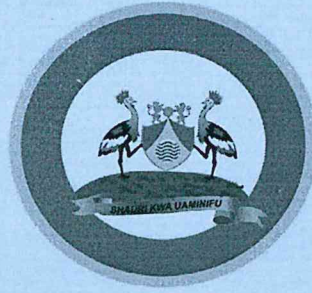


GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI CITY COUNTY



THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

THIRD ASSEMBLY ★

(THIRD SESSION)



4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

04/04/2024

NCCA/TJ/PL/2024(14)

PAPER LAID

SUBJECT: REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 27(4), I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly today, Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024:

— THE ADDRESS OF H.E. THE GOVERNOR DELIVERED IN THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY ON THURSDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024.

*(The Leader of Majority Party)*

Copies to:  
The Speaker  
The Clerk  
Hansard Editor  
Hansard Reporters  
The Press

*Paper laid  
by the Leader  
of majority on  
04/04/2024*

# **NAIROBI CITY COUNTY**



**STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS BY**  
**HIS EXCELLENCY SAKAJA A. JOHNSON, EGH,**  
**GOVERNOR**

**NAIROBI CITY COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**THURSDAY, 04 APRIL 2024**

The Honourable Speaker,  
Nairobi City Assembly Leadership,  
Honourable Members,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Good Afternoon,

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members,

When I took office nineteen months ago, the hopes and dreams Nairobians had shared with me on the campaign were uppermost in my mind. Wherever we went, we met men and women of energy, innovation and ambition. They were ready to work; but they were also tired of the inequality, the squalor, and the misgovernance of the past. They wanted a fresh start for their city. They sent me here to make that fresh start. They sent you here to make that fresh start.

I knew it would not be easy or simple. We would need radical change in our institutions, in our habits of governance, and in our relations with colleagues and friends, from the national government to our development partners. But the people of Nairobi sent me here to bring change. They trusted me. I am not going to let them down.

That's why we have set out our plans to bring order, dignity, hope and opportunity to Nairobi; and that's why I'm here today to hold myself accountable before you to the promises I made.

Mr Speaker, Honourable members

In doing so, I fulfil, in your presence and in the hearing of the people of Nairobi, a constitutional obligation. Authority is a trust given to us by the people of Kenya. Article 10(2) of the constitution demands of us that we exercise that authority guided by the values of dignity, equality, justice, inclusivity, and accountability; and that we stand ready to account to the people of Kenya for our decisions when we make them. Section 30 (2) k of the County Government Act also provides that I deliver this annual state of the county address. I am ready to meet that obligation today. So let us begin.

Ladies and gentlemen

We took office at a time of turmoil. The pandemic had ended. The economy was only beginning to recover. The County had huge pending bills, above 100 Billion shillings; our legal liabilities were unpredictable. Nairobi had had enough of crude partisan politics, expensive services, and streets as dirty as the city was disorderly.

The administration of the county suffered because leaders were divided by partisan affiliation. I must thank and congratulate the leadership of this house; The Right Honorable Speaker - Ken Okeyo Ng'ondi, The Deputy

Speaker, The Leaders of Majority and Minority Parties Peter Jateso Imwatok, Anthony Kiragu Karanja and their deputies, The Whips, Moses Nyangaresi Ogeto and Mark Mugambi Macharia and their deputies and of course the elders Dr. Wilfred Oluoch Odalo “Ker” and James Mwaura Chege for helping us bridge that divide and work together as one family. The Nairobi Family. I acknowledge the great work done by the Nairobi City County Assembly in its oversight, representation and legislative roles. You represent the hopes and aspirations of millions of Nairobians and you can always count on my support as you execute your mandate. In strengthening your capacity I have signaled my support and the Cabinet will approve the use and transfer of County land in Upper Hill for the Construction of your administration block, assembly and offices for all members to better serve our people.

Honorable Members,

Even before I took my oath of office, I had felt the weight of the county's problems. Precisely because of that awareness, I was driven to hasten the implementation of changes which I believed the county needed. Today, I am happy to give a report card. Have we lived up to the promises and expectations we set? We have.

Revenue mobilisation was a priority from the beginning. We could not hope to redeem our promises without significantly changing the way we raised revenue. I want to recognise that members here realised its importance, and have continued to work with us to bring order to Nairobi's finances.

This year, we set ourselves the target of KSh 19.9 billion of own-source revenue, informed by research which shows that Nairobi's revenue potential is in the order of KSh 60 billion.

