

Republic of the Philippines
Quezon City
23rd CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE 22nd REGULAR SESSION
(7th State of the City Address)

held on

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2025, AT THE QC M.I.C.E. CENTER

City Vice Mayor GIAN G. SOTTO - Presiding Officer

The following were present:

1st DISTRICT

Councilor Tany Joe “Tj” L. Calalay, *2nd Asst. Minority Floor Leader*
Councilor Bernard R. Herrera, *President Pro-Tempore*
Councilor Joseph P. Juico
Councilor Charm M. Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD, *3rd Asst. Majority Floor Leader*
Councilor Nicole “Nikki” V. Crisologo

2nd DISTRICT

Councilor Atty. Voltaire Godofredo “Bong” Liban III, *2nd Asst. Majority Floor Leader*
Councilor Aly Medalla
Councilor Dave C. Valmocina
Councilor Ranulfo “Tatay Rannie” Z. Ludovica

3rd DISTRICT

Councilor Geleen “Dok G” Lumbad
Councilor Atty. Christoffer Allan “Tope” Liquigan
Councilor Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay

4th DISTRICT

Councilor Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr.
Councilor Edgar “Egay” G. Yap
Councilor Nanette Castelo Daza
Councilor Imee Rillo
Councilor Atty. Jesus Miguel Suntay
Councilor Raquel S. Malañgen

5th DISTRICT

Councilor Joseph Joe Visaya
Councilor Aiko Melendez
Councilor Alfred Vargas, MPA
Councilor Karl Edgar Castelo
Councilor Shaira “Shay” L. Liban
Councilor Ram V. Medalla

6th DISTRICT

Councilor Maria Eleanor “Doc Ellie” R. Juan, O.D.
Councilor Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar
Councilor Kristine Alexia Matias, RN
Councilor Victor “Vic” D. Bernardo
Councilor Vito Sotto Generoso
Councilor Erwin Rey “Cocoy” A. Medina

SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVES

Councilor Jose Maria “Mari” M. Rodriguez, *President, Liga ng mga Barangay, Quezon City Chapter*
Councilor Jhon Angelli “Sami” C. Neri, *President, Sangguniang Kabataan Federation, Quezon City Chapter*

*arrived after the roll call

Absent:

Councilor Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., *Minority Floor Leader*
Councilor Mikey F. Belmonte
Councilor Candy A. Medina
Councilor Albert Alvin “Chuckie” L. Antonio III, *1st Asst. Majority Floor Leader*
Councilor Don S. De Leon, *1st Asst. Minority Floor Leader*
Councilor Luigi D. Pumaren

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I. OPENING PRAYER

Councilor Rillo led the opening prayer.

II. NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Community Singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

III. COUNCILORS' CREED

The members of the City Council recited the Philippine Councilors' Creed led by Councilor Atty. Liban (Bong).

IV. CALL TO ORDER

The 22nd Regular Session was called to order at 2:47 P.M. by the Presiding Officer, Vice Mayor Gian G. Sotto.

V. ROLL CALL

The Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod, Atty. Alferos, called the roll.

The following council members were present during the roll call, namely: Councilors Calalay, Herrera, Juico, Ferrer, Crisologo, Atty. Liban (Bong), Medalla (Aly), Valmocina, Ludovica, Lumbad, Atty. Liquigan, Lagumbay, Atty. Belmonte (Vicente), Yap, Castelo Daza, Rillo, Suntay, Malañgen, Visaya, Melendez, Vargas, Castelo (Karl), Liban (Shay), Medalla (Ram), Juan, Pilar, Matias, Bernardo, Generoso, Medina (Cocoy), Rodriguez, Neri, and the Presiding Officer, Vice Mayor Sotto.

There being a quorum, the Body proceeded with the day's business.

VI. CALENDAR OF BUSINESS

A. BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

a. PROPOSED RESOLUTION

PR23CC-205 – RESOLUTION INVITING THE HONORABLE MAYOR, MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE TO DELIVER HER 7TH STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS BEFORE THE 23RD QUEZON CITY COUNCIL AND CREATING A COMMITTEE TO DELIVER THIS RESOLUTION AND TO ACCOMPANY HER TO THE QC M.I.C.E. CENTER (*Introduced by Councilors BERNARD R. HERRERA and ALY MEDALLA*)

Councilor Herrera moved for the approval of PR23CC-205.

