

QC richest

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every peso,” said Belmonte during a roundtable with The Manila Times on Wednesday.

The mayor, who is seeking reelection on the May 9 national polls, said the city’s revenue collection dramatically increased even during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

“I would just like to stress that most LGUs had their revenue collections decreased, which was understandable because we were under a pandemic, but not Quezon City. Our collections have increased and this is surprising, but again this is the testament of what good governance can do,” she said.

Belmonte said that her first executive order when she became mayor in 2019 was the creation of an internal audit service.

“Through this, we have internal controls and proper paper trails as we see how the money goes and spent, we can easily trace transactions thereby effectively getting rid of corruption,” the mayor said.

Belmonte reported that the city’s funds were properly spent based on the programs or agenda submitted by concerned sectors like solo parents, senior citizens, youth, tricycle operators and drivers through constant consultation with the city government.

She said the city’s method of governance has improved the quality of life of its residents and boosted its economy.

“My administration was not deterred as we were able to pursue our original plans and programs while effectively addressing the pandemic wherein we spent a lot, which was not part of the plans, for social services and needs of our constituents,” she said.

Consequently, the **QC government** received an unqualified opinion from the Commission on Audit (CoA) for the first time in its history for its annual audit report for year 2020.

“This is the first in the city’s history that the local government obtained a clear and unqualified opinion from CoA which recognized its corruption-free governance. This is the first that CoA declared Quezon City as a trusted LGU. It is also something that I am very proud of. It is the testament to the fact that we are doing the right thing here,” Belmonte said.

Based on the 2020 Annual Financial Report on Local Government of the CoA, Quezon City’s assets have increased by 369 percent or P355.91 billion from P96.423 billion.

The growth catapulted Quezon City to the top of the list of richest LGUs, overtaking Makati City, which recorded total assets of P238.464 billion from P233.781 billion in 2019.

Belmonte lauded City Hall employees and officials for their contribution to Quezon City’s success.

“We also thank our government workers who have made the ultimate sacrifice during this pandemic. If not for everyone’s help, we won’t be able to accomplish this milestone,” she said.