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BELIZE CITY COUNCIL

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Flag Raising Ceremony 2025
Page 3



Congratulations to Our Partners on the
Next Step in Sustainable Mobility
Page 11



Belize City Half Marathon 2025
Page 15



2025 Official Independence Day Ceremony! Belize@44
Page 19



Central American Games Passes Torch in Belize City
Page 16

CONTENTS

- 2 Mayor's Message
- 3 Flag Raising Ceremony 2025
- 3 Belize City Lights Up for Belize@44!
- 4 eRide Taxi Service: Now Available
- 4 MiDriVA App Instructional
- 5 Belize@44 Awards for Creative & Cultural Excellence
- 5 Highlights of The 2025 Belize Investment Summit
- 6 Eager to Continue Street Works Once the Rains Stops
- 6 Property Tax Discount for Senior Citizens
- 7 Fire Engine Parade and Bike Competition 2025
- 7 14th Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony
- 8 Official Ceremony for the Battle of St. George's Caye
- 8 That's a wrap on the 10th Bram 2025
- 9 Sanitation Stats and White Garbage
- 10 LeadHERship Table Talk - In Partnership with UNICEF
- 10 Inaugural Youth Mainstreaming Technical Task Force
- 11 Next Step in Sustainable Mobility
- 11 eBus Statistics: September
- 12 Belize@44 20th Night Official Flag Raising Ceremony
- 12 Celebrating BZE@44 with 44 New Trees
- 13 2025 Mangrove Development Challenge Launch
- 13 2025 Annual Children's Rally - Belize District
- 14 Working Together for Cleaner, Safer Streets
- 14 Derelict Vehicles Notice
- 15 Belize City Half Marathon 2025 - Official Results & Highlights
- 16 Central American Games Passes Torch in Belize City
- 16 William David Fonseca Parking Facility
- 17 eRidership Card
- 18 Creative Youths Ideas Summit Recap
- 18 Manhole Covers Notice
- 19 Official Independence Day Ceremony 2025! Belize@44
- 19 Happy 44th Independence Day
- 20 Upcoming October Staff Birthdays
- 20 Upcoming October Work Anniversaries



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Annual Flag Raising Ceremony Keynote Remarks by Mayor Bernard Wagner

September 1, 2025



HIS WORSHIP

MAYOR BERNARD WAGNER

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

Today, under the majestic colors of our beautiful blue, white, and red, we stand together as one people to raise our sacred National Flag, as we usher in the month of September, the month that reminds us who we are, where we came from, and where we're going.

September is more than just parades, concerts, and celebrations. For us, September is a reminder of sacrifice, courage, and nationhood! It is a national checkpoint and a time for renewal, in every sense.

It is the month we commemorate our forefathers' resilience on the waters of St. George's Caye, and it is the month we celebrate the triumph of independence, one of the single most defining moments of our young history.

This year's celebratory theme, "Stronger Together, Rising Forever," could not be more fitting.

Because if nation-building has taught us anything, it is that it is everybody's business. Whether you're a student, an artist, a farmer, a teacher, a TikTok influencer, or a leader in the community, your contribution matters. No matter who or where you are, you have a role to play in shaping the Belize we all dream of.

I especially want to salute the entrepreneurs and innovators, the ones who are re-wiring the very economic and social fabric of our jewel! Every time a small business opens its doors, every time a young Belizean turns an idea into a reality, we are proving that this jewel has the creativity and capacity to rise stronger together, like our celebratory slogan says.

Speaking of innovation, a great example is one of our own, Ms. Tanisha Vernon. With the recent launch of Tuk-Tuk Belize Tours, she has brought to life a fresh, eco-friendly way to experience our city—something that blends culture, sustainability, and entrepreneurship in a very new way. Think about that: it took one bold, determined Belizean to say, "If no one else will do it, I will." That is patriotism in action.

To the young people, especially, this is your time. This is your season. This is your moment!

Patriotism isn't just waving a flag; it's about building something, protecting something, and dreaming big enough to change something. If we all give of ourselves in that way, if we all look for one little thing within our community that WE can make better through our actions, then Belize will not only rise, it will soar!

So this morning, as our flag flies in the sky and takes center stage in the most stunning manner, let it remind us that the Belizean project is not finished. Our story is still being written. And with unity, innovation, and faith in each other, we will continue to rise forever.