In the last financial year we managed to raise KSh 10.6 billion—more than in any of the last five years. This year, we are on course to surpass the own-source revenue record set in the 2015-2016 Financial Year of KSh 12.2 billion.

Looking ahead, we can see several steps each of which will transform our revenue-raising capacities.

First, we will regularise development to correct the urban planning oversights of the past, and to ease collection. We will also effect the Sectional Properties Act, the better to allow owners of units of property, whether apartments or offices, the opportunity to acquire title deeds. This will protect property owners from the danger of losing their hard-earned assets when the leases of their mother titles expire. These are among the high potential areas, in addition to expanding the base of ratepayers.

Secondly, this year, we have established the Nairobi Revenue Authority, which will be responsible for revenue collection going forward. I am grateful to this Assembly for appropriating the funds that allowed us to secure office space for the Authority.

As we speak, the fitting out of the NRA's offices at the CBK Pension Towers is in its final stages, as is the recruitment of a CEO. In all, we expect to see a

significant rise in revenue as well as in the order and effectiveness of collection once the new authority is up and running.

Mr Speaker,

Nairobi City County is saddled with huge pending bills; a liability with which we will have to deal. We have started by evaluating this debt: our teams are re-examining the claims by the Kenya Revenue Authority, by Kenya Power amongst other large claimants.

Second, negotiations have begun with statutory debtors. Third, our debt-management strategy Paper, already presented to this House, sets out our proposal for handling these liabilities. Fourth, and as a matter of urgency, my staff and I have enforced tighter controls on spending.

Our finance and economy teams have been diligent; you in this house have also been extraordinarily supportive. Over time we have been able to achieve the fiscal discipline which makes our programs feasible, and which honours the people of Nairobi who entrusted us with their very hard-earned money.

We have also maintained our no-cash policy in Government, and ensured all revenue streams are digitised.

The Unified Business Permit (UBP) was a campaign pledge my administration was keen to implement. I am delighted to inform this House that we rolled it out this January, and it is already making it easier to do business in Nairobi.

Our people no longer have to go to different offices to seek licences; all are available in a one-stop-shop. We have encouraged Nairobians to seek services online. For those who prefer to be served over the counter, please come to our Customer Care Centre at City Hall Annexe: these were envisaged by the County Governments Act 2012 (section 119) and we are the first County to establish one.

For the last three months, the county has been offering civic education on the UBP and helping customers to create online accounts.

Beginning this month, we will resume enforcement to ensure compliance. The county government has developed an enforcement app that will allow targeted and efficient interaction with our clients, aiming to encourage compliance. The era of county askaris raiding business premises and harassing traders is gone. We neither tolerate it nor accept it. We continue to ensure that our enforcement is respectful but firm. We are glad that cases of running battles between our enforcement officers and hawkers are a thing of the past and there has been no public transport strike in the last 19 months. We intend to keep it that way. This has been occasioned by our new approach to enforcement and compliance which includes dialogue and continued engagement with different sectors.

However, we have had a few cases in the recent past where certain quarters have taken advantage of our new stance. We have had unfortunate incidents where some of our officers have been attacked in the line of duty. This is unacceptable. It will not be tolerated. We must let our enforcement officers do their work. Obstruction of government officers fulfilling their mandate is



a crime punishable by law and will be dealt with firmly. The people of Nairobi affirmed that they desired a city of order. Order will be maintained. To set the record straight, and to be clear there is no problem recording officers as they perform their duties, if anything it increases accountability, however what will not be accepted is obstruction or incitement of wananchi against them as they perform their duties. Order will be established and maintained.

Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This financial year, the County kicked off eProcurement, to inculcate transparency and efficiency in the process of onboarding suppliers as well as in receiving and accounting for goods and services. It was long overdue: our manual processes were prone to delays and abuse. eProcurement has brought sanity back. There is no turning back.

The county's economic planning sub sector has received accolades for coming up with the best County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP), our development blueprint that has been emulated by other counties. I am immensely grateful to this Assembly, and especially the Budget and Appropriations Committee, for your support.

The Ward Development Programme, an initiative close to the hearts of honourable members, has ensured equitable distribution of development funds across all 85 wards. We have raised the allocation from 17 to 23 million per ward. WDP tarmacked the first county road in Uthiru-Ruthimitu Ward, laid the first cabro in Njathaini in Zimmerman Ward, and has seen

the completion of the state-of-the-art Uhuru Sports Complex in Kariobangi South. There are now 85 projects worth 1.92 billion under way. You will continue to receive my total support.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members,

Let me now turn to our work to satisfy the value of dignity.

