

SPECIAL ISSUE

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LEGAL NOTICE NO. 13

THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY TRANSPORT ACT

(No. 3 of 2020)

THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY (LOW EMISSION ZONES) REGULATIONS, 2025

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation

PART I—PRELIMINARY

1—Citation and commencement.

2—Application.

3—Interpretation.

4—Objects and Purpose.

PART II— OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

6—Designation of Low Emission Zones.

7—Accessibility to Low Emission Zones

8—Eligibility for a Permit.

9—Application for Permit to Access a Low Emission Zone.

10—Exemptions from Permit Requirement.

11—Offences and Penalties.

FIRST SCHEDULE

SECOND SCHEDULE

THIRD SCHEDULE

THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY TRANSPORT ACT

(No. 3 of 2020)

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by section 68 of the Nairobi City County Transport Act, 2020, the County Executive Committee member for the time being responsible for matters relating to Roads makes the following Regulations—

THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY (LOW EMISSION ZONES) REGULATIONS, 2025**PART I—PRELIMINARY***Citation*

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Nairobi City County (Low Emission Zones) Regulations, 2025 and shall come into operation on the date of publication.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Act” means the Nairobi City County Transport Act, 2020 (No. 3 of 2020);

“authorised officer” means a public officer in the service of the Nairobi City County Government who is designated in writing by the County Executive Committee Member to perform any function or exercise any power under these Regulations;

“Central Business District” means the area bounded by Haile Selassie Avenue, Ring Road, Nairobi River, Kipande Road, Thika Road, and Uhuru Highway;

“Chief Officer” means the Chief Officer for the time being responsible for Roads within the Nairobi City County;

“County” means the Nairobi City County;

“Committee Member” means the County Executive Committee Member for the time being responsible for matters relating to Transport;

“Director” means the Director for the time being responsible for Transport in the County;

“Directorate” means the County Government directorate responsible for transport;

“Low Emission Zones (LEZs)” means a designated area where the entry or operation of vehicles that exceed prescribed emission thresholds is restricted for the purpose of reducing air pollution;

“permit” means a written or electronic authorisation issued by the County for the purpose of allowing a vehicle or person to enter or access a Low Emission Zone,

and includes a sticker, digital identifier, or any other officially recognized form of authorisation;

“sector” means the Transport, Roads and Public Works sector of the Nairobi City County ;

“vehicle” means any mechanically or electrically propelled machine used for the transportation of persons or goods.

Objects and Purpose

3. The objects and purpose of this Regulations are to –
 - (a) promote clean and sustainable urban transport, improve air quality, and safeguard public health through the establishment, designation, and management of Low Emission Zones within the County;
 - (b) establish a legal framework for the designation, management, and regulation of Low Emission Zones within the County;
 - (c) give effect to sections 63 and 64 of the Act;
 - (d) prescribe criteria and systems for the registration, permitting, and monitoring of vehicles operating within designated zones;
 - (e) promote the adoption and use of low-emission and zero-emission vehicles, including electric, hybrid, and hydrogen-powered technologies;
 - (f) provide for exemptions, penalties, and enforcement measures to ensure compliance with these Regulations; and
 - (g) advance the County’s environmental protection, climate action, and sustainable mobility objectives.

Application

4. These regulations shall apply to all areas designated as Low Emission Zones within the County.

PART II — OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

Designation of Low Emission Zones

5. (1) The County Executive Committee Member responsible for transport or environment shall, by notice in the Gazette, designate any area or road within Nairobi City County as a Low Emission Zone.

(2) The County Executive Committee Member shall, within five (5) years from the date of commencement of these Regulations, designate Low Emission Zones as may be necessary to achieve the objects of these Regulations.

Accessibility to Low Emission Zones

6. (1) Access to a Low Emission Zone shall be limited to—
- (a) vehicles that hold a valid permit issued under these Regulations; and
 - (b) pedestrians and users of non-motorised transport.
- (2) No vehicle shall enter or operate within a Low Emission Zone unless it holds a valid permit issued by the Chief Officer in accordance with these Regulations

Eligibility for a Permit

7. (1) A permit to access a Low Emission Zone may be issued to a vehicle whose propulsion system meets any of the following criteria—
- (a) fully electric;
 - (b) powered by bio-fuel diesel;
 - (c) powered by hydrogen; or
 - (d) powered by any fuel that the Committee Member deems to have low emissions.
- (2) An applicant for a permit to access a Low Emission Zone shall pay the fees prescribed in the First Schedule to these Regulations.