Happy start of the September Celebrations, and may we have a safe and most memorable one! Long live Belize City, and long live Belize!



Flag Raising Ceremony 2025

The Belize City Council proudly welcomed the start of the September Celebrations at this year's Flag Raising Ceremony.

On this National Flag Day, our Scouts and Girl Guides raised the flag high at the iconic Flag Monument symbolizing our unity, patriotism, and love for our country.

This moment marked the beginning of a month filled with tradition, community, and celebration as we honor our heritage and continue building a brighter future for Belize.



Belize City Lights Up for Belize@44!



NOW AVAILABLE!

eRide Taxi Service

Experience top-notch transportation service with just a tap!



Contact our eTaxi Drivers at:
605-8740 or **627-3060**



HOW TO USE THE APP

Download the MiDriVa App and Register!



Book your ride, insert pick-up & drop-off



Select eRide, number of passengers & payment method



Confirm & track your ride in real time



Easy. Electric. Reliable.

Belize@44 Awards for Creative & Cultural Excellence

The Belize City Council joined the National Celebrations Commission and NICH in congratulating and honoring this year's awardees of the Belize@44 Awards for Creative and Cultural Excellence at the House of Culture for a memorable afternoon of recognition.

Each award is a tribute to the visionaries, artists, musicians, dancers, and cultural icons whose creativity has shaped our identity and enriched the very soul of our nation.

A special congratulations to all who were recognized for their courage, creativity and everlasting pride in continuing Belizean history and culture.



Highlights of The 2025 Belize Investment Summit: Belize City is Right at the Table!



Eager to Continue Street Works Once the Rains Stop

Mayor Bernard Wagner and City Administrator Albert Vaughan visited Seagull, Pelican, and Antelope Streets to check on the ongoing chip & seal works.

Though the rains may have slowed things down, the Belize City Council is ready to get right back to work as soon as the weather clears – delivering safer, smoother, and stronger streets for all Belize City residents.

In addition, rehabilitation works on Iguana Street will also commence once ongoing drainage upgrades are completed and Belize Water Services finalizes their pipeline works.



35%

OFF

ALL YEAR

PROPERTY TAX

INCENTIVES FOR 2025

FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

65 YEARS OR OLDER

ON THE PROPERTY THEY RESIDE

DISCOUNT PACKAGE

Fire Engine Parade and Bike Competition 2025

What an unforgettable evening! The streets of Belize City lit up with cheering crowds and some of the coolest bikes we've ever seen.

A huge thank you to everyone who came out, participated, and showed off their creativity and spirit. Special shoutout to our winners –you brought the Belizean pride and the style!

The Belize City Council, in partnership with the Belize National Fire Service, is proud to continue this beloved tradition of community, fun, and family.

Until next year!



Highlights from the 14th Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony for National Service Day in Belize City!

On this day, we honor the Father of the Nation, Rt. Hon. George Price, through acts of service.



Highlights from the 227th Anniversary of the Battle of St. George's Caye Official Ceremony in Belize City



That's a wrap on the 10th Bram 2025

A true Belize City September tradition brought to you by Mayor Bernard Wagner and the Belize City Council.



From giveaways and delicious food vendors to the kids zone and electrifying live performances by Belize's very own artists – it was a day filled with fun, celebration, and pure Belizean pride.

SANITATION STATS

THIS SEPTEMBER OUR SANITATION
TEAM CLEARED

30,000

BAGS OF GARBAGE

5,600 TONNAGE

FROM OUR CITY STREETS



**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**

LeadHERship Table Talk - In Partnership with UNICEF

The Belize City Council, in partnership with UNICEF Belize and the Department of Youth Services, hosted the LeadHERship Table Talk — a space dedicated to hearing directly from young women and girls as we prepared for International Day of the Girl Child.

Through open dialogue and mentorship, participants shared their experiences and ideas, helping to shape pathways for empowerment, inclusion, and gender-responsive youth development.



Inaugural Youth Mainstreaming Technical Task Force

The Belize City Council, in partnership with the Department of Youth Services and UNICEF Belize, proudly launched the Inaugural Youth Mainstreaming Technical Task Force; a groundbreaking initiative to institutionalize youth participation, embedding their perspectives into policy, strategy, and programming.

