

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA
THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 14th November, 2023

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk confirm whether we have quorum?

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: I direct the bell to be rang for 10 minutes.

(The bell was rang for 5 minutes)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Mr. Speaker I think we have a quorum, if I am not wrong.

Speaker: Clerk confirm?

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

REGULARIZATION AND DEMARCATION OF KANDUTURA PLOTS

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

NOTING THAT land is critical to the economic, social, and cultural development of Kenya;

AWARE THAT it's a government policy to regularize ownership of land where people have lived for longer years without ownership documents;

FURTHER AWARE THAT section 12 of the Land Act, No. 6 of 2012 stipulates that the National Land Commission may, on behalf of the National or County Governments, allocate public land through a prescribed format;

FURTHER NOTING THAT issuance of ownership documents will ease development in the area and encourage investors through construction in accordance with the Physical Planning Act;

This House URGES the County Government to move with speed and regularize and demarcate Kandutura plots (LR No. 556/154).

FUNDS FOR REHABILITATION OF ROADS AFTER THE EL-NINO RAINS

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT NOTING THAT El-Nino is a climate phenomenon characterized by periodic warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, and this above average warming of the ocean temperatures causes changes in weather patterns, such as increased rainfall in the East African region;

FURTHER NOTING THAT the El-Nino rains have begun across the country and have caused tremendous damages including deaths through flash floods in various parts of the country; AWARE THAT during extreme weather events transport infrastructure can be directly or indirectly damaged, posing a threat to human safety, and causing significant disruption and associated economic and social impacts;

FURTHER AWARE THAT heavy rains usually cause overland flow that result in drainage systems exceeding their capacity, and therefore increasing the likelihood of being blocked by debris and trash;

COGNIZANT OF THE FACT that flood events affect the transportation network and its connectivity by reducing, deviating, or cancelling travel for passengers, goods, and services due to roads being submerged, closed and unsafe for travel;

This Assembly URGES the County Government to set aside Kshs. 30 million emergency funds to be distributed at Kshs. 2 million per ward for rehabilitation of all roads that will be damaged by the effects of El-Nino rains.

MOTION

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2024-2025

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you Honourable Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the Laikipia County Annual Development Plan for the financial year 2024/2025 dated 24th October 2023.

Hon. Speaker, I will start from page one which has the preface. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the County Government Act and the Public Finance Management Act 2012 contemplate a Committee of the Assembly to oversight the budget making process which is a cycle of events on county planning that begins in 1st July and ends by 30th June of every financial year. Hon. Speaker, already we have started since it starts from July and this year ends on June.

Hon. Speaker, the year we are talking is 2024/2025. Financial Year 2023/2024 is behind now. The planning ensures that available limited resources are used optimally to address the needs of the citizens. Hon. Speaker, this document is a subtract from the CIDP. CIDP is the document that guides the budget process and the five-year term. It is important to state that planning is a key aspect of development in the county to enable funding for the successful implementation of the functions as set out under Schedule four (4) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010.

The Annual Development Plan is a key document that comprises a one-year extract as anchored under the five-year County Integrated Development plan (CIDP) and serves as a basis

for development of the County's Annual Budget. It guides the budget making process for the next financial year and informs the County executive's decision in coming up with budget estimates.

The Laikipia County Annual Development Plan (FY 2024/2025) has been prepared based on priorities as outlined in Laikipia CIDP 3 (2023-2027). There was the CIDP 1, CIDP 2 and now we are coming up with the CIDP 3. I hope the Members of this House participated in making that document. On the second one, some were not here. Hon. Anthony was not here while we were making the second. I was not here while they were making the first one. So, it is a privilege to be in this House and to participate in the CIDP 3 document.

Hon. Speaker, on Acknowledgement, the Laikipia County Annual Development Plan Financial Year 2024/2025 was introduced in the House and duly tabled as per the provisions of Standing Order No. 191(5)(g) on the 5th September, 2023. Subsequently, upon its tabling, it was committed to the sectoral committees for scrutiny and compilation of the report by the Finance and County Planning Committee.

I wish to thank the Members of this Honourable House and members of the executive for the commitment shown in ensuring this document is thoroughly scrutinized and various insights and contributions received.

In addition, the Committee is grateful to the Office of the Speaker and Office of the Clerk for the support received in facilitation as the Committees discharged their mandates in scrutiny of the County Annual Development Plan.

