

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KIAMBU
THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 5th September, 2018

The County Assembly met at the Assembly
Chamber at 2.30P.M

(The Deputy Speaker, Hon. Philip Mubea) in the Chair)

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Hon. Members we have a communication that was expected from the office of the leader of Majority and the Chief Whip but there has been a delay we expect that communication to be made immediately it is ready for communication.

MOTION

NAMING OF ROADS AND STREETS WITHIN THE COUNTY

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Hon. Leader of Majority, Hon. Ikonya?

Leader of Majority, (Hon. Ikonya): Thank you very much Mr. Speaker I wish to move the following Motion that aware that there are name roads by the management of the County Government especially Class E and P within the rural and urban areas.

Further aware that the County population and infrastructure development is increasing, the failure to mark a name these roads and streets is hampering the aforementioned development as it is difficult identifying places.

Recognizing that naming of roads is crucial in order to see the provisions of quick and effective service such as courier services, firefighting and Security.

Noting with deep appreciation that the senate is in the process of finalizing with enactment of a the Kenya Roads Bill,2017 which compels the County Government to maintain and keep up the to date

CAK/115/09/2018(1) COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KIAMBU DEBATES 2

the inventory of roads under its management in such form and such details including categorization and identifying details as prescribed by the cabinet Secretary.

Bearing in mind that Kenya Heroes Act, 2014 provides forms of recognitions and honour of national heroes such as having towns, institutions, open parks and urban areas, roads, streets, states stamps and notable land marks named after the heroes.

This Assembly therefore urges the County Government to name all un named County roads and streets within Kiambu County.

So thank you Mr. Speaker and before I make a contribution you can ask the office of the Clerk to expedite the communication that we have it within this session. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Going straight to the Motion that is before us, Mr. Speaker it is important to understand and to note that we are living in a technological era. It is also important to realize that this day and age we still use white chalks to mark directions to various places. More so over the weekends when we are attending weddings and churches and places that we do not know we till use white chalk to mark directions.

So Mr. Speaker it is important that we mark our all roads and have those roads given names so that if I go for example to Limuru East if I am given directions to the effect of I am going to a certain primary school , I would be directed by the names of streets w3hicgh are clearly labeled.

Mr. Speaker nowadays we have what we call geo mapping and geo mapping Mr. Speaker is when we establish names for different roads within the County we can now be able to ask, google and adopt those names so that if I google a certain place within Muguga or Karuri Ward I need not to ask for directions from anyone in a technological era where we have phones that have GPRS will give you directions to a certain place.

So it is important we name all our roads within the County and we also need to enshrine in the provisions of the Heroes Act name them after national heroines and look at who are these people we recognize as a community, who are these people who have done great things within the society so that we can name these roads after them? I believe the members of this House are also great within the society who can have roads named after them. Now that they will participate in the reception of this, so we can look into those things Mr. Speaker. So that we may have a way if identifying and virtually having for example when we talk about roads within the county we can be able to identify a road that is very deep in Gatundu North or Lari and that kind of a thing.

What this Motion seeks to do is now ask and compel the County Government of Kiambu and more so the physical planning department to embark on public participation so that we bring in the members of the public.

For example where I come from we can gather and agree what name are we going to give to the road that passes through my area, what name are we going to give this other road so that all our roads are marked, identified so that we are able to adopt them and give them to the Google people to upload them so that on GPRS you can be able to virtually get every part of this County.

So that is important Mr. Speaker and without much explaining and I think this is self explanatory and I just want to urge the Members of this Honorable House to support this Motion in the light that we all know the various places that we come from. We identify places based on so many things. You tell me come to this area you will see a big Mugumo tree at this day and age, we need to have names. This is Kibaki road , this is Clause what, we have names for our roads so that it becomes so easy for us to identify places and to quickly move to places. So at this point and time I would like to ask Hon. Solomon the member for Ndenderu to second the Motion.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): The Hon. Member for Ndenderu? Unfortunately you will bear with us the mics on your desks are not working at the moment, so we will use what we have.

