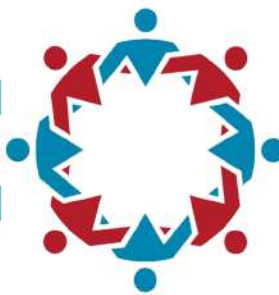


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BELIZE
 Always 'bout The People



CITY
 COUNCIL

2024 Launch of November Celebrations Keynote Remarks by Mayor Bernard Wagner



HIS WORSHIP

MAYOR BERNARD WAGNER

FINANCE, BUDGETING, HUMAN RESOURCES, STAFF DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING,
PUBLIC RELATIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS, ANTI-CORRUPTION

Good evening, everyone! Thank you for the kind invitation to be a part of this event.

What an honor it is to be here today, standing alongside each of you to kick off the November Celebrations Calendar. I want to extend a warm welcome to all, especially the National Garifuna Council Belize City Branch, whose dedication to honoring and sharing Garifuna culture and history is equally inspiring and important!

As we look forward to Garifuna Settlement Day on November 19th, we gather to celebrate a people whose legacy is woven deeply into the fabric of Belize.

With this year's theme, "Celebrating our roots, sharing our culture! – Afeduha waméi wagücha; afareinha waméi wanichigu!" we're reminded of the power of culture to unite, uplift, educate, and shape our identity as an inclusive and culturally tolerant nation.

The Garifuna people are a testament to resilience and ambition. As they journeyed here over two centuries ago, they brought with them not only survival but also the profound gift of their cultural heritage. Key elements of this culture have become part of our Belizean identity, adding a beautiful layer of charm to our nation.

Myself and the Council have always been big supporters of your mission, and we will continue to participate because we truly value what this culture contributes to Belize City. We are proud of the Garifuna people and their enduring spirit, which continues to shape the heartbeat of Belize in many ways.

And today, as we celebrate, let us also recognize the incredible peace-loving nature of the Garifuna people. They teach us the importance of harmony with our neighbors, of respect for our environment and elders, and of living with purpose. In a world where cultures can so easily become divided, the Garifuna show us that sharing one's roots can bring others closer together!

If you need proof, one simply needs to peep on TikTok, where we see Asians, Mestizo, Creole and Caucasians whining away to the rich punta songs we all know and love.

Throughout November, we'll see Garifuna culture come alive in our city and across the country—in the rhythm of the drums, the flavors of the food, and the beauty of the language and dance. I encourage everyone, especially our young people, to take part in these events, to listen to the stories of Garifuna elders, and to learn about the strength and traditions that have carried this proud culture forward.

Let us carry this message of cultural pride and unity, and celebrate with open hearts and minds. Let us celebrate our roots, and, in sharing our culture, show the world the true spirit of Belize.

Thank you, and happy Garifuna Settlement Day in advance!



November Celebrations 2024

The best way to kick off the month of November!

Mayor Bernard Wagner was honored to once again participate as the guest speaker at the Official Launch of the 2024 November Celebrations Calendar of Events, hosted by the National Garifuna Council Belize City Branch.



In his keynote address, Mayor Wagner paid tribute to the Garifuna people, celebrating their rich culture and profound contributions to both Belize City and our entire nation.

The night was filled with the vibrant essence of Garifuna heritage—delicious food, lively music, spirited dancing, and stories of resilience and history that continue to inspire us all.

Thank you to the NGC Belize City Branch for the warm welcome and for organizing such an unforgettable celebration. We deeply admired your dedication to cultural continuity and preservation within Belize City.

Mayor Supports Donovan Grinage Jr

On behalf of the Belize City Council, Mayor Bernard Wagner proudly presented a contribution to Belize City Youth Shadow Councillor and talented track and field athlete, Donovan Grinage Jr. This support came as Donovan set off to represent Belize at the Gran Prix Atletismo Copa Revolución competition in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico.

This gesture underscored the City Council's commitment to nurturing young athletes, empowering them, and investing in their future success.

As Donovan embarked on this exciting opportunity, we stood united in cheering him on, eager to witness his hard work and talent shine on the international stage. Best of luck, Donovan—your city is behind you!



Rehabilitations of St. Thomas Street

Rehabilitation officially started on St. Thomas Street—a key roadway for our residents and a vital part of daily life in Belize City!

This project was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Belize City Council, Digi Belize, Belize Water Services, and the Ministry of Infrastructure Development & Housing.