I am also thankful and greatly indebted to the Members of the Finance and County Planning Committee and the secretariat for the commitment and dedication shown in compilation of this report. On behalf of the members of the Finance and County Planning Committee, it is my pleasure and duty to present the comprehensive Committee's report on the Laikipia County Annual Development Plan for the financial year 2024/2025 to the House for its consideration and adoption.

Hon. Speaker, this report was signed by Hon. Stephen Ndiritu Kamau, the Chairperson for Finance and County Planning Committee on 7th November, 2023. Hon. Speaker, because of these abbreviations, I will go back to the third paper that has the abbreviations so that when I am going through this document, Members will understand those abbreviation. They are as follows;

ADP (Annual Development Plan), AMS (Agricultural Mechanization Services), ATC (Agricultural Training Center), CADP (County Annual Development Plan), CIDP (County Integrated Development Plan), EU (European Union), ECDE (Early Childhood Development Education), ICT (Information Communication Technology), KCSAP (Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project), KDSP (Kenya Devolution Support Program), KUSP (Kenya Urban Support Project), OSR (Own Source Revenue) and PFM (Public Finance Management).

Composition of the Committee

Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Finance and County Planning Committee as currently constituted comprises of the following Honourable members;

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|-------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Stephen Ndiritu | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. John Gichuki | - | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Mary Gathoni | - | Member |

4. Hon. Paul Leshuel - Member
5. Hon. George Karuiru - Member
6. Hon. Catherine Umija - Member
7. Hon. Samuel Mugambi - Member

Hon. Speaker, on Chapter one there is the background and the Public Finance Management Act 2012 provides that counties develop an Annual Development Plan (ADP), which, along with the County's 5-year County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP), becomes the basis for the County's annual budget. Hon. Speaker, there is no need of going through that page because the Members understand the background of this committee and the CIPD.

Hon. Speaker, on the next page is the ADP Legal Framework. The Annual Development Plan FY 2024/2025 is anchored on the provisions outlined in the Constitution of Kenya (2010), County Governments Act (2012) and the Public Finance Management Act (2012). It has been prepared in compliance with the following provision of the Public Finance Management Act (PFM) 2012). Hon. Speaker, Hon. Members will use their energy to go through the document and read the legal framework. I know Members of this House are educated and they can read on their behalf.

Mr. Speaker, on public participation, this document was taken to the public who gave their opinion. Article 196 1(b) and 201 of the constitution of Kenya 2010 and section 87(1)(a) and (b) of the County Government Act, 2012, requires the involvement of the public to bring about openness and accountability in financial matters. Hon. Speaker, that is why this document went to the public and members of the public have already given their views.

Hon. Speaker, on compilation of the Report on the County Annual `Development Plan FY 2024/25 Report, the Finance and County Planning Committee after receipt of committee proposals, memorandum, and public participation held several sittings to, and upon scrutiny of the plan, made observations and recommendations having considered the submissions from the County executive, County Assembly sectoral committees and public proposals as expounded in chapter two.

Hon. Speaker, the memorandum was considered. We also considered views from the public and we gave the sectoral committees a chance to appear before the committee and they gave their submission. We received their submission from all the sectoral committees on Agriculture, infrastructure, Education, Delegated and others. I cannot be able to remember them all but we have already given them the chance of giving their views on this document because this is a one-year plan. If someone don't give views on this document, they will not have another chance. They will have to wait for the next ADP.

I feel sorry for them if there is anyone who has not given his or her views. Next time make sure you come early for us to receive your views.

Hon. Speaker, on Chapter Two; Departmental Priorities, the sector is composed of the following units; County Administration; Public Service Management; Public Safety, Security, Enforcement and Disaster Risk Management; Information Communication and Technology (ICT); Public Participation and Civic Education; County Public Service Board; Public Communications and Governors Delivery unit.

Hon. Speaker, I have now understood that there is something called Governors Delivery unit. I saw some people on social media posting some projects there. They said that they come from the Governors Delivery unit. As this House we must ask ourselves whether we have a budget for Public Communications and Governors Delivery unit. Hon. Speaker, if we do not have, we must get a budget in that line so that those people can be actively involved in their work. They must also be answerable to the office they come from.