Application for Permit to Access a Low Emission Zone

8. (1) A person seeking to operate a vehicle in a Low Emission Zone shall submit an application to the Directorate using the form set out in the Second Schedule to these Regulations, accompanied by all documents specified therein
- (2) Upon receipt, the Directorate shall review the technical aspects of the application and prepare an assessment report with recommendations to the Chief Officer.
- (3) The Chief Officer shall, within seven (7) working days of receiving the Directorate's assessment report, either—

- (a) issue the permit, with or without conditions; or
 - (b) refuse the application, providing written reasons for the refusal.
- (4) The Directorate responsible for transport shall maintain an up-to-date electronic register of all permits issued or deemed issued under these Regulations.

Appeals

9. Any person aggrieved by a decision made under this Part may appeal to the Committee Member within thirty days of receiving the decision.

PART III—ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

Exemptions from Permit Requirement

10. (1) No permit shall be required to enter or operate a vehicle in a Low Emission Zone for the following—

- (a) non-motorized vehicles or non-motorized modes of transport;
- (b) emergency vehicles, including police and fire service vehicles; or
- (c) utility vehicles engaged in essential services.

(2) The Committee Member may, by notice in the Gazette, specify additional categories of vehicles or persons that are exempt from the permit requirement.

Offences and Penalties

11. (1) Any person who fails to comply with or contravenes any provision of these Regulations commits an offence.

(2) A person who commits an offence under these Regulations shall, upon conviction, be liable to—

- (a) a fine not exceeding twenty thousand shillings for a first offence; and
- (b) for every subsequent offence, a fine not exceeding thirty thousand shillings, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Any person who fails to comply with or contravenes any provision of these Regulations commits an offence and shall be liable, upon conviction to—

- (a) a fine not exceeding twenty thousand shillings for a first offence; and
- (b) for every subsequent offence, a fine not exceeding thirty thousand shillings, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months, or both such fine and imprisonment.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Fees payable for approval of permit to enter a low emission zone

Means of propulsion	Fee payable (KShs)	
	Daily	Annual
Electric	0	0
Bio-diesel	0	0
Hydrogen	0	0
Petrol Engine capacity less than 200cc	100	30,000
Petrol Engine capacity greater than 200cc	1,000	250,000
Diesel	1,000	250,000

SECOND SCHEDULE

Application Form for Permit to Access Low Emission Zones (LEZ)
Nairobi City County – Low Emission Zone Permit Application

Part A: Applicant Information

Full Name / Company Name:

Postal Address:

Telephone / Mobile:

Email Address:

ID / Company Registration Number:

Authorized Contact Person (if applicable):.....

Part B: Vehicle Information

Make & Model:.....

Year of Manufacture:

Vehicle Registration Number:

Vehicle Type: Private Commercial Public Service Other:

.....

Propulsion System: Fully Electric Hybrid Bio-fuel Diesel Hydrogen Other
Low-Emission Fuel:

Emission Standard Compliance (if applicable):

Part C: Purpose of Access

- Daily commute
- Business / Commercial
- Delivery / Logistics
- Other (specify):

Part D: Supporting Documents

Applicants must attach:

- Vehicle registration certificate / logbook
- Proof of ownership or authorization to use the vehicle
- Technical certificate confirming propulsion system type or emission standard
- Payment receipt of prescribed permit fee (if applicable)
- Any additional documents requested by the Chief Officer for verification

Part E: Declaration by Applicant

I hereby declare that:

- The information provided in this application is true and correct.
- I will comply with all regulations and conditions associated with the Low Emission Zone permit.
- I understand that providing false information or non-compliance may result in revocation of the permit and penalties under Nairobi City County regulations.

Signature of Applicant:

Date:

For Official Use Only

Application Received By (Directorate):Date:

Technical Assessment by Directorate: Approved Not Approved
Remarks / Recommendations:

Chief Officer Decision: Approved Approved with Conditions Rejected

Date of Decision:Permit Number (if issued):

Signature (Chief Officer):

THIRD SCHEDULE

Documents required to accompany application for a vehicle permit:

Application Form

Valid vehicle logbook

A copy of a valid vehicle insurance policy

Detailed verification document from the Chief Officer to confirm the details presented for the vehicle.

FOURTH SCHEDULE

Form for verifying the vehicle details with respect to the LEZ permit.

Name of Applicant	
Id of Applicant	
Registration no	
Signature of applicant	
For official use only	
Approved / Not approved	
Permit Number	
Name of authorised officer	
Sign and Date	

Made on the 11th December 2025.

IBRAHIM NYANGOYA AUMA,
County Executive Committee, Member,
for Mobility and Public Works.