Councilor Herrera, at this juncture, stated that the foregoing resolution invites the Honorable Mayor, Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte, to deliver her 7th State of the City Address before the 23rd Quezon City Council, and create a committee to deliver the resolution and to accompany her to the QC M.I.C.E. Center, composed of Councilors Calalay, Atty. Liquigan, Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr., Visaya, Generoso, Rodriguez, and Neri.

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In the period of amendments, **all councilors were included as co-introducers of the measure.**

Whereupon, on motion of Councilor Herrera, duly seconded, **PR23CC-205** was **APPROVED** on its second reading.

As moved by Councilor Bernardo, the rules were suspended.

After which, on motion of Councilor Lumbad, duly seconded, **PR23CC-205** was **CONFIRMED** under suspended rules.

As moved by Councilor Malañgen, the rules were restored.

At this point, the Majority Floor Leader moved that the Presiding Officer direct the created committee to invite and accompany the Honorable Mayor Joy Belmonte to the QC M.I.C.E. Center, and the motion was approved.

At this juncture, as requested by the Presiding Officer, the Secretary to the Sanggunian gave to His Honor the approved copy of PR23CC-205.

After signing the said measure, the Presiding Officer directed Councilors Calalay, Atty. Liquigan, Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr., Visaya, Generoso, Rodriguez, and Neri to deliver a copy of PR23CC-205 to Mayor Joy Belmonte and accompany her to the QC M.I.C.E. Center to deliver Her Honor's 7th State of the City Address. (While on recess, the request of the Majority Floor Leader to include the beneficiaries of various Quezon City projects to accompany the Honorable City Mayor to the QC M.I.C.E. Center was granted by the Presiding Officer.)

Meanwhile, a recess was declared.

(While on recess, Councilors Charm Ferrer and Shay Liban acknowledged the presence of the day's guests. Likewise, a video presentation of beneficiaries of various Quezon City projects was played.)

Mayor Joy Belmonte was accorded a standing ovation and a round of applause upon her arrival.

When the session resumed, the Presiding Officer delivered his legislative report.

Vice Mayor Gian G. Sotto recognized the presence of former Mayor and Speaker Sonny Belmonte, District Director of the Quezon City Police District, PCol Randy Glenn Silvio, Congressman Ralph Tulfo, Congressman PM Vargas, Congresswoman Marivic Co-Pilar, City Council members, former Mayor Jun Simon, former Congressman Kit Belmonte, former members of the City Council, Barangay Chairpersons, Sangguniang Barangay members, Department Heads, City Administrator Michael Alimurung, Quezon City Hall employees, and all QCitizens. Also, requested everyone to give a round of applause for Mayor Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte.

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His Honor emphasized that the Legislative Report reflects the unity of the fellow public servants, Quezon City Council members, and legislative staff. He reiterated his longstanding vision for the city, rooted in his experience as a Councilor since 2010, which aligns with his role as Presiding Officer. He portrayed Quezon City as not only a "City of Stars" but also as a "City of Hope, Faith, and Love," particularly under Mayor Joy Belmonte's leadership. He underscored the importance of acting according to moral principles, emphasizing that integrity must be upheld both in the eyes of the people and of God. Furthermore, he proclaimed that genuine service to God inherently translates to true service to people.

Vice Mayor Sotto highlighted the previous year's challenges faced by the City Council, emphasizing their resilience and commitment to public service. The Council successfully passed ordinances aimed at protecting and strengthening the rights of QCitizens. These initiatives ensure access to essential services such as health, education, livelihood, and protection against various forms of abuse. He said that their objective is to create a safe and nurturing environment that enables every family to thrive and succeed.

His Honor noted that the 22nd City Council has been productive and meaningful wherein the Council achieved its targets in line with the Executive-Legislative Agenda with 1,497 approved measures, mostly focused on health, livelihoods, education, youth welfare, and institutional development.

He also highlighted key measures passed and implemented with Mayor Joy Belmonte and the City Councilors during the 22nd City Council from the last quarter of 2024 to the 1st and 2nd quarters of 2025. Each ordinance and resolution has a face, heart, and stories that build a stronger Quezon City.