Mr. Speaker, this sector intends to achieve the following targets over the planning period FY 2024/25;

- i. Completion of the County Headquarters to occupancy status
- ii. Construction of Nyahururu fire station
- iii. Continuously equip fire stations in Nanyuki and Nyahururu
- iv. Refurbishment of Sub- County offices-Laikipia East
- v. Construction of ward offices in Ngobit, Segera, Thingithu, Nanyuki wards
- vi. Vigorously vet liquor applications
- vii. Take a lead role in coordinating Public Participation across the County
- viii. Public communication
- ix. ICT Infrastructure and connectivity
- x. E-governance and system integration

Hon. Speaker, there is a table there showing the development needs, priorities and strategies. Members can also go through that table and they will see the plans for the government.

Finance, Economic Planning and County Development

Mr. Speaker, this is a service department aimed at ensuring proper planning, use of County resources, tracking and reporting is done. It has the strategic priorities of the sector and the sub-sector. Members you can go through that table and to see how the government is planning.

Laikipia County Revenue Board

Goals and targets; Enhance locally generated revenue (OSR), Enhance effectiveness and efficiency in revenue administration, Development of appropriate levies and fees architecture, Human Resource Development and Facilitate Civic Education to the revenue payers on revenue Matters. Laikipia County Development Authority Board operations and partnerships Investment promotion Collaborations establishment

Mr. Speaker, as I said previously, we had given all these sectors a chance to give their views, their memorandum and submission. From that page to the next page there is the Trade, Education, Infrastructure. Their strategic priorities are on the tables. There is also the municipal board.

Laikipia County has two chartered municipalities; Rumuruti and Nanyuki. Rumuruti Municipality goals and targets; Increase Road networks, enhance infrastructure, indicate key

statistics for the sector/Sub-Sector and the strategic priorities of the sector/sub-sector (Identify the development needs and the strategic priorities to address these needs. We listened to the views in the Agriculture Department and we received their submission.

Hon. Speaker, there is also the County Assembly that is listed in this plan. Hon. Speaker, you are the head of this institution and you are the Chairperson to the County Assembly Service Board. We have captured your plan here and it is well outlined in this document. Hon. Speaker, thank you for that good job and the coordination of making sure that the Assembly plan is anchored in the ADP. There is the resource allocation; proposed budget by programmes.

The County Coordination, Administration, ICT and Public Service will receive a sector total of 4,904,865,500 which includes salaries and other expenses. On the Finance Economic Planning and County Development, the Government is planning to give them Kshs. 246,500,000, Medical Services and Public Health Kshs.2,107,000,000, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Kshs.793,270,000, Infrastructure, Lands, Housing and Urban Development Kshs.1,500,700,000, Education, Sports and Social Development Kshs.488,000,000, Trade, Tourism, Cooperatives, and Industrial Development Kshs.559,450,000, Water, Environment and Natural Resources Kshs.3,565,710,000 and the County Assembly will receive Kshs.655,000,000.

Hon. Speaker, this is the proposed plan and if you calculate this money, it is more than what we will get. If you come across some figures just ignore them because this is a plan. Hon. Speaker, in chapter three there is the analysis, observations and recommendations in the departments as follows;

Infrastructure, Lands, Housing and Urban Development

- a. Under the Programme: Physical Planning and Land Survey Services and Sub-Programme: Land Use Planning and Survey (No. of centres with approved land use plans). The committee observed that the target in the CIDP in year 2 is 4 whereas the target in ADP adds up to 8. The committee observed in Programme: Physical Planning and Land Survey Services Sub-Programme: Land Use Planning and Survey (No. of Allotment letters issued by National Land Commission) that the target in the CIDP in year 2 is 400 whereas the target in ADP is 800.
- b. Programme: Urban Development and Management sub-Programme: Land Use Planning and Survey (No. of Allotment letters issued by National Land Commission) the committee noted that target in the CIDP in year 2 is 400 whereas the target in ADP is 800.
- c. Programme: Renewable Energy Services, Sub-Programme: Clean cooking technologies (No. of cook-stoves provided to Households), it was observed that the target in the CIDP in year 2 is 3 whereas the target in ADP is 150.
- d. Programme: Housing Improvement Services Sub-Programme: Affordable housing (County House maintenance) it was observed that the target in the CIDP in year 2 is 30% whereas the target in ADP is 20%.

Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development

1. Nyahururu veterinary clinic rehabilitation- the said had been planned for rehabilitation in the CIDP. This project was not funded for consideration in the budget 2023/2023. The ADP

2024/2025 has not considered the same for rehabilitation. The recommendation is this project is planned for consideration.

2. The CIDP had considered pneumatic de-hiders, the same was not considered for funding in the budget. The county department of Agriculture and livestock has not planned for the same in the planning period. An explanation to be provided whether the county has decided to drop the project or otherwise.
3. Fisheries development sub-program under fisheries management key-outputs do not match with the CIDP. The key outputs stated are more of K.P. I's.
4. The ADP left out the key-out targeting to increase the no. of youths in fish farming despite a clear plan in the CIDP with planned expenditures of Kshs. 150M

Water, Environment and Natural Resources

1. The process of project identification under Climate change adaptation and mitigation (FLLOCA) was not clear.

Medical Services and Public Health

- i. Research and development- the percentage progress in constitution of research unit approved by NACOSTI ethics bodies, the ADP has not considered the same in the 2024/25 plans.

Hon. Speaker, these are among the observations we made. They are many and the Hon. Members have the energy to go through the others. I will go direct to the recommendations which are;

1. The County Treasury to align the ADP 2024/25 with the CIDP. The observations made by the committee to be used in aligning the annual plan.
2. This House adopts the ADP 2024/25 with the following changes;
 - a. Under the Programme: Physical Planning and Land Survey Services and Sub-Programme: The committee recommends that the targets for No. of centres with approved land use plans for be aligned with the CIDP.
 - b. Under the Programme: Urban Development and Management sub-Programme: Land Use Planning and Survey the committee recommends that the No. of Allotment letters issued by National Land Commission the committee to be set at 400.
 - c. Nyahururu veterinary clinic rehabilitation- this to be included in the ADP 2024/25 for rehabilitation works.
 - d. The county to include pneumatic de-hiders for funding in the ADP 2024/25 and subsequent budget.
 - e. Fisheries development sub-program under fisheries management key-outputs to be matched with the CIDP.

- f. The ADP to include the no. of youths targeted in fish farming as a guide to the funding needs.
- g. The County Executive to match the costing for the following items under education, sports and culture departments; Vocational training centres, CIDP costs 10 at 15M while in the ADP its 10 at 22.5M; ECDE classes, CIDP costs 30 classes at 58M while ADP costs 15 at 30M; Play fields renovation, CIDP costs 10 at 20M while ADP costs 60 at 10M
- h. Remove the purchase of the 3 buses for Thingithu at 20 M in the ADP which doesn't feature in any program or sub-program in the CIDP.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker. That is the report that the committee has brought into this House. As I said, this is a plan for one year. This report guides the budget process making and the budget estimates which will come into this House on April. It is good for the Hon. Members to understand what is in this document and also to follow the projects that have been planned in this ADP. Remember we shall have another ADP next year. With that I take this opportunity to call upon Hon. Gatati to second this motion. Thank you.

Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand in secondment of this ADP report 2024/2025. I thank the Chairperson for Finance and County Planning Committee for the well-presented report. He took us well and I could see the Members were following. This is a very important document because it is a precursor of the 2024/2025 Budget. I second and beg Hon. Members to support the said report. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Joseph Gitahi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I appreciate for getting this first opportunity for reasons we had stated in the previous engagement. Hon. Speaker, I would wish to state that I stand in the support of the adoption of this ADP report.

Hon. Speaker, conventional wisdom has it that failure to plan is planning for fail. I am also happy that the chairperson of the committee has eloquently explained that recommendations of this ADP which will be the basis of CFSP is a product of the CIDP, the product of people. I understand that the spirit of the constitution states that all the decisions and powers are drawn from the people. Therefore, I am delighted for the different projects and strategic priorities that have been captured by this committee.

Specifically, because we do not have the luxury of time, I want to go straight to the department of Agriculture. We have got a lot of strategic priorities that are so pleasing as of their face value. I have seen that the estimation in that department, the estimated allocation is Kshs. 791million. I would ask all the stakeholders because most of them are here and this is a budget making organ, I want to urge them that please maintain or even hike this budget. You will realize that the spirit of this report also emanates from the external thoughts.

You understand that in our UDA Party, we have got a plan on the improvement of agriculture as the basis for improving productivity upon which we will also raise other value chains that comes with it. The recent census report pointed to us that over 70% of this country is populated by the youth. The only opportunity left for youth entrepreneurship is in agriculture and

agribusiness. So, it is exciting to see the amount of money that has been projected because this is just a projection.

