

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 18th February 2025.

The Assembly met at 2:55 p.m.

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Moses Gachui) in the Chair]

PRAYER

PAPER

THE REPORT ON EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL VALUES AND
PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE FOR THE MURANG'A COUNTY SERVICE BOARD
FOR PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Hon. Loise Mbogo: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I am a Member of Governance Committee standing in for the Chairperson.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to lay the following Paper at the Table of the Assembly today Tuesday, February 18, 2025; -

The Report on extent of compliance with national values and principles of governance at public service in execution of the functions of Murang'a County Public Service Board for the period ended December 31, 2024.

Thank you, Hon.Speaker.

(Hon. Loise Mbogo laid the Paper on the Table)

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE ON
MURANG'A COUNTY ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR FINANCIAL YEAR
2025/2026.

Hon. John Ngugi: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to move a Motion; -

That this Assembly adopts the Report of the sectoral Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on its consideration of Murang'a County Government Annual Development Plan for financial year 2025/2026 laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Mr. Speaker, the Annual Development Plan (ADP) is derived from the CIDP (County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) and it cites the dreams and aspirations of the County and it also elucidates the vision of the County Government of Murang'a and the Governor of the County of Murang'a.

This document was put together by the Finance and Economic Planning department in the executive and it was forwarded to us where we submitted this document to public participation. Also, we requested all the sectoral Committees to look into their individual work plans and ensure they are in tandem with CIDP because this exercise of ADP is conducted on a yearly basis. And precisely it is the basis of the budgeting process and if this process is gotten right even the budget process will be simplified, will have a lot more clarity and we will not conduct many supplementary budgets if we get this right.

I will not dwell on the preamble, Mr. Speaker sir, I'll just go to the various sectors in the County that mirrors the government, the executive and the proposals that were brought forth to the Committee and the interpretation by the Committee. We had the Health Service sector and the budget provision for purchase of pharmaceuticals as we know Mr. Speaker, we have not been putting enough money to feed the demand for medical drugs in this County due to shortages and competition of resources within departments. But there is a proposal in the ADP to put 800 million to purchase drugs. Mr. Speaker, I think this is a step forward because of the demand for healthcare in this County. Since the Governor and the government of Murang'a came to be there has been a tremendous improvement in our health facilities and also in the provision of service in the health facilities as such, many of our people are visiting our Murang'a hospitals and so there is demand to put more money so that we can ensure that they have enough drugs. The onset of Kangata care is also another facilitator that has ensured steady flow of patients within our hospitals.

In agriculture, there is a proposal that the Ikundu coffee factory is modernized to the extent of milling coffee centrally for the entire County to fetch better prices. As we know, Murang'a is endowed with good climate and good weather and most of our citizens grow coffee. You must bear with me when I say that the coffee industry has been left to the dogs for many years and we need to ensure that we bring that crop back. because in the olden days this was the crop that

educated many of our parents, many of the who is who in this Country actually were because of the proceeds that were gotten from the coffee sector. That sector now is completely dilapidated, though it is coming up through measures by the national and the County Government and if you were to fund the Ikundu factory to the extent that it can be able to mill our coffee efficiently, we will add more money in the pockets of our people. There is a substantial number of our citizens who farm this crop.

On youth, the construction of perimeter wall in Mukurwe wa Nyagathanga shrine was a duplication in the ADP because initially we had targeted to do that but that was not done and there is a request, I had a meeting with some folks; elders plus the Youth Committee and I know Hon. Gathee Wa Njeri knows this because he was part of that discussion. In partnership with our people, with the County Government and the national government and the ministry of culture we are working to ensure that Mukurwe-wa-Nyagathanga is completely rehabilitated and identified as a cultural site so that it can attract tourists and we can place the origin of our forefathers in a manner that befits their status.

I will not read verbatim all the recommendations because all the information that we have here because members have the Report and we incorporated the thoughts of members and various sectoral Committees, therefore, I will go straight to the recommendations that my Committee did. That in pursuant to provision of section 26 of the Public Finance and Management act (PFM) and the Standing Orders 225, the Finance and Economic Planning Committee recommends that the Annual Development Plan (ADP) 2025/2026 is approved with the following recommendations; - that all sectors indicate the list and locations of projects to be undertaken in the next financial year. That is important for audit purposes and also for funding purposes. There was an issue that we faced in the last financial year where we could not start our community projects because we never gave the members of the executive of the projects that we intended to conduct and they need to load that information in Integrated Finance Management System (IFMIS) and that delayed some of the projects thus if we want efficiency we should provide this information.

That, any cost inconsistencies with the mother documents should be corrected. ADP is a little bit ambitious and it is allowed because it considers that we will receive funding from donors and other development partners. You will see that in the ADP, numbers are usually higher because it is not an exact budget because it is the wishes and aspirations of our people.

That the programmes as presented by the County Public Service Board are adopted as proposed with an adjustment that the costing should reflect the recruitment of five County Public Service Board Members as proposed by the Office of the County Secretary in his communication to the House recently in the budget estimates. That is ongoing and I think the Committee on Appointments will be dealing with that.

That the Coffee Revitalization Programme should get a budget allocation for a value addition line at Ikundu coffee factory to complement the Coffee Cherry Fund. Mr. Speaker, we appreciate that NAVCDP, the funds from NAVCDP have been considered to be applied in development of these important infrastructure within our County.

In accordance with section 89 of the CGA, the Committee approves the proposals by a resident of Gaichanjiru Ward. The same projects as articulated by the memorandum to be incorporated in the annual work plans for FY 2025/26 by respective Accounting Officers for the community-based projects and last mile connectivity.