It is no secret that our health needs are complex: Nairobi is not just one of the largest and most densely-populated counties in the country; it also meets the medical needs of Kenyans from other counties in the ordinary course of things, and it is where the hardest cases are handled.

I am proud to say that we are meeting our responsibilities in spite of that complexity. When we came in, we changed the governance structure of our level 5 facilities: based on the report of the taskforce we commissioned within the first sixty days of taking office, we appointed professional CEOs and replaced the relevant boards.

The CEOs ensure a new level of professionalism in day-to-day operations while leading the strategic development initiatives required for longer-term success. In consequence, we have some wins to report.

I want to start with Mama Lucy Kibaki Hospital, which recently opened the first public eye hospital in Kenya: the Mama Lucy Kibaki Eye Hospital in Umoja 2 Annexe where every day about 300 patients are seen, and more than 20 procedures performed.

The needs it meets are pressing: we have seen old men and women present with cataracts; we had children blinded by eye infections left untreated. Sight is the most prized of our senses, so its loss or damage is life changing. In restoring it, we transform lives: a 90-year-old man recently had surgery done there, then refused to leave the hospital because after years of not being able to see, he feared that he would lose his precious sight if he left the hospital. His is only one of many similar stories of transformation.

We've also established the Mama Lucy Kibaki ICU, the blood bank, and the renal unit. Anyone who has borne the burden of missed treatments or avoidable harm simply because a bed in a renal unit or an ICU was unavailable will appreciate what a step this is for Nairobi.

We have brought other services to this facility: we have opened an orthopaedic and trauma centre which consists of 2 theatres and a 20-bed capacity ward; we have a new reconstructive-surgery centre; and we've also opened an integrated mother-child health centre (MCH), which offers breast and cervical cancer diagnosis and treatment, among other services.

Last year we installed a new neonatal ICU at Mbagathi. As I said at the time, it was a project we prioritised because we had seen the dire consequences of delay and congestion in treating newborns. The new unit at Mbagathi is the latest public ICU in Nairobi, and it comes complete with four high-needs beds and 20 incubators. I can pledge that we will open more so that Nairobi's mothers and their children live lives of dignity. In particular, the NICU at Pumwani will be completed this financial year.

We are quite close to formally completing the agreements to revert Mama Margaret Kenyatta Hospital back to the County as a level 5 general hospital, whose 400 beds will serve a catchment area of 2 million people across Nairobi. We expect this to ease the pressure on Mama Lucy Kibaki hospital.

We are also progressively upgrading our level four hospitals, not least by strengthening their governance structures, in keeping with the national agenda of creating fully fledged primary care networks.

Let me mention two more interventions in health before I move on. You'll remember that we had promised to equip more than 7,000 community health promoters with the kit they needed to do their work, and to pay them a monthly stipend. We have done so: there are now 7,300 of them equipped with smartphones and community-health kits; and they are paid monthly.

I now turn to Dishi na County—to the school feeding programme—and I want to start by thanking you for supporting this dream.

Let me tell you the story of Mildred Ayera, an orphan who lived with her grandmother and struggled to get a meal every day. As a student in New Kihumbuini Primary School in Kangemi, she often sat aside as other students enjoyed their lunch. The introduction of the school feeding programme in her school, where the first meal was served on 28 August, gave her hope.

That third term she got a nutritious meal every school day. It was a turning point. She emerged one of the top students in her school, and joined Loreto Limuru Girls this January. As we issued bursaries and scholarships this year, Mildred gave her moving testimony while still wearing her tap-2-eat watch and vowed to always have it on even as she moved to high school.

When we began, we wanted to make absolutely certain that each and every child in our county was able to learn: that they weren't denied an education simply because they were hungry. We already knew that roughly one in four of our children had skipped school some time in the past because they had skipped a meal. In feeding each and every one of our children a nutritious hot meal, we invest in their cognitive development and empower them to excel. Let Mildred stand as our exemplar here.