Just like the Chairman said, it is a proposal but I want to hail it for another issue. The realization that as a planet migrates from rain fed agriculture and improves on irrigation system just like it has been captured in the report. Additionally, you will note that there are a lot of emphasis on the issue of fish production. There are a lot of areas that will flow water from morning to evening and these are perfect areas to engage the youth so as to increase their productivity.

I have also captured an aspect on the issue of ensuring that the farmers have got adequate access to farm input. Last year we had spent big sums of monies to ensure that all fertilizers and other inputs are able to reach our farmers. We would wish that this House supports the Executive so that we may work as one.

As we improve the issues of farm inputs, let us also include the issue of agricultural extension services so that our people are able to fair with current technologies and methods so that we can boost our inputs.

Hon. Speaker, last week but one there was a motion that was brought in this House by the Member representing Umande Ward, Hon. Mugweru on the issue of land planning and surveying on small towns. We wish that this is taken into consideration in a big way so that we are able to improve.

Mr. Speaker, I can see that other areas have been captured and therefore allow me to only comment on the issue of agriculture because of the economy of time. Otherwise, I am appreciative and I thank the entire committee for the good work they have done. I also wish that the Executive will use this a basis for other developments in the future in regards to the budget making process. Having said that, I want to thank everyone and I stand in the support the adoption of this report.

Speaker: Thank you, so much Hon. Gitahi for a robust contribution.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, so much Hon. Speaker. I also rise in support of the ADP report. I must commend the committee for the good job they have done. As one of the Hon. Members have said, the ADP is an extract of the CIDP which is the touchiest thing because it is gotten right from the citizens themselves.

Mr. Speaker, the report is a true reflection of what needs to be done. The other day we all remembered that the CIDP also helps the National Government in its daily implementation of some of direct and indirect involvement in the devolution. What has been captured in this CIDP despite of the little emergency funds like what we are experiencing, I think it is the most crucial document. Despite of the Executive sometimes being late in the submission of the same to the Assembly for approval, I think that this is almost 90% captured as required by Wanjiku on the ground.

So, I support the committee and I also urge the Hon. House to as well hand in hand unite to adopt the ADP so that come 2024-2025, we will have nothing else but the Executive to implement with us overlooking them. Thank you.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the ADP report. I have gone through the report and realized that the Members were able to peruse it to the end. I am concerned because we have to find a way and means of getting money to implement the plan. As per the record here, we are planning for Kshs. 14 billion. I am sure that what we get from the

National Government is less than half the amount projected. I appreciate the committee's report and we will continue following up.

I am very happy because they were able to remove something that was not in the CIDP. If something has not been proposed in the CIDP, it ought not to be in the report and we are supposed to work together as a team to ensure that each and every work is properly implemented. Thank you and whole heartedly I support the report.

Speaker: I now take this opportunity to give to Hon. Mwaniki.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance as I rise to support the ADP report. It has been derived from the CIDP itself and still being a budget process making step and being the Chair of the Budget, this is the right thing to do as a county because we have to budget for the development and the expenditure of this county. As a report being done by the Finance Committee, they have done a good job and it seems that they have perused the CIDP well because they have identified the mistakes which we had done in the CIDP itself.

Their recommendations are valid as we can see that they have proved that it is a functional committee. They are good to go and as we proceed because the CFSP will inform on the writing of the CFSP Paper, this is where the budget process will proceed and will be derived from. If at all we do budget for this county's development and recurrent expenditures, then we will fall short of what we promised our people in the whole county. That is why I support and thank you for a job well done.

Speaker: I now take this opportunity to invite the mover to reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the Members for their contribution towards this report. I also take this opportunity to thank the Members of the committee for they have worked hard to ensure that this report is ready. I also want to thank the clerks who have been with us while making this report and the Serjeant at Arms who have also been with us in providing security while we were working towards this report.

I would like to assure you that nobody interfered with us during this process. Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank you for your support because you have shown good leadership when it comes to the work of this House. You have provided us with everything we needed. I thank the entire House also for giving us their support not forgetting the table clerks who are here and those who are not here for their commitment in making sure that this House proceeds well.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, 15th November, 2023 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.23 p.m.