Hon. Munyua we received a Petition from your people and we received that Petition in kind and we are adopted it in our Report. We must advise that can be achieved the community money that the governor has been very generous to give this Assembly. We have also instructed the various departments that affected to ensure that they help the people of Gaichanjiru and especially in terms of water provision. Because water is life and I also know Gaichanjiru people like to be clean. We will ensure that it's done.

In the health sector, there is need to restructure the human resources for health to integrate the vertical component to the newly formed Taifa Care and setting aside budget to aid a smooth transition from the donor cuts.

Mr. speaker, we must appreciate the information that we got over two weeks ago that the government of the United States through USAID who no longer be funding some of these important projects and it's important that we be aware of this and actually look for funds so that this important project services are do not cease, especially the eight program and I think the health can conquer with me.

The governor through the supplementary budget has acknowledged the same and has put some money aside for that. The need to retain health care workers for integration of the vertical program into the main health care system cannot be gainsaid. All we are saying, is that we should

be very careful that the personnel that would be affected by the cuts are we find a way of retaining them because our people need those services.

In finance and economic planning, Mr. Speaker we have recommended that they purchase vehicles. Efficient vehicles, so that we can be able to improve on our own source revenue. We must appreciate that though there is a big real forward in collection of revenue, we can do better if we do it efficiently. Right now most of our vehicles are stalled and most sub-counties do not have good running vehicles, they are always in workshops and the cost of running that department has become very high due to frequent breakages of that important resource. On community-based projects, the annex with the submitted members of the County Assembly is adopted as part of the Annual Development Plan subject to availability of resource requirement and I believe this will help us in doing our projects more efficiently.

On the water sector, there is need for the county secretary, the CEC water to streamline governance and provisional charges within the water service providers to enable them meet the important financial obligations. There has been a cry in this County because some of the water service providers and I cite MUSWASCO has being problematic to the County in running the water resources because there has been squabbles between the County Government and the national government and that has resulted into some members feeling like there are people who are treated better than others. I think we should have a very coherent policy on this so that all the water companies can operate on a standard rule.

On youth culture and social services, the department shall be the sole implementer of the fencing of Mukurwe wa Nyagathanga and I cannot insist further on that because that is their function. The County Assembly Service Board; the Committee approved the sector ADP as proposed in accordance with section 149 of the PFM Act 2012, the clerk of the County Assembly shall ensure that the next strategic plan is finalized and adopted. We should have an ADP for the Assembly and Mr. Speaker, we do not have, I think it is important to get that document that will lay a basis on our intentions and some of these squabbles we have in the Assembly will be diffused. Submissions got from the public on ADP; the public views collected from the public hearing forums be factored in the ADP and we have annexed that, I will not read verbatim for the Finance and economic planning for the financial year 2025. I will request hon. Munyua member of the Committee to second the Motion

Hon. John Munyua: I stand to second and support the Motion and say that is a matter that has touched on my people, already I negotiated with the company and I was getting water for 12 hours now I will be getting 48 hours so I am on it and also on those other last mile connections we are doing in that area. So, we are committed to implement what is totally in our ADP. Maybe it is financial challenges but with time, we believe we will deliver for our people so I urge the Honourable House to pass this Motion and as a Committee, we say thank you. I kindly ask you to support the motion. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Thank you, Hon. Members, the mover and the seconder because I am sure you have elaborated and you have been able to persuade the House to do what is necessary.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Gladys Waikau: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this Motion and my great concern will be on the Mukurwe wa Nyagathanga because we have talked a lot about it. I think since we came to this Assembly and I think it is the right time to finish up that project, so that the County may receive revenue from people who will come to learn about our kikuyu culture and we also want to be proud of our culture that will be portrayed in that shrine. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity.

Hon. Gathe wa Njeri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me the chance. First, I start by supporting the Motion and also commend the good job done by the chairperson and the able Committee, regarding the good plan we have for our people as Murang'a County. We can see that, Mr. Speaker, everything is clear on what is our intention towards service delivery to our people. It is only that I would urge other members that maybe, because we have various Committees here that everything that comes from a certain department, maybe it should be followed to implementation. Because as Hon. Member Gladys has said, the issue concerning Mukurwe wa Nyagathanga has been a talk since we joined this Assembly. I think Chair, now is the best time to do something to that shrine. As we talk of our County and the resources it is getting from our people, we can increase that, maybe, by tapping the untapped resources concerning our shrines, in Mukurwe wa Nyagathanga where everyone is believed to have come from, and also other parts

which are rich in terms of culture in our County such as Wangu wa Makeri place in Wangu and other places.

If maybe this one can be put into implementation we start shifting work every time, we can start now the journey of saying that we are delivering what we promised to our people.

Otherwise, I have seen something has been done in the field of health but still we are not yet 100 percent of what we want to achieve. We have seen very many dispensaries done but at some level service delivery, human resource, medication, I have seen the budget here in the budget and in the ADP which is commendable and we think that this and other things touching youths, for example we have sports, we have the Sports Bill, we have what our youths are yearning so much to have sports and then the Bill is on the process but if it is done on the right time, to avoid time elapsing, maybe we can deliver what is needed in the right time, including agriculture and other areas. So, I support the Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): If there is no other contributor, I call the Mover to respond.

Hon. John Ngugi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I want to start by thanking all the Members who have contributed to this Motion. I echo the words of Hon. Gatheo; the various sectoral Committees should review their work plans regularly to ensure that we are sticking to the ADP and like I said, if we do a good job constructing this document, we would not have to do a lot of Supplementary Budget. So, I thank them and urge them to support the Motion.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question Put and Agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Gachui Mungai): Hon. Members, now this House stands adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, 19th February 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Thank you.

The House rose at 3:25 p.m.