His Honor highlighted the enhancement of programs aimed at supporting the learning and growth of students within the fields of education and child welfare. He referred to several ordinances that highlighted these efforts, to wit:

- SP-3339, S-2024 - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING CASH INCENTIVES TO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS REPRESENTING QUEZON CITY FOR THEIR EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE IN COMPETITIONS
- SP-3373, S-2024 - AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND ADOPTING THE LEARNERS' MANUAL IN QUEZON CITY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES
- SP-3402, S-2025 - AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE "SMART-CHILD: E-HABILIN PROGRAM"
- SP-3405, S-2025 - AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING BLENDED LEARNING IN QUEZON CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PROMOTE ACCESSIBLE, FLEXIBLE, AND QUALITY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STUDENTS

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- SP-3409, S-2024 - AN ORDINANCE REVISING ORDINANCE NO. SP-2180, SERIES OF 2012, "AN ORDINANCE ENACTING THE QUEZON CITY CHILDREN'S CODE OF 2012 "

He continued that in the area of health, the Council expanded care for public servants and officials through SP-3384, S-2025; SP-3352, S-2024; and SP-3353, S-2024. A comprehensive health coverage was provided to all city employees, barangay officials, and council members. Further, SP-3416, S-2025 established gender-inclusive health programs to ensure accessible and sensitive healthcare for all QCitizens.

He said that the legislative body ushered in a new era of governance by institutionalizing transformative programs and establishing vital establishments that helped reshape the city's fabric, and the notable institutionalized offices are as follows:

- Housing Community Development and Resettlement Department
- City Planning and Development Department
- Tourism Department
- Quezon Memorial Circle Administration Office
- Amoranto Sports Complex Administration Office
- Quezon City Drug Testing Laboratory

The Speaker emphasized that every step taken by the City Council is a step toward a greater Quezon City. Guided by unwavering values and strengthened by their collective faith, they will continue to move forward in service of the QCitizens. His Honor expressed that Mayor Joy Belmonte and the 23rd City Council will not waste the trust bestowed upon them by the citizens of Quezon City; they will build a city that is safe, compassionate, and anchored in faith, hope, and love.

His Honor also recognized the athletes who rose to new challenges throughout the years and reconnected communities through sports. The Council remained committed to providing deserving athletes with opportunities to succeed in their chosen field of sports and personal goals. They live up to their visions of promoting sports as a means of nurturing camaraderie, developing the youth, and strengthening the values of discipline, honor, respect, fairness, and sportsmanship with their slogan "Strong Families, Strong City, Strong Nation."

With that, His Honor, likewise, reported the following projects and programs implemented this year by the Sports Development Office:

- Refresher Course for Teacher-Coaches in partnership with the School Division Office of QC, attended by more than 1,000 participants.
- QC-Wide Basketball Schools Division Cup with 672 participants.
- PWD Chess and Connect 4 Tournament with 50 participants as proof of inclusivity and excellence.
- The 2025 National Aquathlon Championships have 400 participants from different parts of the country.

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- Volleyball Schools Division Cup and Futsal Schools Division Cup this year.
- The Combat Sports Training Program, which started when he was a Councilor in 2010, with 400 expected participants.

Vice Mayor Sotto also conveyed that the Quezon City Anti-Drug Abuse Advisory Council (QCADAAC) continues to implement its initiatives in the fight against illegal drugs. The following are the key accomplishments and milestones of QCADAAC in the previous year:

- In 2024, they conducted Drug Abuse Prevention Education (DAPE) Seminars, with 11,144 participants.
- Partnered with over 500 establishments to conduct Drug-Free Workplace Seminars.
- Added 33 Drug Dependency Evaluation (DDE) doctors to assist in the assessment and rehabilitation of drug dependents.
- Implemented the Drug-Free TODA/PODA Ordinance, with 14,071 TODA members have undergone drug testing from July 2024 to October 2025.
- Trained 15,222 Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council (BADAC) and Barangay Auxiliary Team (BAT) members and were encouraged to take part in addressing drug-related issues in their communities.
- Distributed 142 desktop computers to all barangays to update the database of Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUDs).
- As of the moment, Quezon City has 100 Drug-Cleared Barangays, with 42 barangays remaining, to achieve the goal of becoming 100% drug-cleared.

In connection with the city's ongoing commitment to combat the problem of illegal drugs in the city, His Honor presented key updates regarding the programs and projects of the Quezon City Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center (TAHANAN).