The programme is now fully up and running. We have built 10 Central Kitchens at Baba Dogo Primary School, Kayole 1 Primary, Njiru Primary, Roysambu Primary, Bidii Primary, Toi Primary, Farasi Lane Primary, Muthangari Primary, Racecourse Primary and Mukuru Kwa Njenga Primary School. Every school day, 184,000 children in Nairobi eat a nutritious, hot meal. That's the commitment I made to the people of Nairobi. That's a promise I have kept.

No program of this magnitude or importance succeeds in isolation. So let me thank the parents, the teachers, the development partners, and the good people of Nairobi County who have made it possible.

Right now, we have the largest school feeding programme in our history. Unlike previous programmes, which were either limited to a small proportion of the enrolled school-age population or had wide coverage but supplied only one food item, we bring nearly every child in a public primary school or ECDE a full, balanced meal—and we will have complete coverage by the end of the year. In the last two weeks I have broken ground for more Kitchens at Uhuru Gardens Primary School in Langata, Mutuini Primary School in Dagoretti South, Donholm Primary School in Embakasi East, Dandora 1 Primary School in Embakasi North, Ndururuno Primary School in Mathare Constituency and Umoja 1 Primary School in Embakasi West. We will shortly break ground in Zawadi Primary School in Kamukunji Constituency. As we mobilize more resources from various partners, we are mapping out informal schools to be attached to the nearest Public Primary school so as to cover all our children. The Children of Nairobi whether in Public Primary Schools or in informal schools are our children.

So far we have seen an increment in school enrollment, attention, retention and better performance. It's an achievement that makes me immensely proud; and that I am pleased to share with you.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members,

Climate change and environmental sustainability are now integral parts of our planning, our decision-making, and our implementation of programs.

What, then, are we doing to preserve the dignity of our people's surroundings?

First: We have collected 450,000 tonnes of solid waste in the last 6 months through our own internal capacity. Now, this is still not at the level we need if we're to meet the expectations of the people of Nairobi, but rest assured it will continue to rise.

Second, we continue to acquire the equipment we need to keep the county clean: 10 skip loaders; 27 tippers and 120 assorted skips. We are set to receive 24 refuse compactors in the coming weeks. Additionally we will distribute more skips to markets and to other high-use locations before the end of this financial year.

In tandem with our work, we have also licensed 298 private service providers, and will license still more if they meet our standards. We need to keep Nairobi clean, and we are perfectly happy to work with the private sector and others to do so. That's also why we have issued 14 new recycling permits, and it is why we have accredited and registered 104 new community-based environmental organisations. Equally, we are well on track in our efforts to establish a 45 MW waste-to-energy plant in Dandora, given that the PPP is in the final stages of negotiation. The Setting up of a Waste to Energy plant has been the subject of discussions for decades, without making any headway. No one has come as far as we have been able to. The groundbreaking of this factory will be a historic milestone that will benefit the people of Nairobi for decades to come.

We've also recruited 3500 youth into the Green Army. It's the largest single recruitment of environmental support staff in the county's history, and as

you can see they got down to work right away—many of you saw them in your neighbourhoods as they cleared and unclogged drainages in preparation for El Niño. We must ensure that they will always have the equipment they need, the protective gear they require, and the supervision necessary for the effective delivery of their mandate. In every part of the city, in every ward, you know these people, they are happy, they are engaged and they are doing a wonderful job.

I should also mention that we have recruited another 147 technical staff in environmental roles this year.

You can expect to see more of that energy and innovation as the force gets down to work this year. The team has also been critical in unclogging drains, in tree planting, and in the beautification and maintenance of our parks and open spaces.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members,

We are not there yet. We have cleared more than 150 illegal dumping sites. You can see the maintenance on all tree kerb squares, flower gardens, medians and shoulders within the CBD. We are currently rehabilitating walkways in the lower CBD - Accra road, Latema road, RaceCourse road, Tom Mboya Street, River road as well as walkway and asphalt works at the Parliamentary Square before the opening of the new parliamentary offices in the coming days.



Uhuru Park's renovation is complete, and will be available to the public free of charge. It is the first full renovation of the park on this scale in its history; I invite every family in Nairobi to visit and see what has been done for you. Please, let us use the new facility with due care for other Nairobians. We intend to have more such parks across the City for recreation, relaxation and rejuvenation of the mind, body and soul.

We have undertaken landscaping and maintenance: the Muindi Mbingu and Muratina roundabout beautification is complete; the TRM traffic island is near completion; we will complete the refurbishment and maintenance of Central Park, City Park, Jeevanjee gardens and Kamukunji Grounds within the next eighteen months.