Senator Brittney Galvez, alongside Councillor Nunez, joined the conversation to provide advisory guidance that ensures young people are not just beneficiaries to programs, but active co-creators of sustainable progress.

This task force represents a united movement to strengthen collaboration, expand opportunities, and position young people as co-creators of sustainable progress in Belize.



Congratulations to Our Partners on the Next Step in Sustainable Mobility

The Belize City Council extends congratulations to all our project partners on the successful handover of three new electric buses for intercity runs to transport passengers between districts.

We are honored to have been included in this important milestone moment of the E-Mobility Pilot Project, which represents real progress toward cleaner, greener transportation and a more sustainable future for all Belizeans.

Special thanks to the European Union, UNDP and the Government of Belize, for their leadership and commitment in driving this vision forward.

Together, we're proving that when partners collaborate, communities thrive.



215,417
eBUS PASSENGERS
July 2024 - September 2025

Highlights from the Belize@44 20th Night Official Flag Raising Ceremony



Celebrating BZE@44 with 44 New Trees

In celebration of Belize's 44th Independence, Councillor Kaya Cattouse received 44 trees on behalf of the Belize City Council at the Tree Handing-Over Ceremony under the Greening Belize Initiative.

The Council was proud to join our fellow municipalities, each receiving 44 trees, as part of the nationwide goal of planting 1 million trees for a greener, more sustainable Belize.

Thank you to the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Solid Waste Management and the Belize Forest Department for this meaningful initiative.



2025 Mangrove Development Challenge Launch

Councillor Sherwin Garcia proudly represented the Belize City Council at the Mangrove Development Challenge Launch hosted in Belize City.

This national competition highlights and rewards innovative designs that preserve and enhance Belize's mangrove ecosystems – vital to our environment, economy, and coastal protection.

The Council remains committed to supporting initiatives that safeguard our natural resources for the health, safety, and prosperity of our people.



2025 Annual Children's Rally - Belize District

Deputy Mayor Miller and Councillors joined students and teachers at this year's rally, celebrating the spirit of youth as we counted down to Belize's 44th Independence Anniversary!

The Belize City Council thanks the Ministry of Education, Science & Technology for the invitation, and all students and teachers for the warm welcome and enthusiastic participation.

Together, let's keep the strength and unity that define us alive for future generations.



Working Together for Cleaner and Safer Streets

The Belize City Council, through our Public Health and Traffic Enforcement Units, in partnership with the Belize Police Department, continues its efforts to remove derelict vehicles from our streets.

These abandoned vehicles create health and safety risks, and we urge all residents to address any in their possession as we work together for a cleaner, safer city.



Derelict Vehicles Notice

What is a derelict vehicle?

A derelict vehicle is any automotive that has been out of service for an extended period of time due to neglect or misuse.



Why is it important to remove derelict vehicles?

- Can cause accidents
- Creates public health hazard
- Affect streets and drainage maintenance
- Creates unflattering aesthetic in city streets
- Allows driving on only one side of the road



Report derelict vehicles by calling our complaint line at **+501-280-4014**
or send us a WhatsApp message with photos and location at
+501- 673-9055

Belize City Half Marathon 2025 - Official Results & Highlights

This year's event was proudly brought to you in partnership with the Belize City Council, the National Sports Council, the Belize National Triathlon Association, and the Albert Constituency Committee.

We had an incredible turnout with 155 eager participants running across scenic Belize City as the sun rose! Here's the 5th Annual Belize City Half Marathon's top performers:



Women's Half Marathon (21.1K)

Rosa Cruz
Chrystal Thomas
Ayako Suginaka
Carmen Castilla
Dorsha Sabido

Women's 10K

Jordan Drayer
Alondra Rosalez
Doris Sutherland
Sandy Perez
Thaina Vasquez Paredes

Women's 5K

Mirtha Welch
Kristelle Young
Jenny Mira
Jennifer Barrios
Felicia Garbutt

Men's Half Marathon (21.1K)

Leon O'Brien
Levi Contreras
Francisco Lima
Edwin Garnett
Wilbert Gillett Jr.

Men's 10K

Victor Caliz
Wilbert Young Jr.
Cayden Flowers
Stone Mariano
Jonathan Chiquin

Men's 5K

Hector Carlos
Keemar Wagner
Jay Almendarez
George Choc
Osburne Gutierrez



The Belize City Council, National Sports Council, Belize National Triathlon Association, and Albert Constituency Committee extend heartfelt gratitude to all volunteers and Total Time Belize for helping make this year's event a success.