He stated that from June 2024 to June 2025, the Center recorded a total of 385 admissions, with around 29 individuals with cases of readmission. Recognizing the deterrent effects of drug abuse and dependency, they have made concerted efforts to address the presence of illegal substances in the community. After their discharge, an "Aftercare Program" is implemented, which provides continuous care and support for the QCitizens through counseling, monitoring, and reintegration assistance to help prevent returning to their bad habit and completely give up on it. Also, they proposed a law that prohibits discrimination against those victims of illegal drugs.

Vice Mayor Gian G. Sotto expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the trust and support given to them, to Mayor Joy Belmonte, and to the 23rd City Council. He stressed that the entire Council reaffirmed its commitment to serve the people of Quezon City, promoting together for a safe and caring city, and moving forward together towards a bright future.

Lastly, Vice Mayor Sotto expressed that life is simple: Do what is right, not only for the eyes of people but for the eyes of God. It is their main duty as public servants, and they will always fight for God, for family, and for the country.

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Consequently, the Presiding Officer introduced Mayor Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte to deliver Her Honor's 7th State of the City Address.

b. 7th STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS OF THE CITY MAYOR

Upon the introduction of the Vice Mayor, the Honorable City Mayor Ma. Josefina "Joy" Belmonte, who was accorded a round of applause, took the floor to deliver her 7th State of the City Address.

Foremost, the beloved City Mayor extended her greetings to the members of the 23rd City Council, led by Vice Mayor Gian Carlo Sotto, former city officials, District Representatives, members of the Executive Department, led by the City Administrator Michael Alimurong, barangay officials, men in uniform, and all esteemed guests who graced this momentous occasion.

Mayor Joy Belmonte thereupon thanked the QCitizens for sharing their stories and for accompanying her to this Chamber. It truly means a lot to her every time someone approaches her, telling her they are "proud QCitizen." She remarked that from the beginning, the imperative of their leadership was clear: To bring the city out of the shadows and to serve as the light of the people. In 2019, she started her administration with transparency, thereby signing her first-ever Executive Order creating the Internal Audit Service, an independent unit guarding the acts and spending of the local government, along with the Freedom of Information Ordinance, the first ordinance enacted by the City Council, setting mechanisms for the people to easily request information from the city government. With these first acts, they stepped into the edge of light, moving beyond their fear of the unknown, so they could define the city's future. She then proudly pronounced: *"Today, Quezon City stands, not just as the largest and most populous city in the Philippines, but as a leader across many aspects of local governance. As the City of Firsts, we have blazed trails to show the country what is possible. We confront difficult truths and always find ways to make our best even better. We are a city that dares to reimagine the future — and to move towards the direction of our hopes."*

Her Honor confidently stated: *"Ang QC, tunay nang maipagmamalaki."* With that, the City Mayor laid down the city government's accomplishments, detailing reforms and programs implemented over the past year, in addition to outlining plans and projects, viz:

▪ **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- This 2025, in the PhP41.3 Billion budget of the city government, 54% was allocated for the programs for education, health, housing, and livelihood; and will continue to keep the same commitment in the proposed budget of PhP43.3 Billion for 2026.
- Quezon City has received an Unqualified Opinion from the Commission on Audit for five straight years, reflecting that the city's financial statements are all in order, consistently increasing, and even achieving significant growth after the global pandemic.
- Quezon City will be receiving a Hall of Fame award as the Top LGU in the Philippines in terms of Local Source Revenues from 2020 to 2024.