In the last year or so, ladies and gentlemen, more than 200,000 flowers, trees, and shrubs have been planted along frontages under the Urban Beautification Program that we run in partnership with other institutions.

Our tree nursery in City Park has managed to propagate 72,000 seedlings, to be used in our public facilities. As a county, we have already planted a cumulative 655,000 seedlings, and dispersed 25,000 seed balls across the county in our efforts to green the city.

As the Vice Chair for C40 in Africa, I am proud, also, to inform you that we have doubled the number of air-quality monitors in the city; and passed the Air Quality Act, which will govern our efforts to make sure the air our children breathe is clean.

Here too, I'm proud to say we have kept our promises. Recently, the Office of the Governor was awarded the first IFC-World Bank EDGE Certification and we are also the first certified Green government building in Africa. I am grateful to the Kenya Green Building Society, led by one of our own shining stars, Hon. Nasra Nanda, for leading this initiative.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members;

Let me reflect briefly on our work in the water sector.

In the last year or so, more than 55 kilometres of water piping have been laid or rehabilitated in the county. The extensions and rehabilitation of water pipelines boosted the water supply to the city and cut the losses to leakage that were routine in the past.

Equally, robust enforcement through both our smart meters and our water police has cut our revenue losses, and enabled us to hold users of our water services accountable.

In light of the gap between the county's requirements and actual supply, we have worked closely with the national government to conclude the Northern Collector Tunnel 1 (NCT1) which we expect to deliver 140 million litres per day once complete. The project is now on a clear trajectory to deliver the water in the coming weeks.

Similarly, Nairobi City County Government, again in liaison with the national government, expects to deliver 23 million litres a day through the

Karimenu dam system once the pipeline to the Kiambu reservoir is complete in May this year. These two projects will cut Nairobi's water deficit from 364 to 200 million litres a day—almost in half.

Aided, again, by the national government, we have been fortunate enough to reach an agreement with the Government of South Korea for a 100 million dollar facility, the money to be used to develop the Northern Collector Tunnel 2 (NCT 2) and Maragua IV projects. The project and its financing are under evaluation by the national Treasury; honourable members will be kept fully informed of its progress. We will soon be able to ease the water rationing under which Nairobians have laboured.

Let me also add that the city's sewer network—which was developed to serve a population of only 2 million people, and which was last substantially upgraded in 1987—will be overhauled. We have secured financing worth up to 20 billion shillings from the African Development Bank and France's development agency to upgrade it.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Much of Nairobi's housing does not dignify our people. Our families deserve to live in houses with separate rooms for their children, and with private bathrooms for their parents. Our Urban Renewal and Affordable Housing plan makes it possible for us to begin building the dignified homes that our people deserve.

Earlier this year, I said that long-term residents of Nairobi's public housing would be able to convert their past rent payments into payment for the new homes. That offer still stands, and it will be formalised, because our urban regeneration plan will continue.

Together with your leadership, I am committed to ensuring that each and every one of you in the assembly as well as in the executive also get to own a house in the City. I know that many of you have been involved in the consultations around the various redevelopment projects—whether in Woodley, in Jericho 1 and 2, in Bahati in Ziwani, in Maringo in Kariobangi North or elsewhere. I'm grateful for your patience.

Additionally. The World Bank, through the State Department for Housing and Urban Development, has helped with financing for two major projects of improvement in our informal settlements. The procurement for the first round, a sum of KSh 557,000,000, closed last month. The identified sites—in Embakasi, Kayole Soweto, Kahawa Soweto, Mji wa Huruma and Kambi Moto in Huruma—will be taken over by the administration next month, and work will begin. We will dignify those who now endure difficult conditions in our informal settlements.

In every part of the county, we have listened to you carefully; we have taken your concerns on board. We will continue to do so while we hasten construction and redevelopment so that, eventually, every family in Nairobi has a home that dignifies them. When it comes to housing, we are keeping our promises.

