

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY**  
**THE HANSARD**

Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2018

The House met at 2:45p.m.

*[The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki) in the Chair]*

**PRAYERS**

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Hon. Members in pursuit of the conception, creation and achievement of projects within the four agendas of the government, it will be necessary for the people charged with this responsibility to start thinking outside the box and embrace new ideas. To get new ideas it is important to interact with people who are knowledgeable, creative and passionate about development about this County of Murang'a.

It is with this in mind that the House Business Committee requested the Speaker to find persons from Murang'a who are knowledgeable and who experience matters development, and are passionate about Murang'a to come and address members during one of these sessions. This will happen and it will be on next week Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 9a.m. at Nokras Riverine in Murang'a. I request all members to avail themselves to this very session. Thank you.

**MOTION**

**PURCHASE OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTANANCE EQUIPMENT**

**Hon. Duncan Muturi:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to move the following motion;-

Aware, that County roads is a devolved function as stipulated in part 2 (5) (a) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, further aware that most County roads are in a dilapidated condition thus rendering them inaccessible due to lack of periodic rehabilitation and maintenance, recognizing the fact that previously the County Government used to lease road construction and maintenance equipment which was expensive and not utilized as per the ward residents expectations; this House urges the County Executive Member in charge of Transport and Infrastructure to purchase each of the following equipment per sub-county to facilitate periodic road construction and maintenance;

1. Grader
2. Lorry
3. Water boozer
4. Roller
5. Dozer
6. Shovel
7. Excavator

Mr. Speaker it is good to note that lack of periodic rehabilitation and maintenance has greatly contributed to poor road network across the County. If it is to be done using hired machinery, it might be very expensive and maybe very unrealistic. Transport for many rural roads has been made impassible especially during the rainy season. We as the County Assembly members, we have gone to the extent of even trying to do the roads by ourselves, and nothing tangible has been seen on the ground even after pumping our own resources and money.

But if the machinery is available, we could be doing some of the work, especially when there are cases of emergencies. Sometimes we are called by our citizens or residents when there is a burial or function and the access roads to their homes are inaccessible. They ask for a grader but the machinery and graders available belong to the roads and public works, hired at Kshs5000 per hour. As Hon. Members of Murang'a County, we will not even mind to be fuelling our own graders or machineries which can be a bit relieving to the Member of the County Assembly (MCA).

Acquisition and purchasing of the equipment is much cheaper than hiring or leasing. If we take an example of a dozer, one dozer goes for Kshs6000 per hour. If I then take Mbiri ward, for example, we are supposed to be given around 300 hours. If you multiply Kshs6000 by 300 hours, it will amount to Kshs1.8 million. If we take a sub-county like Kiharu that has six wards, it will cost each ward Kshs1.8 million and will amount to Kshs11 million. A new China brand dozer costs around Kshs12 million while the CAT brand is Kshs15 million.

Mr. Speaker, it is therefore much cheaper and even the next governments or the next Assemblies will find the machineries intact as new machinery does not require a lot of maintenance. They will also find that there will not be a lot of work to be done. This will save a lot of money for the tax payer, which can be used to improve their livelihood elsewhere.

Beyond road maintenance, we will also reduce the cost of vehicles plying the roads and the motorbikes; hence the tax payer will save more money to do other productive things like paying for school fees for their children and also feeding their families. Those farmers will have their products easily access the market without delay and it will even reduce the cost of production for their produce; hence increasing their profit margins. Also, if their land is accessible through well maintained constructed roads, it will increase the property of their value.

Mr. Speaker, finally, if there is one challenge for these Hon. Members, it is the roads. Even if we ignore or try to assume, roads is one of the things directly associated to the MCAs. Let us therefore do an honourable thing to these Hon. Members by passing this Motion. By doing that, 90% of these Members will be back in this House even after 2022. If we do not, the chances of them coming back will be almost to zero. I now call upon Hon. Gachuhi to second the Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Nahashon Gachuhi:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am the MCA for Gatanga Ward and I rise to second the Motion brought by Hon. Duncan Muturi because it is of great importance. I have realised that we do not have works equipment in our County. The ones that are there are already broken down. So we cannot have even one grader to do a small access road that does not even require murrum, it only requires some grading and people will be able to access.

You know we have farmers in our County and we rely on these roads to bring to the market our produce and we require those roads to be accessible, so that our people can be able to ferry and to go back home comfortably with the return that they have gotten from the produce.

Number two Mr. Speaker, it will create more employment for our young generations. If we have those equipment in each and every sub-county, you can see the kind of employment we will have created in every sub-county and entire County.

So, Mr. Speaker if I can compare that cost like Hon. Muturi has done, there was a project that was done in the last Assembly which was being called the one billion project. If you compare, if you do our maths with one billion we can be able to buy our machinery and be doing our grading and doing everything by ourselves with the same one billion for the next

even if it for the next 20 or 50 years. Because this is an investment that we are doing for our County and it will go a long way in helping our people to have accessible roads.

The same way we are doing with the long term investment, we are planning to build a house for the Governor and that house is not for the current Governor, it is for the Governors who will come until this world will end so it is a long term investment. The same way with this machinery, if they are given good repairs, they will be able to serve our people, even to, I cannot say eternity but even to long term generations so Mr. Speaker I rise to support and I would humbly request this Honorable House to pass this Motion so that we can be able to get our own machineries in our own sub-counties. Thank you. Mr. Speaker.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Caroline Njoroge:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I do rise to support the motion and I wish to congratulate the member who brought up this motion; member for Mbiri for this motion. It is in fact long overdue it was supposed to come may be in the last Assembly but it is good but it is not yet late.

Being a member who was in the previous Assembly I do agree with whatever this Honorable members have stated, that it is indeed hectic and costly to lease this materials for constructing our roads and you realize we usually use a lot of money, whenever we have to contract people to do these works with their equipments. I also do agree that it is something that is going to bring forth job creation, because whenever we are able to purchase these materials, these graders, the lorries and the dozers, we shall be able to create employment because we shall have people to work with those equipment and also we shall be able to train our youth with the same materials because you realize whenever a contractor is contracted to do this work, it becomes very hard whenever our youths wants to be trained on those equipment or maybe they want to get to know how they can work with them it is usually very hard for the contractor to agree that the equipment maybe used by them.

Mr Speaker I rise to support and kindly ask he members to support this because it will make our work easier and we shall have our roads all the time being made, they can even be hired and we can always get money from them whenever they are not working and so it is very important and I rise to support. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** I will ask the mover to respond.

**Hon. Duncan Muturi:** I wish to thank the Hon. Members for supporting the motion, Hon. Carol has talked about employment which is very good and there is a point about attachment. Mr Speaker, I have been severally called by our young people who have been doing a course called heavy machineries and I feel ashamed to tell the young people that the County Government does not have the machineries, so it will be a very nice venture having our youth from Murang'a County being attached to the County Government of Murang'a and using the machineries that has been bought through their own taxes. By that Mr Speaker, we shall have to train a lot of people who will then move from our county to other big league companies. Thank you.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

## ADJOURNMENT

**The Speaker:** The House adjourns until tomorrow, 2:30 p.m.

*The House rose at 3:05p.m.*