Together, we remain dedicated to enhancing the lives of our residents by creating safer, smoother streets and a more resilient community. This collaboration proved what we could achieve when we work hand in hand!

Thank you for your patience as we work to make our city even better.



WHITE GARBAGE COLLECTION

IS DONE ON WEDNESDAYS BY SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT ONLY!

CONTACT BELIZE WASTE CONTROL AT 222-4091 OR 222- 4092 OR WHATSAPP 614-4399



GOT A QUESTION OR COMPLAINT

Give us a call at

 **+501 227-3073** or

 **WhatsApp 673-9055**

SANITATION STATS

THIS NOVEMBER OUR SANITATION
TEAM CLEARED

15,000

BAGS OF GARBAGE

2,500 TONNAGE

FROM OUR CITY STREETS



William David Fonseca Parking Facility: Open



Now Open: The William David Fonseca Parking Facility!

Belize City Council is thrilled to announce the opening of the William David Fonseca Parking Facility in downtown Belize City—a modern, smart, and safe parking option!

This facility, named in honor of Belize City's first elected Mayor, celebrates the connection between our city's progress and the legacy of leaders like David Fonseca who paved the way.

With 34 parking spaces, automatic barrier arms, security cameras, hot mix pavement and electric vehicle charging stations by BEL, this facility brings advanced features that make parking easy.

Flexible payment options allow users to use pre-paid parking cards or coins for added convenience.

Additionally, as part of this project, we proudly introduced a new vendor structure accommodating three local food vendors—an ideal setting for these small businesses to thrive with greater visibility in downtown Belize City.

The council extends special thanks to Hon. Henry Charles Usher, Hon. Francis Fonseca, the family of William David Fonseca, Anglican Cathedral College, and representatives from our neighboring businesses and organizations who joined the Mayor, Councillors, and our Belize City Council team for this special event.

Your Belize City Council remains committed to building a smart, modern, and sustainable city!

66,993
eBUS PASSENGERS
July 2024 – November 2024



CARICOM and SICA Flag Raising

Celebrating Regional Unity and Integration!

It was a momentous occasion when we reestablished the CARICOM and SICA flags at Belize City's iconic Flag Monument.

We re-dedicated this 24-year-old monument, which stands as a symbol of the strong ties Belize shares with our Caribbean and Central American neighbors, highlighting regional integration in the areas of economic, social, and political development.

Hon. Francis Fonseca, Mayor Bernard Wagner, Councillor Stephanie Hamilton, and Councillor Eluide Miller shared insightful addresses on our partnership within CARICOM and SICA, expressing aspirations for deeper regional connections.

On behalf of Mayor Bernard Wagner, Councillors, and the entire Belize City Council team, we extend sincere gratitude to Hon. Francis Fonseca and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Hon. Henry Charles Usher, members of the diplomatic corps representing our neighboring countries, the Scout Association of Belize, students, and community members who enthusiastically supported and participated in this special event.

May this monument continue to inspire us all to build stronger bridges, uplift one another, and carry the pride of our shared future.



Annual Pre-Garifuna Settlement Day Celebration

The Belize City Council kicked off this year's festivities with vibrant live drumming and dancing in the heart of Downtown Belize City. The community came together to enjoy FREE sahou and chips & dip while celebrating the rich traditions of Garifuna culture.

A heartfelt thank you to the Wabagari Dance Group for joining us once again and setting the perfect tone for an unforgettable 19th celebration!



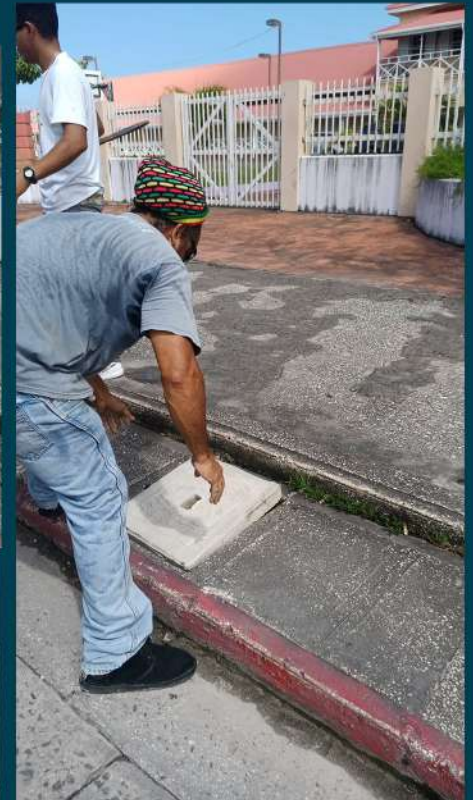
ITVET Manhole Covers

The Belize City Council's Works Department successfully completed the replacement and installation of 16 concrete manhole covers along Freetown Road, directly in front of ITVET.

