

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI CITY



THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SECOND ASSEMBLY (FOURTH SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

No. 24 of 2020

STRATEGIC RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

Honourable Members, I have the following communications to convey;-

Hon. Members, I trust that we are all aware and appreciate that the Assembly is a creation of the Constitution and its mandate expressed vividly in the County Government Act, 2012. By having delegated powers and public trust from the people of Nairobi, much is expected from the Assembly in ensuring effective service delivery of service to the residents of Nairobi through Prudent Oversight, Responsive Representation and Robust Legislation.

Hon. Members, it is from that institutional vision that I humbly invite you for collaboration towards restoration of the Public trust bestowed upon us, in making this City great to live and work in.

On facilitating the National Metropolitan Service;

Hon. Members, as you may recall during the morning sitting I underscore the need for concerted approach towards accomplishment of the triple role and the mandate of the County by extension. We therefore recognize that H.E the president is anxious to see Nairobi City restored to its “City in the Sun” status. This is evident in his joint initiative with H.E the Governor to bring the Nairobi Metropolitan Services (NMS) on board to

enhance service delivery with the support from the National Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)

Accordingly, Hon. Members, the Public Finance, Management Act, 2012 places the responsibility of appropriation of funds for effective rolling out of funds of projects and programmes. In the present circumstance of transferred functions, it will require adjustments in the normal fashioning of structures and budget documents to reflect the new reality of multiplicity of entities.

However, Hon. Members, in order to achieve the ultimate goal of service delivery through rolling out of projects, programs and intervention on the ground, I would urge that all the relevant Committees to engage with their respective sectors, stakeholders with an aim of conducting a progress examination and stock taking on the deliverables, record challenges faced and table reports with recommendations therein for adoption by the Assembly.

Hon. Members, I trust you are also aware of the current stalemate at the Senate with regards to the passage of the Division of Revenue Bill that has seen many programs and activities stall in Counties. We therefore urge the National Leadership and the Senate to expedite the negotiations on the revenue formula to enable Counties resume operations as trustees of people's power and interests.

On committee businesses;

Hon. Members, I understand that a number of Committees are processing Bills, for instance the Gender Based Violence Bill currently under Second Reading, the Finance Bill and Appropriations Bill anticipating introduction and not forgetting over five other Bills currently under drafting stage. I thank you for the efforts. I trust that going forward, we

will have Members sponsor more legislations geared towards transforming the City.

Hon. Members, the oversight role is at the heart of this Assembly and I want to encourage Committees to be thorough in examining the respective Sector operations and periodic reports on expenditure of budgets. By doing so, the Assembly will hold the sectors to account on utilization of budget allocations. We will therefore expect reports outlining the challenges and proposed relevant interventions to improve Sectoral performance.

On Security and business enabling environment;

Hon. Members, one of the challenges that the County is facing is insecurity. We acknowledge the various initiatives by the County to curb crime including installation of the CCTV cameras, control room and regulation of the public transport sector. However, Hon. Member it is not enough to install, rather, it requires a deliberate effort to have a dedicated team to run the system and a constant upgrade of technologies. I therefore call upon the sectoral Committees on Information Technology, Energy and Communication; and Justice and Legal Affairs to take up this matter ensure the city is secure for the most needed 24-hour economy status.

On Pending Bills;

Hon, Members, the County is grappling with settling the pending bills accruing from previous financial years. Indeed these bills have contributed to the retardation of efforts of initiation of transformative new projects. Most of the said bills are debts that are owed to suppliers and contractors who delivered adequately on their respective assignments.

The Assembly, in Plenary and Committees, has made efforts to have this issue resolved. However, much more needs to be done to have this resolved. Hon. Members, we have done this in realization that Nairobi is

a business City and by paying the contractors and suppliers, the County will be directly contributing towards good life for its enterprising citizens. It will also facilitate growth of businesses that are at the heart of revenues in the County. I want to therefore to join you in urging the concerned entity to adopt an expeditious model of settling the bills and adopt remedial policies that will encourage non-accumulation of pending bills going forward.

Speaker's Kamukunji

Hon. Members, the Office of the Speaker will be engaging all members in a Speaker's Kamukunji, whose invitation, my office shall extend to you in due course. This will help in providing a platform for us as leaders to chat our way forwards and to address any issue that might affect the operations of the Assembly.

You will appreciate that the Speaker's Officer is and Should always be blind to party politics in the Assembly, but as a leader, when such situations arises, my office would always provide for Kamukunji to arbitrate and enable us iron out our issues in a decorous manner.

Hon. Members, I calls for unity of purpose amongst us and with our stakeholders.

I thank you Hon. Members.

SIGN.....

THE HON. BENSON MUTURA
SPEAKER OF THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 8th August 2020