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MURANG'A COUNTY BILLS, 2022

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**THE MURANG'A COUNTY STREET NAMING AND
PROPERTY ADDRESSING BILL, 2022****A Bill for**

AN ACT of the County Assembly of Murang to provide for a harmonized street naming and property addressing framework, and a transparent and determinable procedure for identification of streets by street naming, numbering and property addressing in Murang'a County to improve on emergency response, location of premises, ease revenue collection and facilitate business operations

ENACTED by the Murang'a County Assembly, as follows —

PART I — PRELIMINARY**Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Murang'a County Street Naming and Property Addressing Act, 2022.

Interpretation

2. In this act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“street” includes a road, avenue, boulevard, walkway, drive, pathway, lane, street, trail, walk or way under the mandate of the county government;

“county executive member” means the County Executive Committee member in charge of Land and Physical Planning in Murang'a County;

“county addressing unit” means the implementation framework created within the county under part III of the Act;

“naming” means the allocation of a name subject to this Act of a street;

“mapping” means the presentation of geographical information of county streets and buildings;

“signage” means the use of signs and symbols to communicate a message;

“numbering” means the generation of street numbers under part III of the Act; and

“address indexing” means a method of generating an effective address in an index register.

Objects and Purpose of the Act

3. The object and purpose of this Act is to —

(a) to establish a County Addressing Unit;

- (b) to ease the identification of streets and buildings;
- (c) ensure ease of doing business;
- (d) improve delivery of private and public services and expand the response to emergency services to the residents;
- (e) to encompass Kenya's unique heritage and pay homage to Kenya's cultural identity as well as honor notable heroes to give effect to section 25 of the Kenya Heroes Act, No. 5 of 2014;
- (f) enable people locate addresses readily for easy navigation; and
- (g) to inform the County planning and budgeting framework through establishment of an information database.

PART II — COUNTY DATABASE AND ADDRESSING UNIT

Give Effects to Other Laws

4. In enacting the provisions of the Act, the county shall take into account—

- (a) Kenya's National Planning Strategies and in particular all national laws and policies on naming and street addressing; and
- (b) Institutional framework with regards to County Planning and Development Services.

County Addressing System Database

5. (1) The County Executive Member shall create and keep in his custody a County Addressing System database containing all streets and listed properties in the county.

(2) The County shall implement a digital platform for data storage.

(3) The County shall provide for online application for all county spatial data on streets.

(4) The database under Section 5 (1) shall inform county planning and budgeting framework.

County Addressing Unit

6. (1) There is established a County Addressing Unit whose members shall be appointed by the County Executive Member.

(2) The County Addressing Unit shall be drawn from officers in the county and national government and the unit shall determine its own procedure.

(3) The Unit shall —

- (a) receive and consider the proposals submitted with regards to numbering, naming and addressing of streets and addresses;
- (b) review proposals for renaming;
- (c) approve and allocate names subject to this Act;
- (d) update and maintain a register of streets and building names;
- (e) monitor the implementation process; and
- (f) any other duties allocated by the county executive member for the implementation of this Act.

(4) The County Executive Member may second any officer to serve as the secretariat to the Unit.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

7. The county shall ensure that the county street naming, numbering and property addressing guidelines and policies comply with the International Organization for Standardization.

PART III—STREET NUMBERING AND NAMING

Generation of Street Numbers

8. (1) The County Addressing Unit shall generate for approval a framework and strategy for the numbering and naming of all county streets and this shall be adopted in the county planning process.

(2) The framework, guidelines and strategy adopted by the County Addressing Unit shall follow the provisions of this Act and Regulations pursuant to this Act.

Street Numbering

9. (1) The County may generate numerical values following a logical sequence of numbering the streets and shall consider public participation and ease of users to identify the streets.

(2) The County Executive Member shall enact regulations on the numbering of streets, including but not limited to the position of street numbers, size of the numbers and address, location of the numbers, hierarchy of the roads, installation and maintenance of street numbers, names and property address signages.

Street Naming

10. (1) The Unit may generate names of streets following public participation and ease of users to identify the streets.

(2) The Unit shall put in measures and guidelines to ensure that —

- (a) the length of names is a standard size;
- (b) offensive names that may sound vulgar are prohibited;
- (c) duplication of names is avoided; and
- (d) geographical names shall be sourced from the name bank domiciled at the Director of Surveys.

Naming of Public Buildings

11. (1) The Unit may generate names of public buildings following public participation and ease of users to identify them.