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- As for this year's tax collection, PhP20.8 Billion was already collected from January to October, which is higher compared to the PhP18.8 Billion collection within the same period of the previous year.
- Real Property Tax Amnesty was implemented, encouraging more taxpayers to pay their taxes. This August, PhP223 Million was already collected, a 62% increase from 2024 collections, resulting in an even bigger share for the barangays.
- Strengthening the QC eServices platform, with 165 individual services offered in 34 online programs within it, including the iDeclare Easy, where real property tax assessment is now digital. With the Scanning and Retrieval Gateway, the 2.3 million tax declaration files could be retrieved in as fast as five minutes, even those from as far back as 1941, simplifying the process especially for property owners living outside Quezon City.
- Quezon City has risen to become the preferred destination for businesses, having a nearly 77,000 registered businesses to date, translating to an estimated 430,000 jobs for the QCitizens. In fact, new businesses are continuously opening in the city, including some big companies like Ikea and two global companies, Conifer and Tenet, intending to expand their operations in the city.
- This year, Quezon City became a Hall of Fame Awardee as the Most Business-Friendly LGU from the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- In the City Hall's Business One-Stop Shop, 500 transactions every day were processed, meaning one transaction was done per minute, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.—no lunch break.
- From 2020, PhP1.3 Billion was already allocated and invested for the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise Development, helping more than 120,000 individuals through livelihood programs. Based on the survey and monitoring of the Small Business and Development and Promotions Office, 85% of the Pangkabuhayang QC beneficiaries are continuously expanding their business.
- To expand support for the MSMEs, the City Government partnered with national government agencies, private companies, and organizations offering more capacity-building opportunities for budding entrepreneurs, including training, market linkages, and mentorship.
- The QC-grown entrepreneurs have earned PhP141 Million across over 200 bazaars, markets, and trade fairs. Some of the barangays are also putting up their own bazaars, giving the microentrepreneurs in their communities the chance to earn. In Quezon City, business opportunities were available to all sectors of society.
- Quezon City also opens its doors to different provinces with products through the regular trade fairs, producer-to-consumer, like Ilocos Norte and Nueva Vizcaya, where the residents could buy products at a cheap price while ensuring the income of the businesses. Many other provincial governments signified interest in this kind of partnership.

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- The Cooperative Development Plan for 2025 to 2028 enumerates the city's concrete steps and strategies to strengthen cooperatives in the city. Several groups were assisted to organize and register their coop like urban farmers, parents of children with disability, tailors, and TODA members; developing their entrepreneurial skills; a cooperative for returning OFW, QC Cares program, will also be established under the Migrants Resource Center, which will be made possible by the grant of \$300,000 or PhP17.6 Million from the Mayors Migration Council. Aside from savings and credit schemes, returning domestic workers will gain access to training and job-matching services and broader social protections.
- This year, Quezon City launched its new tourism campaign, the "QC: More to Explore," highlighting the rich heritage and the many opportunities for enjoyment and discovery in the city; almost 7,200 tourism-related establishments were registered in the city such as hotels and accommodations, attractions, restaurants and bars, travel agencies, and tourism destinations such as galleries and museums; two (2) museums were opened this year; strong nostalgia hits the Bahay Modernismo in Quezon Memorial Circle; the first and only Women's Museum in the country was established in Barangay Tandang Sora; the Pride Festival continues to grow each year welcoming over 400,000 attendees in the colorful show of solidarity for equal rights; the city also co-organized the board game convention All Aboard, which drew 10,000 enthusiasts and visitors to the city; the QCinema International Film Festival, which is now in its 13th year and recently gain the Hall of Fame Award from the most prestigious tourism award giving body in the Philippines; continuously growing the tourism districts including Maginhawa, which has become an urban destination with the annual Arts and Food Festival, and Banawe Chinatown, where the Chinese New Year celebration attracts thousands of tourists; and opening the Kamuning Textile Market this year.

▪ **SOCIAL WELFARE**

- To date, about 360,000 senior citizens have been registered in the city; from January, more than 269,000 birthday packages were distributed to them; social welfare assistance was continuously granted to seniors without pensions; 51 permanent positions were created in the Office of Senior Citizens Affairs focusing on the needs of the elders, through the ordinance authored by Councilors Joseph Visaya and Geleen Lumbad.
- Registration of Persons with Disabilities is now faster; more than 90,000 PWD IDs are now validated, resulting in easy distribution of social welfare assistance and assistive devices like prosthetics, wheelchairs, prescription glasses, and hearing aids; and PWDs now have access to livelihood programs of the city, as well as different perks and discounts.
- The budget for the city's burial assistance program is now PhP125 Million; the city government has already partnered with different funeral homes for the funeral package amounting to PhP25,000.00 for indigent QCitizens; "libreng palibing"; affordable cremation services in Baesa Public Crematorium; and there are more than 1,000 vaults in the Quezon City Columbarium.

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- The No Woman Left Behind program provides new opportunities to the PDL; in the Female Dormitory, 196 PDLs have already graduated from elementary to college, and have already earned almost PhP1Million in the livelihood programs.
- The *No Juan Left Behind* program for the Male Dormitory will be launched on December 1.