Second, we have issued more than three thousand titles and leases to Nairobians long unjustly deprived of their property. We have also issued title deeds to schools and other public facilities that had been left insecure in their property, among them Baba Dogo Primary, Bahati Primary, Fort Hall Primary, Garden Estate Primary, Highridge Primary, Kabete Primary, Kahawa West Primary, Kabiru Primary, Karen C Primary, Kiboro Primary, Kileleshwa day Nursery School, Kileleshwa Primary, Kirigu Primary, Lavington Primary, Kasarani Primary, Makongeni Primary, Mariakani School, Mathare 4 A Primary School, Mathari Primary, Mbagathi Primary, Moi Avenue Primary, Mukuru Kaiyaba Primary, Muranga Road Primary, Muthaiga Day Primary, Ngei primary, Nembu Primary, Park Road Primary, Riverbank Primary, Ruthimitu Primary, Shauri Moyo Primary, St Anne's Primary, St Brigid Primary, Starehe Day Nursery, Waithaka Technical, Zawadi Primary, and Visa Oshwal Primary.

We have also mapped public assets—an exercise that continues—so that Nairobians can rest certain that the public land which their schools, markets and hospitals are built upon are not seized for private use.

These efforts have brought us a 16 % rise in rates revenue, they have secured the property rights of Nairobi, and they have made it possible to give land back to those who had been denied a piece of their own whether individually or communally.

Let me speak about our work to equalise opportunity.

When the people of Nairobi gave me the honour of leading this county, they asked for equity. They spoke clearly: the days when opportunity was a

favour not a right---the days when it was distributed by corruption, cronyism, and quiet nods---were over. Have we lived up to that standard? Yes we have!

This financial year, we are distributing bursaries and scholarships worth KSh 857,800,000 to 124,100 young men and women. Yes, that's right: KSh 857 million. That brings our spending on bursaries and scholarships since I took office in August 2022 to KSh 1.88 billion.

Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I also want to mention that we have steadily raised our allocation to the ward bursary funds: we started at KSh 4.5 million in 2022; we're now up to KSh 7 million per ward. For the first time in the history of our great County, bursaries are available every school term. That means more students will have a clear opportunity to make the most of their talents.

In equalising opportunity, we have begun to break the cycle of corruption, impunity, poverty, and division.

We want academic excellence for our children, but we also want physical excellence for them. And we want them to learn the virtues that team sport fosters: courage, teamwork, and a love of excellence. And sport, conveniently, keeps them out of trouble.

That's why we launched the inaugural Sakaja Super Cup in 2023, featuring a total of 374 teams. We also put on a street soccer tournament last year; we continue to support various sports across the county.

A primary means of that support is infrastructure: we launched the Dandora Stadium and the Uhuru Sports Complex Stadium last month; we have completed about 95% of the Mwiki sports complex; work on the Joe Kadenge and Woodley stadia is also under way.

We intend to move to the next round of stadia and grounds; Pandpieri in Githurai, Mukuru Grounds in Embakasi South, Kihumbuini in Kangemi, Ndurarua in Dagoretti South, Umeme in Ziwani, Hamza in Makadara, Calvary in Embakasi Central, Majimbo in Makongeni, Kahawa West in Roysambu among others. We also intend to restore and manage Camp Toyoyo ground which has fallen into disrepair in recent years.

Let me also mention both the Nairobi Festival and the Battle of the Choirs, whose recent second edition was so memorable. As with sports, these and other cultural activities teach our children and young people virtues that will stand them in good stead for citizenship and service to their communities. We believe that the Creative Economy has the potential of being a lucrative economic frontier for our youth. Nairobi is indeed a hotbed of talent; you only need to take a stroll in the CBD on a Sunday afternoon to see the scores of young people taking photos and shooting videos since I lifted the ban a year or so ago. We will soon acquire our first mobile recording studio for our musicians and choirs; it will traverse the county recording the next hits.

We have also made proposals to have 17 recording studios in each and every constituency for our budding musicians to access.

Mr Speaker,

When Nairobians gave me the honour of leading this county, many asked for better facilities for our hustling traders. Indeed, some of you have been talking to me about this matter since I was in the Senate.

The need for proper and accessible business operation premises is real: Nairobi is full of energetic young people who want to work and to improve their lives. Again, we also need to decongest the CBD, so distributing markets outside it is essential.

This is a very important catchment area for our traders. That's why we need to build markets outside the CBD, and on important routes, so that we can make the most of these opportunities.

A few weeks ago, I broke ground for Mutuini market which will cost Ksh 244M. It will be done.

And that's only one representative market of those we will build in the next few years, so that we can finally decongest the city and restore order. We promised to deliver markets to the people of Nairobi. We will deliver: my administration will build Jujo, Karen, Kahawa West, Hospital Hill, Mathare, Raila Odinga, Riruta, Njiru, Ngumba in Mathare, and Kariobangi North markets. Construction of four of these will begin this financial year.