(2) Inspirational names of places, people and events from Kenya and selectively from the rest of Africa shall be encouraged.

(3) The Unit shall put in measures and guidelines to ensure that —

- (a) the length of names is a standard size;
- (b) offensive names that may sound vulgar are prohibited;
- (c) duplication of names is avoided;
- (d) geographical names shall be sourced from the name bank domiciled at the Director of Surveys; and
- (e) in consultation with the Ministry responsible for the declaration of National Heroes, names of modern-day heroes.

Naming after Individuals

12. (1) Where the name proposed is of a person, group or company, the said name shall be guided by the character of the individual or group or company which must meet the threshold of Chapter 6 of the Constitution on integrity.

(2) The individual, group or company under section 11 (1) must have made significant and demonstrable contribution to the county.

(3) The proposed name shall be subject to approval by the County Assembly.

Public Participation

13. The naming of streets and buildings shall be subject to the provisions of this Act —

- (a) public participation by the residents in the proposed area; and
- (b) submission to the County Assembly for scrutiny and approval.

Re-naming

14. (1) The Unit shall have the mandate to review and suggest names for the renaming of a street.

(2) A street or public building may be renamed on the recommendation of the unit or through a public petition signed by at ten residents of the area where street or building is located.

(3) The renaming of a street shall only occur in exceptional circumstances, and in particular if—

- (a) if there exists duplication of the name;
- (b) if named after an individual, group or company and they fall under disrepute and breach the standards of integrity as set out in Chapter 6 of the Constitution; or
- (c) the name does not meet the standards and guidelines under this law and regulations.

(4) The County Executive Committee member shall prescribe by way of regulation the procedure for the renaming of streets and addresses.

Naming New Streets

15. (1) The Unit shall maintain a database of proposed street names received from the public and internally generated and shall ensure that such names comply with the provisions of this Act.

(2) The Unit shall identify all unnamed and unnumbered streets and buildings in the county.

(3) In allocating a name and or number to new streets, the Unit shall consider.

(4) The Unit, shall, in collaboration with the Municipality and sub-county administrators ensure the implementation of this Act.

(5) The Unit shall maintain a database of all approved new streets and addresses.

Naming of private buildings

16. (1) An application for naming of a building shall be made online in the prescribed format.

(2) The Unit shall ensure that the proposed name complies with the provisions of this Act and any regulations and guidelines issues.

CEC to make regulations on street names, numbers, posts and signage

17. The Executive Committee Member may prescribe Regulations for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act and in particular but not limited to —

- (a) creation of a database of names that may used in the county;
- (b) guidelines on the numbering styles that may be used in the county;
- (c) the size and location of the posts and signage; and
- (d) the composition of the Unit.

Financial considerations

18. (1) All costs arising from the naming, numbering, renaming and renumbering of buildings shall be borne by the registered owner of the building.

(2) All costs for erecting and maintaining of street name and number signages and boards shall be borne by the county government.

PART IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Role of Municipalities and Sub-Counties

19. The Municipality Board of the county and the sub counties shall liaise with the Unit in the implementation of this Act.

Develop a software for street addressing

20. The County Government may adopt the use of geographic information system (GIS) in terms of system design and development, system implementation and application and the spatial database and summary of visualization.

Regulations

21. The Executive Committee Member may prescribe Regulations for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act and in particular.

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill of the County Assembly of Murang'a to provide for a harmonized street naming and property addressing framework, and a transparent and determinable procedure for identification of streets by street naming, numbering and property addressing in Murang'a County to improve on emergency response, location of premises, ease revenue collection and facilitate business operations.

PART I of the Bill provides for preliminary matters including the short title, commencement and the interpretation of words and expressions used in the Bill and the objects and purpose of the Bill.

PART II of the Bill contains provisions on county database and addressing unit and in particular, the creation of a database on street names and number and a county addressing unit that will ensure ISO standardization and the ultimate addressing of all county streets.

PART III of the Bill contains provisions street naming and numbering including the generation of street names and numbers, public participation in the naming and numbering process, naming of streets after individuals, renaming streets and naming new streets.

Part IV of the Bill contains miscellaneous provisions including the role of municipalities, the development of a street naming software and Regulations.

This Bill is not a money Bill within the meaning of Section 21(4) of the County Governments Act, 2012 and its enactment shall not occasion additional expenditure of public funds.

The Bill does not contain provisions limiting the fundamental rights and freedoms set out under the Constitution.

DAVID IRUNGU MACHARIA,
*Chairperson, Public Works,
Roads and Transport Committee.*