▪ **HEALTH**

- This year, more than PhP5 Billion was allotted for health services, thereby granting free medical services in the city's health facilities such as check-ups, immunizations, laboratory and dental services, maternal health care, family planning, and nutrition-related programs.
- Ensuring quality health services since Quezon City is a Universal Health Care Integration Site.
- The 67 health centers and the city employees' clinic are already PhilHealth YAKAP accredited; more than 344,000 QCitizens are eligible for YAKAP, and further coordinating with PhilHealth to cover all QCitizens.
- The QC Health Information System has significantly improved the efficiency of claim transmittal and submission in PhilHealth. By implementing an electronic record management system within health facilities, it effectively prevents duplication of records and allows for better monitoring of the services accessed by residents.
- A total of 157,000 QCitizens received monthly maintenance medications for the management of non-communicable diseases, specifically for conditions as hypertension and diabetes.
- Elderly Day Care Program in Quezon City General Hospital (QCGH) for seniors receiving wellness and respite care.
- Outpatient Emergency Care Benefit of PhilHealth for some emergency procedures in QCGH.
- New dialysis center in Rosario Maclang Bautista General Hospital for QCitizens with chronic kidney disease or CKD, with the help of Congressman Ralph Tulfo.
- In Novaliches District Hospital, continuous screening referrals have been made after its recognition as a Newborn Screening Satellite Continuity Clinic last November.
- Increasing the budget for the medical assistance program to PhP53 Million this year.
- In Kabahagi Center, almost 10,000 children with disabilities received free therapy, livelihood, and educational support for the past seven years.

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- A new Kabahagi Center in District 6 will be opened later this year to assist more CWDs, with the help of Congresswoman Marivic Co-Pilar.
 - The Gender-Inclusive Health Ordinance was enacted, authored by Councilor Bernard Herrera. Soon, the city will be rolling out gender-affirming consultations and counseling, referrals to specialized services, and mental health support to trans citizens.
 - Strengthening the Helpline 122 to provide mental health assistance 24/7 on duty, providing psychosocial support and first aid, and ensuring that help is just three numbers away.
 - Additional staff in the Mental Wellness Access Hubs.
 - This 2025, more than 27,000 women at-risk have undergone free breast cancer screening, while almost 10,000 have undergone cervical cancer screening.
 - Quezon City is the first LGU to enact the Integrated Cancer Control Ordinance authored by Councilor Alfred Vargas and join the City Cancer Challenge, enabling the city to gather technical and research assistance from experts to strengthen cancer programs.
 - More than 143,000 pets were vaccinated with anti-rabies this year only; more than 3,500 dogs and cats were castrated; and more than 2,500 are with microchip; hundreds of dogs and cat found their “fur-ever home,” through the adoption program of the Quezon City Veterinary Department.
- **EDUCATION**
- This 2025, 15% of the city’s total annual budget, or more than PhP6 Billion was allotted for education, thereby meeting the UNESCO benchmark of allocating at least 15% to 20% of public expenditure to education.
 - To date, 458 infrastructure projects for the public schools across the city have been completed.
 - Crafting the Classroom Decongestion Plan —a long-term strategy of the city to solve the backlog in terms of classrooms.
 - Over the past weeks, the City has been hauling unserviceable school equipment from the public schools to maximize the use of space, along with a cleanup drive to prevent sickness like dengue.
 - Quality education in the Quezon City University for almost 12,000 students; courses offered received accreditation from the Association of Local Colleges and Universities Commission on Accreditation and the Commission on Higher Education; and from 2020, receiving more than PhP661 Million from the CHED UniFAST, under the Free Higher Education Act.

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- Under the QC Scholarship Program, almost 50,000 students from senior high school to post-graduate were city scholars, more than 15,000 of whom are college graduates and tech-voc completers already, and planned to increase the scholars to 80,000, thereby increasing its budget to PhP400 Million this year.
- Strengthening the media and information literacy in Quezon City. UNESCO will announce in Paris that Quezon City is among the 13 pilot Media and Information Literacy cities around the world that have actively promoting critical thinking and combating disinformation and misinformation among the citizens.
- Receiving the Seal of Good Education Governance this year.