Ndenderu MCA, (Hon. Solomon): Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to second this Motion, it is of the utmost importance and I need not add anything else that is why I opted to stand as per the Standing Orders. Thank you very much.

(Question Proposed)

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): it is now open for debate, Hon. Member for Limuru east?

Limuru East Mca, (Hon. Karuga): Thank you Mr. Speaker and once more allow me to congratulate the Hon. Member Ikonya for bringing this noble Motion to this House. Mr. Speaker may I start to say that most of our roads within the county be it urban or rural areas are not named.mr. Speaker there are problems associated with us not naming those roads.

A case scenario Mr. Speaker, is at my home area where you find that burglars come at night to steal from homes and you will hear but after calling the police they will ask you the exact location and people start naming the homes of certain people there and may be that policeman/woman is new in that area. So they will start going round and this will give the burglars ample time for the burglars to do their work and walk away with their loot with ease.

Naming of the roads Mr. Speaker, I am very sure it will ease transportation and communication. Many at times we have experienced our homes being on fire and when we seek for firefighting services sometimes they get lost and may be when they reach the area where the fire is, the fire will have already consumed the whole house or half of the House or you may not be able to salvage the little that has been remaining.

Mr. Speaker, many a times when we are in towns and we want to send our Bodaboda rider may be to take some luggage to the House we find it difficult explaining where they ought to take their

CAK/115/09/2018(1) COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KIAMBU DEBATES 2

luggage. Or even send a Taxi to go and pick someone you start giving out stories and they may not comprehend the exact place you mean. By naming these roads I am very sure the information will be exact and timely and this will go a long way in saving time for our County.

Naming of these roads also will save lives. Sometimes we call ambulances when we have emergency but may be the ambulance driver do not know the exact place and they take a lot of time. May be this person was bleeding and you find that a minute lost is a life lost and when we name these roads you find that these services like ambulance will be timely, exact and we may save life.

I urge the Hon. Members to support unanimously because it is for a good cause for this County. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Hon. Member for Riabai?

Riabai MCA, (hon. Hezron): Thank you Hon. Speaker and let me first thank the Hon. Member our majority leader Antony Ikonya for such a good Motion because we have been having difficulties when explaining where we are located or where we are and especially Mr. Speaker I recall when there was emergency with the Kenya Power transformer and the emergency team was called only that they ended up using a long route to reach where the transformer was and Mr. Speaker with this one will ease such emergencies.

And with this one, will ease such emergencies and especially as my colleague Member for Limuru East has said, the fire engines and the ambulances. It will be in great honour when we shall be naming these roads with heroes in our areas, whereby we shall be having so many heroes who really worked for our County and Country.

Mr. Speaker, this will also add value to our villages because in a place where we have so many schools in one road, we can call that road a *masomo road* or whereby we have so many churches in one road, we can name that road as *Faith road* and people will be very much encouraged to hear that they live in such areas. In Kalimoni whereby we have so many quarries, we can name it *stoney road*, because I think that is where we have so many stones for building our houses and roads.

Mr. Speaker, if you remember very well, it is not once where people have been misdirected. Like on weekends, whereby we have so many weddings or on Friday's and Tuesday's, where we have so many burials taking place, you find yourself in the wrong place because you followed the whitening's or all over the road and when you follow them, you find yourself in a place where you were not invited. People have done so even when we are going for of our Hon. Members, whereby we are going somewhere at Githobokoni but you find someone in Chania Ward because of those misdirections.

Naming of the roads will make people reach their destinations as fast as possible, and more so to reach to their occasions where they are invited. Mr. Speaker, without much ado, I beg to support. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker,(Hon. Mubea): Thank you, yes Hon. Member for Kinoo!

Kinoo MCA, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, I also rise to support this Motion and in specific, I want to give my Ward as an example, because we started this with our local Chief in one side of the Ward, my Ward is divided into two; there is Muthiga and there is Kinoo. Immediately we did the naming of the roads, we noticed that security improved greatly in the side of Muthiga. Right now as we are taking, we are just about to commence on the other side of my Ward, because even the residents themselves have come to appreciate the need of naming the roads.

I therefore want to thank our Hon. Leader of Majority because this is a very timely Motion and it is going to help our County in a very big way. I have already seen it happening in my Ward, so if we can have it officially communicated to the Executive, I think that this will go a great way in ensuring security improves, because it is very key.

Secondly, when we are doing construction of these roads, when we want to name the road that we want rehabilitated in our Wards, at times we do not have the names and so we end up giving those roads our own names as Members and may be that is not what our people could appreciate as being the name. If we are going to do it officially, is going to help even our County look very organized. I support, thank you.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Thank you, Hon. Member for Kalimoni!

Kalimoni MCA, (Hon. Mucheke): Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to make a contribution on this very timely Motion brought by the Leader of Majority. Before I make my comment I would like to appreciate what Hon. Member for Riabai is saying and tell him that we have better names than what he is proposing, that we name our roads in Kalimoni.

Having said so Mr. Speaker, I want to say that the World is now changing and in the developed countries, you tend to find that when they talk of giving their home addresses, they give specific address, such that even if you are a complete stranger in those areas, you would finally reach your destination.

It happened that last week, I had a burial in my Nyahururu rural home and it was very difficult to give people directions because the roads are not properly named, actually they are not named. You find that most of the time we use white wash to our destinations and if our roads could have been given names, it would be very difficult to direct a complete stranger in a complete World and that person would reach the destination.

It is a timely Motion and I would like to lead with Members of the Implementation Committee that they should look into the ways of making sure that the Motion we have today because I believe that it shall pass, it should see the light of the day, by making sure that roads in our County are properly named and we will be a County whereby people will even come to benchmark to see how possible/easy we have made it people to identify these areas.

As the Leader of Majority has said it, the World is becoming a global village, with the goggle maps and when we have not been able to label our roads, it is going to be very difficult to ensure that our roads appear in the universe. This is a very timely Motion and I would like to plead with all Members to support it and I thank you Mr. Speaker.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Thank you, Hon. Member for Kahawa Sukari!

Kahawa Sukari MCA, (Hon. Waiganjo): Thank you Hon. Speaker, mine is just to echo on what the Hon. Member for Kalimoni has said. This was a project that was supposed to take place sometimes back. Mr. Speaker, locations in wherever we are, is very important to know where we are and where we need to be, because this one saves time in terms of parcel delivery, it can be very easy for the parcel to be delivered wherever you are.

I want to give an example, I come from a Ward where each and every street is named. Again, when you look at the global positioning, you realize that immediately you get into my Ward which is Kahawa Sukari, you do not need anybody or even to call, you just need to look at your phone and it shall direct you to where you will be.

Mr. Speaker, it can be very difficult to look at the goggle maps to an area which is not named. As we all know that the World is global, it is a village nowadays, it is important also to be in that village and this can only happen in naming these roads.

There is software Mr. Speaker, whereby if all roads are named within this County, you can travel and get to where you want to be, just by uploading that app of the direction of where you want but without that it cannot happen. I want to believe that by implementing this, this County will be benchmarked to the larger country so that we are also identified where we are and where all these other places are. Mr. Speaker, I do support.

Deputy Speaker,(Hon. Mubea): Thank you, Hon. Member for Kabete!

Kabete MCA, (Hon. Wangiri): Thank you Hon. Speaker Sir, I also rise to support this great Motion and also thank the Hon. Member, Anthony Ikonya for bringing such a Motion at this time. I say it is very timely and at times we wonder, for all those years since we got our Independence and during those days the colonial master was very keen, wherever they were living may be Lavington or the posh areas, they named where they were living, the streets or the lanes for their convenience. They categorized us as the natives and probably found out that there was no need to get those names of the roads but I say that this is the right time.