This critical upgrade is part of our ongoing efforts to enhance road safety and infrastructure across the city.

By addressing these key maintenance needs, we're ensuring smoother, safer roads for commuters, pedestrians, and residents alike.

We are committed to building a stronger, more resilient Belize City.



Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM)

We were thrilled to welcome Daniela Artusi Montiero and Judi Clarke to the Belize City Council!

Representing the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM), funded by the European Union, Daniela and Judi were here for three days on a Technical Mission, providing critical, face-to-face support to help Belize City complete its #ClimateActionPlan.

They met with Mayor Bernard Wagner and City Councillors to kick off this mission, marking an important step in building a sustainable future for Belize City.

Belize City officially joined GCoM in 2023, aligning with over 13,000 cities worldwide, spanning 6 continents and 144 countries, to combat climate change and build a resilient, low-emissions future.

GCoM's mission brings invaluable resources, global expertise, and best practices, helping us develop strategies that will protect our city and residents.

As a coastal city, we face rising sea levels, intense storms, and flooding—all of which threaten our infrastructure, health, safety, and local livelihoods. By crafting a robust Climate Action Plan with GCoM's guidance, we're committing to a sustainable future for Belize City, with a focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving energy efficiency, and building resilience to safeguard our community for generations to come.

Let's take these crucial steps together!



COMING SOON

eRide Taxi Service

Experience top-notch transportation service with just a tap!

Stay Tuned!



POWERED BY



Salvation Army Kettle Bell Kick Off



Councillor Kaya Cattouse had the honor of delivering special greetings on behalf of Mayor Bernard Wagner and the Belize City Council at the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Kick Off Event.

As she reflected on this beloved tradition, Councillor Cattouse reminded us that it's not just about raising funds—it's about the powerful symbol of the love and compassion that bind our community together.

Let's continue to support and uplift one another this holiday season!

Supporting Jenica Jenkins on her Journey to Recovery

The Belize City Council was honored to contribute towards 11-year-old Jenica Jenkins' journey to recovery as she bravely battles scoliosis. If all goes as planned, a children's hospital in the United States will be covering the costs of her essential medical care, but Jenica and her mother, Kezia Young, require further support for travel and living expenses while they are in the US.

Jenica is a bright, loving soul, and her mother, Ms. Kezia, is an inspiring example of determination and care. Mayor Wagner was moved by their story and inspired by their resilience.

We encourage those who are able to contribute to help make Jenica's path to recovery a little easier. Together, we can make a difference in the life of this remarkable, young Belize City resident.



Garifuna Settlement Day 2024 in Belize City!

Mayor Bernard Wagner, Councillors Stephanie Hamilton, Eluide Miller and Dorian Usher proudly joined the annual Yurumein, the re-enactment of the Garinagu's historic arrival to our shores. The celebration continued with a vibrant parade through the streets of Belize City, leading to the church for the Garifuna Settlement Day Mass.



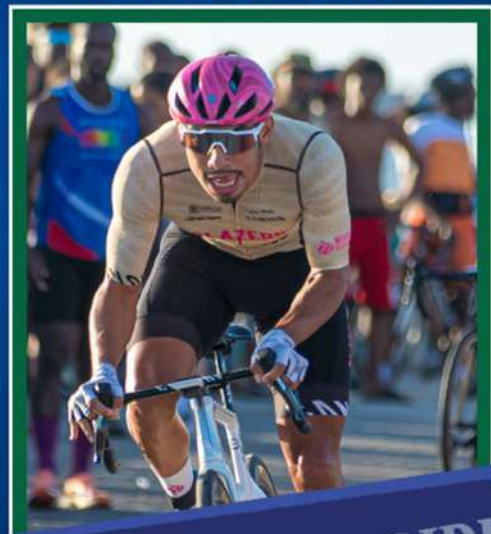
Each year, this cultural celebration reminds us of the strength, resilience, and vibrant traditions of the Garifuna people, and it is always a privilege to be part of this meaningful event.

A heartfelt seremein to the National Garifuna Council Belize City Branch for their warm welcome and for organizing such an outstanding celebration. Your dedication keeps this rich heritage alive for future generations!

“Afeduha waméi wagücha, afareinha waméi wanichigu - Celebrating the roots of the Garifuna culture!”



PRESENT



800 YARDS SWIM **11.42 MILES RIDE** **3.1 MILES RUN**

**SUN
1ST
DEC
2024**

BELIZE CITY 2ND ANNUAL TRIATHLON

📍 **STARTING IN FRONT OF MEMORIAL PARK**

WIN OVER \$3000.00 IN CASH PRIZES

6 AM SHARP!

CATEGORIES: (Individual) Women | Men | Junior Women | Junior Men

RELAY: Open | Junior | Corporate | (Relay must include both genders)

Junior must be 18 years and younger

SAVE THE DATE

REGISTRATION:
\$50.00 Open Individual Events
\$60.00 Relay Events
FREE Junior Events

📞 For more information, please contact the Belize City Council's Programs Manager at 614-9381 or programs.manager@belizecitycouncil.org

📱 **REGISTER ONLINE** Click the link in the caption www.totaltimebzz.com for information and registration.

St. Thomas Street Progress Update

The Belize City Council is excited to share a progress update on the ongoing roadworks for St. Thomas Street. The section between 6th Street and Freetown Road (western side) was in its final phase of completion, with the entire section freshly paved using hot mix asphalt.

This significant upgrade is part of our commitment to enhancing road infrastructure for smoother and safer commutes. The hot mix application brings us closer to completion of this major project, providing a more durable and long-lasting roadway.

This project was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Belize City Council, Digi Belize, Belize Water Services, and the Ministry of Infrastructure Development & Housing.

Please be advised that works will continue on St. Thomas Street until further notice.





BELIZE CITY
COUNCIL
Always 'bout The People



16 DAYS OF ACTIVSIM

November 25 - December 10, 2024

GETTING TO KNOW

Councillor **EVAN THOMPSON**

Can you share a bit about your background and what led you to this position?

I grew up on the southside of Belize City (Port Loyola) and graduated from Wesley College. Driven by a passion for helping others and improving my community, I pursued a position in the City Council, where I aim to make an even greater impact with the council's support.

What are your main responsibilities within the Council, and what does a typical day look like for you?

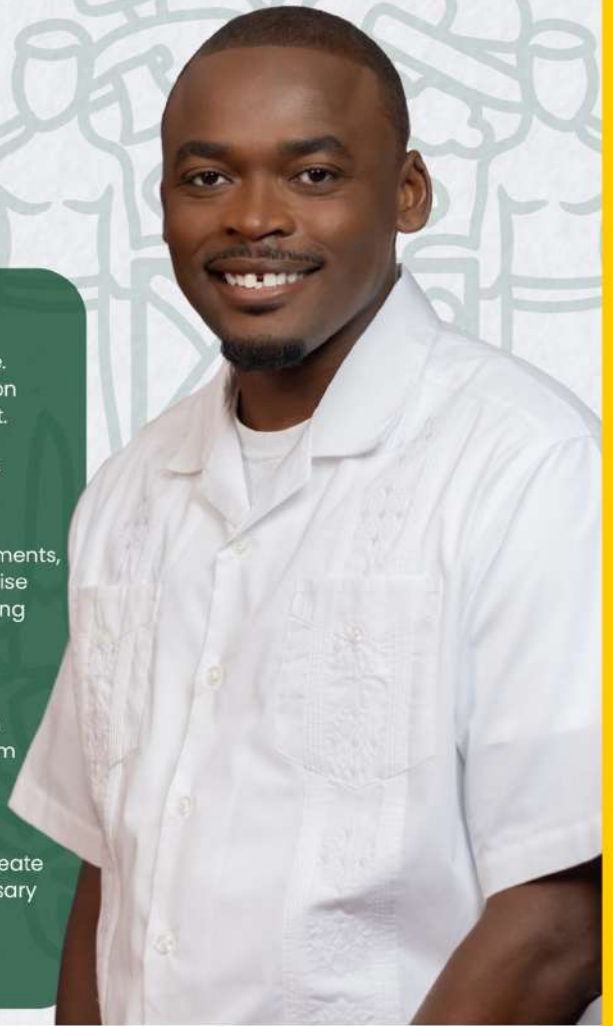
At the City Council, my portfolio focuses on market management and community engagement. A typical day starts with organizing my time around meetings and engagements, followed by checking in with my team to ensure they have their tasks for the day. I also liaise with the market manager to oversee the daily operations of the market, ensuring everything runs smoothly for the community.