▪ **PEACE, ORDER, SAFETY, & SECURITY**

- Continuously inspecting the structural integrity of buildings, including schools, ensuring the safety of the community, in preparation for The Big One.
- Conducted the Walk the Fault activity to identify structures under the West Valley Fault and put markers to remind the residents.
- Teams from DRRMO, the Engineering Department, the Department of Building Officials, and City Health were deployed to assist in damage assessment and medical and psychosocial interventions in Cebu and Davao, which had experienced an intense earthquake. Affected municipalities were given financial assistance totalling PhP14 Million.
- This November, the Business Permits and Licensing Department, together with the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, will be launching the ALERT QC - a citywide program aiming to train businesses for first aid, fire safety, and emergency preparedness.
- This year, PhP1.6 Billion was allocated for the safety and peace and order programs of the city, including the budget subsidy for the Quezon City Police District, and the 5 Minute Response Policy in Quezon City is being enforced strictly.
- Full integration of CCTVs by Project Aurora and emergency calls in Helpline 122 in the QCPD system.
- As per the QCPD, crimes committed within the city in 2025 have gone down by 25% compared to last year.
- This year, Helpline 122 received 83,000 emergency and non-emergency calls.
- Faster online payment of OVRs under the QC eServices.

▪ **HOUSING**

- Almost PhP5 Billion or 12% of the annual budget was allotted for housing programs.

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- Almost 30,000 families will benefit from this housing program by the end of this year, including those living in danger zones and those under relocation, direct sale, transition housing, and rental housing scheme programs.
 - The QCitizen Homes Cambridge project in District 3 - a 12-storey residential building benefiting 704 beneficiaries, will soon start.
 - The QCitizen Homes Balingasa project will be completed by May 2026.
 - Another building in the QCitizen Homes Urban Deca will also be opened soon.
 - Quezon City also partnered with the Ayala Corporation for a 1.2-hectare housing project benefiting 3,000 informal settler families.
 - A Php900 Million savings from the escrow funds from the private developers, pursuant to the Balanced Housing Compliance, to be utilized in developing in-city housing for those living in waterways.
- **INFRASTRUCTURE**
- Green and Open Spaces in Quezon City - 50 million square meters or 30% of the city's total area, and intends to increase by 5% by 2030.
 - Continuously increasing the city's parks; from 2019, 101 parks were renovated, while 24 are newly developed.
 - The Buenamar Park in Novaliches Proper is nearly completed. Aside from the elevated park, there is also a multi-purpose hall that could be used for barangay activities.
 - Implemented initiatives promoting QC as a walkable and pedestrian-friendly city, in line with the vision of realizing the 15-minute city concept.
 - Creating the QC ReVibe to beautify the different districts, just like in Tomas Morato, District 4, and Litex in District 2.
 - Five hundred (500) lighting in Elliptical Road protecting the pedestrians and bikers.
 - Thirty-five (35) footbridges in the city were improved under a public-private partnership.
 - Flood mitigation projects, along with the Quezon City Drainage Master Plan, were crafted together with the UP-Resilience Institute.
 - From 2021 to 2025, an additional 122,000 cubic meters of drainage capacity will be added as a result of the 181 projects under the flood mitigation program.

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- Construction of detention basins, retention ponds, drainage interceptors, and improvement of drainage systems in flood-prone areas; and a retention pond with a water tank in Quezon Memorial Circle with a capacity of 650 cubic meters.
- Maintenance and dredging operations, including de-clogging of drainage systems, bringing back 86,700 cubic meters of capacity, and removal of 5,900 cubic meters of garbage in the San Francisco River.
- City-wide dredging operations, particularly in the San Juan River and Tullahan River, in partnership with San Miguel Corporation, are removing almost 1.4 million cubic meters of garbage.
- Clean-up efforts in the Marilao Bridge near E. Rodriguez Avenue.

▪ **ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**

- Solar panels were installed in the City Hall's buildings, hospitals, and schools, lowering the consumption of fossil fuels, thereby enabling the city to save PhP47 Million every year.
- Eight (8) fully electric buses were added in the QCity Bus Program, travelling from City Hall to Cubao (Route No. 1). In 2026, another eight (8) e-buses going to Gilmore (Route No. 6) shall also be added. In total, the Libreng Sakay served almost 41 million ridership from 2020.
- Prohibition on the use of single-use plastics and disposable materials in the City Hall, through Executive Order No. 3, thereby reducing the garbage by 25%.
- Implementation of the No Single-Use Plastic Bottles Policy in the Quezon Memorial Circle.
- The Kilo/s Kyusi Store has already collected six (6) tons of pre-loved clothes and reusable items, earning more than PhP2 Million, which goes to the tutoring program.
- The QC Circularity Hub was launched in coordination with the ANTHILL Fabric Gallery, the first of its kind in the country. The heart of the program is the 20 artisan weavers from Payatas.
- To date, the city has created 58,600 good green jobs as part of the commitment to building a greener city, along with providing livelihood opportunities for the citizens.