I remember one time struggling so much, when I was called by my friend within my Ward and they wanted security because they had been attacked by thugs. It was very difficult for me to explain, because when I called the police station, they demanded that I explain exactly the locality and I tried using a school that was near and somewhere in the middle they lost their way and since I just decided to

CAK/115/09/2018(1) COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KIAMBU DEBATES 2

drive to where the crime was being done, I realized I was the first person to reach there and so it was very risky for me because I even arrived before the police.

I therefore support and I would like to say that the drafter of the Motion would also have taken the initiative to know that after naming the roads, we also need to name/number our residents. It would be very easy for example the emergency providers to have reached the said road, would locate the House very easily because they are numbered numerically. I would urge that we also add that so that we get to know it is at the left, house/homestead number and so on. I rise to support. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Hon. Yvonne!

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. (M/s) Yvonne): Thank you Mr. Speaker for...is it catching my eye or I caught your eye?

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Yes!

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. (M/s) Yvonne): Thank you very much, I also want to support this Motion and also thank the sponsor of this Motion, Hon. Ikonya, and also being a Member of the Implementation Committee, I would like to draw to the attention of the House, that there is already an on-going initiative, by the County department of Planning to set up GIS in several areas including Kiambu, Thika and Ruiru.

Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity.

I also want to support this Motion and I would also like to thank the sponsor of this Motion, Hon. Ikonya. Being a Member of the planning Committee, I also wish to draw to the attention of the House that there is already an ongoing initiative by the County department of planning to set up Geographic Information System (GIS) in several areas of the County including Kiambu Thika and Ruiru. With this Motion it will be much easier to link the names to the GIS coordinates, and it can now also extend to all areas of the County. This is because having named all the roads the next step is to create the GIS coordinates for each plot in the Ward and then submit to Google maps and then it can be integrated in the Google map system.

I think this is a very timely Motion and once the pilot project has been rolled out in the three areas, namely Kiambu, Ruiru and Thika, it can progressively be extended to other areas of the County.

The benefits have been said by all the other Members so I need not state that again. Therefore Mr. Speaker, I support.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Thank you!

We can have the Hon. Member for Mwihoko and then come to Hon. Ann later.

Mwihoko MCA, (Hon. King'ara): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir!

CAK/115/09/2018(1) COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KIAMBU DEBATES 2

I would also like to support the Motion on the floor of the House. Indeed, naming of the roads is important in many aspects. Even as I support, I would really like to note an issue that may arise when we shall be doing this, as I believe this Motion shall pass. There are some areas, and I would like to refer to some areas like some parts in my Ward, Mwioko, where land has been subdivided, it has roads, people have bought the land and they are living there, yet the land and its ownership has not been registered in the department of lands. The register that is there indicates that there is one big chunk of land that is still owned by either the persons who sold the land or the land buying companies.

That is an issue that will arise when we will come to the naming because the plans that were registered while buying the plots; with time, some of these maps have changed. It is important for us as Member of this House to be aware of that subject without anticipating any debate about it. I know there are modalities and policies guiding lands companies and that is a different Motion all together. But it is something that we have to be aware of.

Mr. Speaker, it will be bad for us to start a process and then we have what we have seen in the past; Members of the public going to court saying that we cannot name this and this road because it is not identified as a road in the department of planning.

Mr. Speaker Sir, even as I support the Motion brought to the floor of this House by the Leader of Majority, it is important that we be aware of the matter as well.

I support this Motion. Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir!

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Thank you!

Hon. Ann Kariuki!

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. (Ms.) Kariuki): Thank you Mr. Speaker!

As I rise to support this Motion, I would urge the County to first of all upgrade the roads. We do not have to name the roads yet if you come with a slightly bigger vehicle you can't go through. I think it is better if we are going to name the roads, let us also work towards upgrading them, especially in the areas that are growing fast like Ruiru. My Ward is actually very fast growing and sometimes even giving direction becomes a problem. The roads are marked on the map, yet you can't even pass through.

So, as we support this Motion, let us work towards upgrading the roads; as we upgrade them on the GIS, let us also upgrade them so that as we give directions, let them be roads that can be accessible.