What's a fun fact or hidden talent that most people might not know about you?

A fun fact about me is that I was an athlete on the Junior Olympics Team for Belize in high school. I also mentored and trained youth in gymnastic tumbling for carnival, helping them strengthen their skills.

What are some of your primary goals for Belize City this term?

My primary goals are to carry out my portfolio responsibilities, while actively working to create employment opportunities for local residents. I am also focused on advocating for necessary improvements to the market to better serve the community and drive economic growth. Through these efforts, I aim to make a lasting, positive impact on Belize City.



WITH YOUR BELIZE CITY COUNCIL

MORNING SHOW

every Wednesday
7:00 AM to 8:00 AM

ONLY on Vibes Radio & TV



BELIZE DIASPORA *Spotlight*



Delvorine McGregor

Making a Difference!

Our city is known for its dynamic nature and extensive educational infrastructure, comprising of 32 primary schools and 14 high schools. The Belize City Council, through its Community Support Programs like the Annual Back to School Drive, remains steadfast in its dedication to the ongoing enhancement of our communities.

The Council is fully committed to improving the quality of life for our residents by fostering strong meaningful connections and gaining support from the Belize Diaspora community. As we embark on the journey for this new school year, we want to shine a spotlight on one of the Council's dedicated supporters, Ms. Delvorine McGregor. Ms. McGregor has been actively involved in supporting the Back to School community initiative since its launch in 2021. Her dedication to the cause is evident as she, along with her children, has been generously donating backpacks and school supplies yearly. Notably, two of her younger children take pleasure in traveling to Belize every year to participate in the distribution process, showcasing a family commitment to giving back.

This year, Ms. McGregor's contribution to the council's efforts goes beyond the usual donations. In addition to the much-needed backpacks, she also provided a heavy-duty printer and laminator to the Youth Connect Student Hub. These essential items will undoubtedly enhance the educational resources available at the Hub. This act of generosity highlights Ms. McGregor's confidence in the deep commitment of the Council to ensuring that the youth in the communities have the tools they need to succeed in their education.

The Mayor and the Belize City Council thank you and your children, Ms. McGregor, for your unwavering commitment to the continued growth of our growing city.

Thank you!



City Emergency Management Organization (CEMO)

The National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), in collaboration with the Belize Chamber of Commerce & Industry and with support from the Belize City Council and the City Emergency Management Organization (CEMO), conducted a Business Continuity Plan (BCP) training at City Hall, Belize City.

The session aimed to equip small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with practical strategies and actionable plans to enhance disaster preparedness and ensure business continuity in the face of potential threats or during post-disaster recovery.



DECEMBER 2024
UPCOMING STAFF
Birthdays

CA Albert Vaughan
Carla Patnett
Gabriel Majano
Eduardo Smith
Lura Kelly
Medardo Cardoza
Mervyn Gentle
Janice Flores
Duke Wright
Ean Whyte
Stephanie Ramirez

Shearlette Bennett
Michelle Smith
Shirley Smith
Leon Balderramos
Calvin Pandy
Etta Smith
Terry Garnett
Joseph Nunez
Marilyn Young
Dillon Arnold
Tania Lopez
Gilroy Chaplin

Councillor Kaya Cattouse
Alicia Yorke
Shandy McCaully
James Nunez Jr.
Andre Vasquez
Ornel Fuentes
Kadeem Guzman
Jean-Claude Pascual
Yolanda Vanson
Cardinal Beaton
Mary Palacio

Happy Birthday! Wishing you a great day and a successful year ahead.
Thank you for your hard work and contributions to the team.

FROM: MAYOR BERNARD WAGNER AND THE BELIZE CITY COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2024
WORK ANNIVERSARY

22 YEARS

Julie Torres

3 YEARS

Amber Grenardo

2 YEARS

Mecheal Johnson

18 YEARS

Brenda Usher

3 YEARS

Dion Mackenzie

2 YEARS

Norris Patnet

10 YEARS

Kimberly Grant

2 YEARS

Thomas Card

2 YEARS

Tanise Smith

3 YEARS

Michelle Sedassey

2 YEARS

Kenia Peters

2 YEARS

Alicia Yorke

3 YEARS

Shandy McCaully

2 YEARS

Beatrice Pratt

2 YEARS

Yolanda Vanson

Thank you for your hard work and dedication. Your contributions are truly valued and appreciated.
Here's to many more successful years together!

FROM: MAYOR BERNARD WAGNER AND THE BELIZE CITY COUNCIL