



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

FIRST ASSEMBLY - THIRD SESSION

**REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON TRADE, TOURISM AND COOPERATIVES
ON**

SITE VISIT TO MUTHURWA HAWKER'S MARKET

SEPTEMBER, 2015

1.0 PREFACE

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

1.1.1 The Sectoral Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives is established under Standing Order No. 191. Its mandate pursuant to Standing Order 191(5) (a) is:-

- a) *to investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;*
- b) *to study the programme and policy objectives of the departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;*
- c) *to study and review all legislation referred to it;*
- d) *to study, assess and analyse the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with its stated objectives;*
- e) *to investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned Departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;*
- f) *to make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.*

The Committee comprises the following Members:-

1. Hon. Wilfred Odalo, MCA – Chairperson
2. Hon. Kennedy Ng'ondi, MCA
3. Hon. David Mberia, MCA
4. Hon. Hashim Kamau, MCA
5. Hon. Wilson Ochola, MCA
6. Hon. Peter M Warutere, MCA
7. Hon. William Abuka, MCA
8. Hon. Pius M Mbono, MCA
9. Hon. Kenneth Irungu Mwangi, MCA
10. Hon. Jacqueline Nyangala, MCA
11. Hon. Daniel Oria Odhiambo, MCA
12. Hon. Emmaculate Musya, MCA
13. Hon. Zulfa Hakim MCA
14. Hon. Rachel Kamweru, MCA
15. Hon. Millicent, Mugadi MCA
16. Hon. Amina Mohammed, MCA

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

1.1.2 The Committee exercises its oversight role on the operations of the Department of Trade, Industrialization, Co-operative Development and Tourism. Further, in

accordance with the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders, the Committee is mandated to cover subject areas relating to:-

- (i) Trade development and regulation including markets
- (ii) Trade licenses(excluding regulation of professions)
- (iii) Fair trading practices
- (iv) Local tourism
- (v) Cooperative societies

1.1.2 The Committee conducted a site visit to Muthurwa market to assess the status of the facility with a view to compiling a report on the findings/observations and recommendations. Prior to undertaking the visit, the Committee invited the market Committee of Muthurwa to shed light on amongst other things, challenges affecting seamless operations.

1.1.3 The Committee was also privileged to have a meeting with the market in charges of Gikomba, Korogocho, Muthurwa, Wakulima and City Markets to be briefed on the performance of the markets in terms of cess collections vis a vis the laid down targets.

Mr. Speaker, Sir;

On behalf of the Committee, I have the honour and pleasure to present the Committee's Report on Muthurwa Market.

May I take this opportunity to thank all Members of the Committee for their input and valuable contributions during and after the site visit. I wish to also thank the Eastern Zonal head, Mr. Githaiga for accompanying the Committee to the market.

Thank You.

SIGNED



HON. WILFRED O. ODALO, MCA
(CHAIRPERSON)

DATE.....

29/9/15

2. MUTHURWA MARKET

The market was established in the year 2007 -2008 and was created to relocate over 10,000 hawkers who were formally operating at the Central Business District. The market aimed to decongest the CBD, facilitate collection of levies and enhance efficient service delivery.

The market is supervised by the in-charge who is backed by the officers from the Environment and Enforcement sector. The County staff at the market totals 41.

During the site visit undertaken on Tuesday 16th June, 2015, the Committee made several observations and was briefed by the market in charge as follows;