Thank you!

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Thank you!

Hon. Kamaguru Ranji!

Ndumberi MCA, (Hon. Kamaguru): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for this opportunity!

I think it is high time for us to call a spade a spade. I stand here to oppose this Motion. Just like Hon. Ann has said, I do not see this as a priority. In my place, all roads are impassable, and before we name the roads, let us first make these roads. Like the one behind the Governor's office; in fact I was challenging him by telling him that this one is right in your door step, and it is a problem for even a motorbike to pass.

I think the priority is to first of all make the roads passable. Otherwise, this is going to be like a white elephant by naming a road that is impassable even with a motorbike. Let us give priority where it due because the members of the public are going to fight us because everything that we are doing is being over sighted by the public. Naming a road that is bushy and impassable; in fact the members of the public are going to uproot that sign you will put there.

(Laughter)

So, let us first do work that is a priority. Otherwise naming of roads that do not even have murram or tarmacked; like the one we were talking of yesterday, the Githunguri road, suppose you go there with a banner calling it Githunguri Road, you are even going to be burned by those people.

(Applause)

Let us first of all take the necessary steps as we go on. Like I normally say, I do not sing a song because it is being sung. I oppose this Motion completely.

Thank you!

(Applause)

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Thank you!

I can now see that all Members are satisfied, so we can ask the Mover to reply.

Leader of Majority, (Hon. Ikonya): Thank you Mr. Speaker!

In the interest of time I just want to hope that you are liaising with the Office of the Clerk, though I am in constant communication with the whip who is trying to expedite and make sure that the communication gets to the House in good time.

Be that as it may, I wonder where the Hon. Kamaguru passed through when he was coming here because I hear all the roads are impassable in his place. How he passed, I do not know.

Mr. Speaker truth be told, in as much as roads are in a bad state, at times it becomes very difficult when we are even making requests for these roads to be done. I have heard Members say that I

want the road that is from Mama Nyambura's to Mama Kimani's done. At this day and age, I think it is inappropriate and we need to name our roads.

Mr. Speaker, in the interest of the question that was raised by Hon. King'ara, I want to tell him that you cannot name a road that has not been demarcated or registered by the planning department and has been put in the requisite map. So, I think there is nothing much to worry about that; until a road is demarcated and registered, then you cannot put a name on it. Before that, that road cannot appear anywhere and it will be irrelevant to do such a thing.

When we name our roads it is going to become very easy for us, as opposed to what we normally do when we tell some to just come and that they will see a big tree. In this day and age there are so many big trees. You will not know where I am because you will not even identify the road I am at, and you are telling me to proceed forth and I will see a woman carrying a jerrican. We have women who carry jerricans all over, so you know that by the time you get to know where the other person is, an hour has lapsed.

It is important for Hon. Hezron, member for Riabai to note that we have people who have attended other different people's funerals by virtue of missing directions. If you miss the white chalk and go in a different direction, then you may attend a different wedding. By lack if you find they are just about to partake the meal, you will partake it and then start looking for the other wedding uou were supposed to attend.

Mr. Speaker, in this day and age we are supposed to Google map on our phones and it gets you to the exact position as opposed to saying that you are in a certain shopping center or I am at *duka ya mama flani*.

I want to thank the Hon. Members of this House for the upbeat mood and the support they have given this Motion. I wish to ask them that when the question is put, to kindly support this Motion so that we can go forth and implement the said Motion.

Thank you Mr. Speaker!

*(Question Put and
Agreed To)*

(Applause)

Leader of Majority, (Hon. Ikonya): Mr. Speaker, maybe you can advise us on what befalls the Communication from the Chair.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): As I had communicated earlier, the Communication will be done immediately it is ready for communicating within the House. So we may have to communicate it in the next sitting because we have come to the end of Business today.

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Mubea): Hon. Members, there being no other Business, this Assembly stands adjourned until Thursday, 6th September, 2018 at 2.30 P.M.

Thank you!

The House rose at 3.16 P.M.