Let me give another example of restoring order.

Just as we are decentralising markets from the CBD, so also are we moving public services out and bringing them to you in your neighbourhoods. Look, we can all remember how stressful it once was to get basic public services. I know we've all been there: going from office to office in the CBD, wondering when help would come. There are few things more annoying than not getting the services your taxes pay for. It had to end.

Following extensive public participation, my administration has identified six proposed boroughs in Nairobi, to which we intend to devolve services. We have commenced the construction of Southern and Northern Borough offices in Kibra and Kasarani respectively, and identified sites for the construction of the other four which will commence in subsequent financial years.

In the sub counties, we are working to complete the stalled offices for Westlands, Kasarani and Makadara sub counties. We have also embarked on the phased improvement of ward offices to bring services closer to our people. Having improved the conditions under which our staff worked, it is essential to help them to serve you better.

Every Nairobian who needs a service will get it promptly and fairly. Let me say it again: I know many of you have endured the frustration of delay and denial of service. These innovations are designed, quite directly, to end those frustrations.

## The Vision

A few days ago, I was asked about my early memories of Nairobi.

We grew up in a city that was orderly; in which there was community because neighbours knew and cared for each others' families; and in which public services worked. The quality of municipal governance made our family life possible. We were grateful.

Nairobians want a city of order, of dignity, of hope and of opportunity. A city where everyone knows and obeys the rules; where no one is subjected to indignity and humiliation; a city of hope, and of opportunity for all. That is the county I want. That is the county that all the leaders gathered here want. As leaders, we are responsible for achieving it.

I ask you, once again, to rededicate yourselves to making Nairobi that green city in the sun.

We expect that this plan will guide the city's journey into the future in all sorts of exciting ways that yet keep faith with the vision I laid out above: we will expand infrastructure and services networks within the city.

As we consider the new development control guidelines and land use plans for the city that are before this assembly, we must appreciate global urbanisation trends. By 2050, Nairobi will have at least 10.5 million inhabitants. To avoid urban sprawl and its concomitant negative effects, we

must rethink and redesign many of our neighbourhoods. Our city of 696 square kilometres will not expand. We must use available technology to ensure sustainable housing even as we raise height restrictions in different parts of the City. We can only go up.

The process of review of these plans, which will bring together our urban planners, residents' associations and other professionals, must take these facts into consideration. The provision of water and sanitation remains a key consideration. I am grateful to our development partners who have committed billions of shillings in the expansion of the necessary infrastructure.

We must also ensure the provision of green spaces in every building plan considered, as well as strict adherence to the development control guidelines, plot ratios, ground clearance as well as provision of social amenities in health care, education, recreation and mobility.

I am grateful to the government of the United States of America for committing more than 60 million Dollars, Currently translating to around 8 Billion Shillings, through the Millenium Challenge Corporation to finance our land use and mobility planning, as well as our infrastructure development in a threshold program that will cover the next 12 months. The NIUPLAN provided a framework for detailed planning of our city, this financing will build on it to produce area specific land plans that build into the Nairobi Urban Masterplan.

As leaders of this county, we need to look not just to the day-to-day running of the city, or to the quarterly plans, but also to the Nairobi of the future. Just as those who made the last master plan for the city in 1973 had a vision for the city decades hence, we too must also plan today for the Nairobi our grandchildren will inherit.

That is why we will consult closely on the comprehensive new development plan for the city, NAIROBI 2050. I ask you, honourable members, to give me your support, for if we work together, then this city will, in the words in Jeremiah 33:9, will be the city that “brings renown, joy, praise and honour before all nations on earth that hear of all the good things the Lord has done for it, and they will awed by its prosperity and peace”.

To our Muslim Brothers and Sisters, during these last special 10 days of Laylatul Qadr, I ask you to pray for Nairobi and to pray for Kenya. For God’s peace, protection and prosperity. Saum Maqbul and I wish you a happy Eid ul Fitr.

Hon. Speaker, Honorable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen, The people of Nairobi.

God bless you all! God bless Nairobi! God bless Kenya!  
Lazima iWork!

Honorable Speaker, pursuant to Section 30(2)(j) I hereby submit to the county assembly the annual report on the implementation status of the county policies and plans.

H.E. SAKAJA ARTHUR JOHNSON, EGH  
GOVERNOR