- a) The market's daily cess collection is between Kshs. 150,000 and Kshs. 170,000 while the monthly target is Kshs. 4.2 Million. The County Government had in the month of May managed to collect cess of Kshs. 4.2 Million.
- b) Tomatoes that find way to the market are spoilt during rainy seasons because of dampness of the ground where they are stored. Coupled with cholera outbreak, the County loses potential revenue as a result of closure of hotels operating at the market blocks.
- c) Lack of consistent power supply and water in the market has been part of the challenges affecting effective and efficient operations of the market.
- d) The poor road network has impeded seamless access to and from the market. Culverts had been requested to ease drainage but the highway engineers complains of understaffing and lack of materials such as cement to fast track the same.
- e) The market has over 10,000 traders operating in a 24 hour economy; an indication of a County's facility with huge socio-economic potential.
- f) The incessant fighting among the cart pullers and the traders as a result of inaccessible road network is doing more harm to the economic growth and sustainability of the market.
- g) The bus terminus has been converted into a trading area; an incidence that has both congested the market and made the walk/path ways impassable. The traders operating at the terminus do not pay any cess.
- h) There are some traders operating two or more slots but on the contrary are cessed for one stall; a clear indication of revenue leakages.

- i) The back slots at the market are spacious and are underutilized since traders have moved to the roadside
- j) The market currently has a total of 1,500 active stalls.
- k) The Block L section had been demolished due to infiltration of rogue persons who were selling drugs and making tattoos on children.
- l) The market's monthly revenue collection ranged from Kshs. 3.3 Million to kshs. 3.5 Million in previous year (2014) but after deployment of new market in-charge in January 2015, the monthly revenue rose from between Kshs. 3.4 Million to Kshs. 4.2 Million.

3. Conclusion.

The Muthurwa Market possesses immense socio-economic potential that, if sustainably tapped, could be of benefit to both the residents and the County Government. In addition, concerted efforts by the Sectors of Trade, Environment and Roads and Public Works and other relevant stakeholders are critical to restore orderliness at the market. There is also urge for political good will aimed at providing a conducive environment to do business, and in view of this, should transcend political patronages and affiliations for the common good of the residents and the City County Government at large.

4. Recommendations

Following the Site Visit to Muthurwa Hawkers Market, the Committee recommends that this Assembly resolve as follows;

1. The market should have consistent supply of water and power for lighting since it is a 24 hour economy. In view of this, relevant sections/departments need to move with speed to avert the current situation;
2. The old structural designs of the market have not factored in traders' needs and to this end, there is urgent need to resuscitate the market through development of new and appropriate structural designs to accommodate more traders and restore

orderliness in the market. The poor location of foot bridges meant to serve Muthurwa market has instead served Wakulima and Retail market only, resulting into congestion in the few entry and exit points;

3. Traders currently operating and congesting the bus terminus should return to their respective stalls, in order to facilitate movement along the pathways, improve revenue collection and create orderliness in the market;
4. Thorough investigation should be launched to identify the traders who own more than one stall but end up paying for only one, evading to be cessed, and the anomaly be immediately corrected;
5. A truck should be allocated to the market to facilitate garbage collection that pile up and elicit bad odor;
6. Genuine hawkers should be moved back to Block L that had previously been demolished for security reasons;
7. The Sector of Trade should consistently undertake periodical maintenance of the market to rectify damaged floors and blocks and damaged passages. Non-operational florescent bulbs mounted within the market blocks should also be changed;
8. The mushrooming shanties along Stadium road are posing security threats for pedestrians in the morning and evening hours, and in this regard, urgent efforts by the planning and public works departments must be made to avert the looming security risks there-of;
9. The polythene shelters should be removed forthwith and traders return to their respective sheds/slots. This is because the polythene shelters contribute to amongst other things, the poor image of the market;
10. The enforcement section should establish measures that would permanently bar traders from constantly operating in undesignated areas such as, at the bus terminus and walkways. Infiltration of other traders from Gikomba, Ngara and other markets should be discouraged to abate an already bulging population at Muthurwa;
11. The Cart pullers need to be designated specific entrance/route to prevent incessant fighting with traders especially during occasions of injuries;

12. The departments of Environment, Roads and Public Works and Trade should work in unison to tackle underlying challenges of poor waste management, dilapidated road network and ensuing disorderliness at the market;
13. Cordial working relations between the Market Committee and the County Market In-charge should be fostered to realize the full revenue potential of the market.
14. The County staffs should voluntarily agree to be reshuffled occasionally in order to prevent complacency and familiarity.

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