▪ **INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Implementation of the merit-based system for the monthly Personnel Selection Board or PSB. More than 3,000 employees were appointed to permanent/Plantilla positions, while more than 2,000 were promoted.
- Last year, 339 barangay officials finished their executive courses in the QCU. This year, 688 have taken this course.

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- More barangays received awards and cash incentives during the Barangay Day, as well as national awards.
- SK Councils continue to do good work, as shown by their performance in the Philippine Sangguniang Kabataan Awards.
- This year, the development of the six (6) District Action Offices was finished; 3.3 million transactions from different offices were done from 2022, aside from the almost 800,000 transactions in barangay caravans.
- Strengthening the People's Council of Quezon City, which has 1,596 SEC-accredited organizations to date.

▪ **OPEN GOVERNMENT**

- Joining the Open Government Partnership, a global alliance promoting transparency, digitalization, public participation, and accountability in governance.
- Strengthening people's participation under the 3-year OGP Local Action Plan.
- Strengthening Civil Society Organizations (CSO), through capacity-building initiatives like skills-building for community development workers and firefighting volunteers; training on the formation of Barangay Children's Associations; and the year-end showcase of best practices in the growing CSO community.
- Participatory budgeting - transforming the budget process from a closed-door endeavor to one where every voice matters.
- The QC Open Data dashboard containing the data of the city programs will be available in the QC e-Services platform.
- The QC Open Infra shows the infrastructure projects of the city government: schools, flood control projects, barangay hall, multipurpose buildings, drainage upgrading, roads, parks, and others.
- Integrating the Geographic Information System for the location, amount, contractor, and status of the project, including streetlights, flood hazard map, and the West Valley Fault.
- Launching of a digital app, an online crowd-sourcing platform for concerns, complaints, and feedback of the QCitizens.
- Developed an internal business registration and compliance dashboard and enhanced data analytics capabilities.
- Chosen as the pilot site of the New Government Procurement Act Caravan by the Government Policy Procurement Board and the Department of Budget and Management.
- Awarded as the Regional Winner for Asia and the Pacific and the overall winner for the Thematic Area on Civic Space.

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In addition, the Honorable Mayor proudly shared that Quezon City is one of the four National Finalists in the Highly Urbanized Cities Category of the Presidential Award for Child-Friendly Municipalities and Cities, one of the most prestigious awards in the country. It is proof of their dedication to the future of the city as they are investing in children. It is a team effort, hence the beloved Mayor extended her gratitude to the barangays, departments, social workers, schools, BHWs, CSOs, and to all who participated in the validation process.

In closing, the Honorable Mayor Belmonte remarked that they have proven that genuine change is possible when they muster the courage not only to be excellent but, more importantly, to be honest to the oath they have taken. They have been audacious in their actions and firm in their convictions. However, there is still so much more that they could do for the people, as every QCitizen belongs to progress. Her Honor then uttered: *“I keep faith that someday, our good, honest work will truly pay off. But in the spaces we are given today, I commit that your City Government will strive to earn your trust every single day. Patuloy po tayong makikinig at magiging bukas. At mas lalo pa tayong magsisikap para mas marami sa ating mga kababayan ang ating maiangat. Lagi't-lagi: Para sa QC. Para sa bayan. Muli, maraming salamat. Mabuhay ang ating minamahal na Lungsod Quezon. Mabuhay tayong lahat.”*

After which, the Majority Floor Leader, Councilor Aly Medalla, expressed her gratitude to Vice Mayor Gian Sotto and to Mayor Joy Belmonte for her comprehensive report on the transformative programs and policies for Quezon City.

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VII. CLOSING PRAYER

Councilor Castelo Daza led the closing prayer.

Meanwhile, the Presiding Officer informed the Body that the next regular session will be on November 10, 2025, at the Carlos Albert Hall.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items to be discussed, on motion, duly seconded, the day's session was adjourned.

SESSION ADJOURNED: 5:00 P.M.

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ATTESTED BY:

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APPROVED BY:

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City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer