

SPECIAL ISSUE

Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 13

11th December, 2025

(Nairobi City County Legislative Supplement No. 3)

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 3

THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY TRANSPORT ACT

(No. 3 of 2020)

**THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY TRANSPORT (SIGN OR BILLBOARD ON STREET
LIGHTING POLES PERMIT) REGULATIONS, 2025**

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation

PART I—PRELIMINARY

- 1—Citation.
- 2—Interpretation.
- 3—Object and Purpose.
- 4—Application of the Regulation.

PART II—PERMITS FOR ADVERTISING ON STREET LIGHTING POLES

- 5—Permit for sign or Billboard.
- 6—Register of Permit Holders.
- 7—Application for Permit.
- 8—Issue of a Permit.
- 9—Special Permit.
- 10—Refusal to issue a Permit.
- 11—Renewal of a Permit.
- 12—Revocation of a Permit.
- 13—Appeals.

PART III—SIGNAGE AND BILLBOARD ADVERTISEMENT

- 14—Billboard and Signage Specifications.
- 15—Power Supply to Billboard.
- 16—Illuminated Advertising.
- 17—Billboard Content Restriction.

18—Removal of Billboard.

PART IV—MISCELLANEOUS

19—Offence and Penalty.

FIRST SCHEDULE

THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY TRANSPORT ACT

(No. 3 of 2020)

THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY TRANSPORT (SIGN OR BILLBOARD ON STREET LIGHTING POLES PERMIT) REGULATIONS, 2025

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation

PART I—PRELIMINARY

1—Citation.

2—Interpretation.

3—Object and Purpose.

4—Application of the Regulations.

PART II—PERMITS FOR ADVERTISING ON STREET LIGHTING POLES

5—Permit for sign or billboard.

6—Register of Permit Holders.

7—Application for Permit.

8—Issue of a Permit.

9—Special Permit.

10—Refusal to issue a Permit.

11—Renewal of a Permit.

12—Revocation of a Permit.

13—Appeals.

PART III—SIGNAGE AND BILLBOARD ADVERTISEMENT

14—Billboard and signage specifications.

15—Power supply to billboard.

16—Illuminated Advertising.

17—Billboard Content Restriction.

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 Roads, Transport and Public Works makes the following Regulations—

THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY TRANSPORT (SIGN OR BILLBOARD ON STREET LIGHTING POLES PERMIT) REGULATIONS, 2025

PART I—PRELIMINARY

Citation

1. These regulations may be cited as the Nairobi City County (Sign or Billboards on Street Light Poles Permit) Regulations 2025 and shall come in to force upon publication in the *Gazette*.

Interpretation

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

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

“billboard” means a large free-standing structure used or intended to be used for the purpose of posting, displaying or exhibiting advertisement;

“CBD”, means the central business district of Nairobi as envisaged in the transport Act, 2020;

“Chief Officer” means the chief officer for the time being responsible for matters relating to public works;

“County” means Nairobi City County;

“County Assembly” means Nairobi City County Assembly;

“Committee Member” means County Executive Committee Member for the time being responsible for roads, transport and public works;

“director” means the director for the time being responsible for energy & lighting in the Nairobi City County Government

“directorate” means the County Government directorate responsible for energy and lighting;

“directional sign” means a sign, indicating the way to a place, undertaking or activity, for the purpose of advertising. these takes the form of sub urban signs, transport termini adverts and signs;

“illuminated sign” means a sign whose continuous intermittent, functioning depends upon it being illuminated;

“illuminated” means connecting to an electrical power source to an outdoor structure for illumination of the advertisement message at night;

“permit” means an authorization issued by the County to a person, allowing the installation, or continued display of a sign and billboard advertisement;

“public road” has the meaning assigned in the Nairobi City County Transport Act 2020;

“registered owner of vehicle” has the meaning assigned in the Nairobi City County Transport Act 2020;

“sign” means any sign, notice, signal, light or other device erected for display with and intent for advertisement purpose;

“signage” means sign or any light which is not intended solely for illumination that means known place names, notice of events, public safety notices, traffic control/warning signs and directions in formation which is visible from any street or public place;

“special permit” means a permit granted by the Chief Officer under these Regulations allowing the installation, renewal, or continued display of a billboard in circumstances that would otherwise contravene specific provisions of these Regulations, including but not limited to location, size, illumination, or content restrictions;

“street lighting pole” means an infrastructure made of steel, concrete or any other material supplied with electric power and effectively earthed used for mounting street lighting luminaries for the sole purpose of lighting road; and

“street/public lighting pole billboard” means a board mounted or fixed on a streetlight/public lighting pole intended to be used for the purpose of posting, displaying or exhibiting advertisement.

Object and Purpose

3. The object and purpose of these regulations are to—

- (a) give effect to section 62 of the Act; and
- (b) protect the structural integrity of street lighting poles and to ensure public safety.

Application of the Regulation

4. These regulations shall apply to all street lighting poles in Nairobi County irrespective of the authority that is responsible for the installation and maintenance of that street.

PART II—PERMITS FOR ADVERTISING ON STREET LIGHTING POLES

Permit for Sign or Billboard

5. (1) No person shall affix any sign or advertising billboard on a street lighting pole unless they hold a permit issued in accordance with these Regulations.

(2) A person who affixes any sign or advertising billboard on a street lighting pole without a valid permit issued under these Regulations commits an offence.

Register of Permit Holders

6. The Directorate shall establish and maintain an up-to-date register of all permit holders within the county.

Application for Permit

7. (1) An application for a permit shall be made to the Directorate in the prescribed form.

(2) A person applying for a permit shall satisfy the directorate that they have—

- (a) paid the prescribed fee;
- (b) complied with the requirements of the Nairobi City County Outdoor Advertising and Signage Control Act 2018 and its corresponding Regulations.

Issue of a Permit

8. (1) Upon receipt of the application the Director shall prepare a Technical Report with recommendations to the Chief officer.

(2) The Chief Officer may issue a permit to the applicant after taking into consideration of the Technical Report.

Special Permit

9. (1) An application for a special permit shall be made in the prescribed form to the Directorate and shall specify—

- (a) the reason for the request;
 - (b) the exact location and dimensions of the proposed billboard;
 - (c) details of the content and illumination; and
 - (d) any other information required by the Chief Officer.
- (2) The Chief Officer shall consider the application only after—
- (a) proper public notification;
 - (b) public participation has been conducted in accordance with the Nairobi City County Public Participation Act;
 - (c) ensuring compliance with national and county laws.

(3) The Chief Officer may grant a special permit subject to such conditions as deemed necessary, including restrictions on—

- (a) size;

- (b) content;
- (c) illumination;
- (d) duration of display; and
- (e) safety measures.

Refusal to issue a permit

10. The Chief Officer may refuse to issue a permit if—

- (a) the Technical Report recommends that the permit should not be issued;
 - (b) the applicant fails to comply with the requirements prescribed under these Regulations or any other written law.
- (2) Where an application for a permit is refused, the Directorate shall notify the applicant of the decision under regulation 9 (1) within fourteen days of the decision.
- (3) A notification under regulation 9 (2) shall specify the reasons for the refusal.

Renewal of a Permit

11. (1) A permit shall be valid for a period of one year and may be renewed in accordance with these Regulations.
- (2) An application for renewal of a permit shall be made in the prescribed manner at least thirty (30) days before the date of expiry of the existing permit.
- (3) The Chief Officer may extend the period within which an application for renewal may be made, whether or the period has lapsed or the permit expired.

Revocation of a Permit

12. (1) The Chief Officer may decline to renew, suspend, or revoke a permit if it is satisfied that the permit holder has contravened any provision of these Regulations or any other written law.
- (2) Before taking any action under paragraph (1), the Chief Officer shall issue a notice in writing to the permit holder requiring them to show cause, within fourteen (14) days, why the permit should not be declined for renewal, suspended, or revoked.
- (3) The Chief Officer shall consider any response submitted under paragraph (2) and shall, within seven days, notify the permit holder in writing of its decision and the reasons for that decision.

Appeals

13. 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—SIGNAGE AND BILLBOARD ADVERTISEMENT

Billboard and Signage Specifications

14. Any billboard or sign affixed to a street-lighting pole shall comply with the requirements prescribed in the First Schedule to these Regulations.

Power Supply to Billboard

15. (1) No sign or billboard advertisement erected, mounted, or affixed to a street-lighting pole shall be connected to the street-lighting power supply unless the advertising entity—

- (a) has been granted approval by the Chief Officer upon application in the prescribed form under regulation 7;
- (b) pays for any electricity consumed as calculated by the Directorate;
- (c) effects payments for monthly electricity consumption; and
- (d) provides the Chief Officer with details of an electrical sub-contractor registered with the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority and holding a Class B licence, who shall carry out the electrical connection in a safe and secure manner.

(2) Any works carried out to make the electrical connection shall be supervised by an officer the Directorate.

Illuminated Advertising

16. A Chief Officer shall not permit an illuminated advertising billboard to be affixed to a street-lighting pole where the level of illumination impairs road traffic safety or constitutes a nuisance to pedestrians.

Billboard Content Restrictions

17. (1) All Billboard content shall comply with national and county laws on decency, consumer protection and public safety.

(2) Billboards shall not display content that is sexually explicit, violent, promotes illegal activities, constitutes hate speech or is otherwise harmful to the public interest.

(3) No billboard shall be installed within 100 metres of schools, hospitals, places of worship or in areas designated solely for residential use unless—

- (a) a special permit is issued by the Chief Officer; and
- (b) public participation has been conducted in accordance with the Nairobi City County Public Participation Act.

(4) The County may direct the immediate removal of any billboard that violates these provisions, and the cost of removal shall be borne by the permit holder.

Removal of Billboard

18. (1) Any billboard that fails to comply with the provisions of this Part shall be removed without further reference to the owner, and the cost of removal and storage shall be borne by the advertising entity.

(2) The County may direct the immediate removal of any billboard in violation of these Regulations, and the cost of such removal shall be borne by the permit holder.

PART IV—MISCELLANEOUS**Offence and Penalty**

19. (1) A person who affixes any sign or advertising billboard on a street lighting pole without a valid permit issued under these Regulations commits an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding Kenya Shillings Two Hundred Thousand (KSh. 200,000), or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months, or to both.

(2) A person who contravenes any provision of these Regulations for which no specific penalty is provided shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding twenty thousand shillings (20,000) or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three (3) months, or to both.

FIRST SCHEDULE

SIGNAGE AND BILLBOARD SPECIFICATIONS

Billboard Frame

1. A billboard affixed to a street lighting pole shall—
 - (a) be constructed using a steel frame fitted with suitable self-reflecting material;
 - (b) be securely supported so as to withstand wind pressure;
 - (c) be assembled with adequate measures to prevent the ingress and accumulation of water in any part of its supporting framework;
 - (d) be painted and treated to prevent corrosion; and
 - (e) display the name and contact details of the advertising company.

Billboard Spacing and Clearance

2. A billboard affixed to a street lighting pole shall comply with the following requirements—
 - (a) the vertical clearance from the lowest point of the billboard to the ground shall not be less than four metres; and
 - (b) the minimum horizontal spacing between billboard installed on consecutive streetlighting poles shall correspond to the span of the installations.

Billboard Standard Size

3. No billboard affixed to a street-lighting pole shall exceed the standard size of 1,800 millimetres by 600 millimetres, centred on the street-lighting pole.

Twin Billboard

4. No twin billboard measuring 1,800 millimetres by 600 millimetres shall be mounted or affixed on a single street-lighting pole.

Billboard Visibility

5. Billboards mounted or affixed on street-lighting poles shall be made of self-reflecting materials to enhance their visibility at night to pedestrians and vehicular traffic.

Made on the 11th December, 2025.

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