As a Council, we remain committed to providing positive avenues to promote sports and community development. Look out for the upcoming Triathlon scheduled for Sunday, November 30, 2025!

Central American Games Passes Torch in Belize City

The spirit of the Games has arrived in Belize! Officials of the Games Organizing Committee brought the torch from Panama, where it was proudly carried by former athletes cycling from the Philip SW Goldson Airport to Belize City.

Deputy Mayor Miller and fellow Councillors then took a symbolic lap with the torch before it made its way to Olympic House for the official Torch Welcome Ceremony



BELIZE CITY
Always 'bout The People



CITY COUNCIL

WILLIAM DAVID FONSECA
PARKING FACILITY

A MODERN, SMART, AND SAFE PARKING SOLUTION IN DOWNTOWN BELIZE CITY



NOW OPEN
(AVAILABLE 24 HOURS DAILY)



NOW AVAILABLE

eRide Ridership CARDS

POWERED BY:

DigiWallet

**BELIZE PUBLIC TRANSPORT
RIDERSHIP CARD**

CARD NO: S000070

STUDENT

VIP

GOLDEN CITIZEN



Creative Youths Ideas Summit Recap

Young Belizeans shared their energy, vision, and creativity at the Belize@44 Creative Youth Ideas Summit — shaping a future where music and Carnival continue to thrive.

Deputy Mayor delivered remarks, commending participants for their ideas and passion in keeping Belize's cultural traditions alive.

A big thank you to all the students, organizers, and supporters who made this event a success.

Together, we honor our past while inspiring the next generation to carry our culture forward.



MANHOLE NOTICE

The Belize City Council urges all pedestrians to be mindful of damaged and missing manhole covers. While the Belize City Council continues to replace damaged manhole covers throughout the city, residents can help by:

- REPORTING AREAS WHERE THERE ARE MISSING/DAMAGED MANHOLE COVERS**
- REPORT OR TAKE PICTURES OF THE VEHICLES THAT ARE PARKED ON MANHOLE COVERS**

Photos can be sent to the Council's Business WhatsApp Number at (+501) 673-9055



You can also call our complaint line at
+501-227-3073 EXT 238



HAPPY 44TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

STRONGER TOGETHER,
RISING FORVER!

Highlights from 2025 Official Independence Day Ceremony! Belize@44



OCTOBER 2025
WORK ANNIVERSARY

29 YEARS

Martin Banner

19 YEARS

Leila McKenzie

18 YEARS

Rhunder Mariano-Jorgensen

14 YEARS

Charlene McDonald

13 YEARS

Kyran Garbutt

13 YEARS

Bernard Bailey

13 YEARS

Kevin Morgan

12 YEARS

Stephen Bain

8 YEARS

Auburn Rivero

7 YEARS

Arturo Gallego

7 YEARS

Darcie Montes

7 YEARS

James Nunez Jr.

7 YEARS

Sandra Gillett

3 YEARS

Andre Vasquez

2 YEARS

Cesar Espinoza

2 YEARS

Lennox Leslie

1 YEARS

Allan Horne

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

OCTOBER 2025
UPCOMING STAFF
Birthdays

Silas Agustin
Luke Banner
Sherlet Barrow
Germaine Bradley
Jamie Burn
Olivia Card
Derick Card
Edward Flores
Alex Flores
Ebony Flowers
Travis Flowers
Shadean Flowers
Reginald Flowers
Joshua Valencio
Tehje Vaughan

Samantha Forman
Tefanie Francis
Fallon Gamboa
Robert Gibson
Samuel Gillett
Shakira Gladden
Reanie Gonzalez
Jaheel Goodger
Donovan Grinage
Angelica Guerrero
Neil Hall
Erwin Luis
Melecia McDougall
Hubert Walton
Patricia Young

Leila McKenzie
Georgia Mckenzie
Cecelia Middleton
Earl Miller
Rajiv Ramsey
Jason Reyes
Shamika Reyes
Clive Reyes
Manuel De Rosales Portillo
Tiffany Smith-Diaz
Chevette Staine
Jovan Tillett
Melanie Trapp
Richard Usher
Cyrus Welch

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