

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF THARAKA NITHI



THE MUNICIPALITY OF KATHWANA

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P. O. BOX 10-60406
KATHWANA

Date: 20th July, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE!!!

PUBLIC NOTICE!!!

The general public is hereby invited to attend a **CITIZEN PUBLIC FORA MEETING FOR KATHWANA MUNICIPALITY**

VENUE: KAAKWA MARKET

DATE: 16th August, 2023

Time: 11:00 am

WELCOME ALL!!!! KARIBUNI NYOTE!!!!

THARAKA NITHI COUNTY GOVERNMENT
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

NIBUGUKARIBISHWA BWINTHE!!!!

Municipal Manager

Kathwana Municipality

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF THARAKA NITHI



OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

THE MUNICIPALITY OF KATHWANA

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KATHWANA

CITIZEN FORA REPORT FOR KATHWANA MUNICIPALITY

DATE: 16TH AUGUST, 2023

Time : 11: 00 am

LOCATIONS: KAAKWA MARKET, KATHWANA MUNICIPALITY

Introduction:

This report captures the discussions, resolutions and actions agreed upon during the Citizen For a held at Kaanwa Market in Kathwana Municipality on 16th August, 2023. The For a provided a platform for citizens and relevant stakeholder to engage with the municipality's Leadership on critical urban development matters affecting Kaanwa Market and its surrounding areas.

The meeting was convened to discuss key issues concerning the planning, infrastructural development, and security within Kaanwa Markert. These forums are part of a broader effort by the Municipality to incorporate public participation in the Urban Management processes, ensuring that the needs and concerns of residents are directly addressed by their leaders. The session was chaired by **CECM – urban Development**, Tharaka Nithi County and was attended by several key board members and members of the Public. The discussions focused on essential urban development issues including road construction, Market planning, Market stall construction and security of Kaanwa Market.



ecny' addressed by their leaders.

Attendees;

List attached.

Representation of the following was also present;-

1. Youth
2. Women
3. People with disability
4. Boda boda operators
5. Taxi Operators
6. Development Partners – Bank managers
7. Business Community
8. Professional – Teachers (KNUT officials and KUPPET officials)
9. Religious Community
10. Kathwana Municipality Board Members
11. County Employees
12. Informal business owners

Agenda items and Discussion:

1. Road Construction in Kaanwa Market

The Discussion around road infrastructure within Kaanwa market was one of the Key topics of the meeting. Many members of the public expressed concerns about the poor condition of access roads leading into and out of the market, noting that the lack of proper roads severely hampers movement, affect the business activities and exacerbates issues such as flooding during the rainy season.

The County Executive Committee Member- Urban Development, provided an update on the ongoing road construction projects. He acknowledged the delays experienced due to weather disruptions and logistical challenges but reassured the public that the Municipality is prioritizing road infrastructure improvements. A Comprehensive plan to pave key access roads and introduce proper drainage systems has been outlined.

Further, the citizens raised concerns about the lack of maintenance of existing roads which has contributed to their deterioration. The Director Physical Planning emphasized that the road maintenance is crucial for sustaining long term development and assured that a budget has been allocated to ensure routine maintenance once the new roads are completed.

The members of the public also highlighted the need for pedestrian ways and bicycle lanes to accommodate the growing population and promote sustainable urban mobility. The

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municipality management agreed to review the current road plans and consider adding non-motorized transport infrastructure.

2. Market planning and Urban Zoning

The forum underscored the importance of comprehensive market planning in Kaanwa market to ensure its sustainability and adaptability to the growing commercial activities. Kaanwa market has witnessed significant growth in the recent years, which has presented both opportunities and challenges in terms of space management, congestion and service delivery.

The Director Physical Planning presented a draft blue print for the market's reorganisation, which includes detailed plans for zoning different sections of the market based trade activities. This would facilitate better movement especially for the motorcycles, reduce congestion and improve safety standards within the Market. Additionally, dedicated areas for loading and offloading goods were proposed which is expected to streamline commercial and reduce traffic bottle necks.

Citizen For a played a critical role, since many members of the public voiced their concerns about the lack of the designated areas for certain types of traders, such as hawkers, food vendors and small scale retailers. The issue of sanitation with the market was also a major point of discussion, with suggestions to install more sanitary blocks and waste collection points.

It was reaffirmed that the municipality will continue to engage traders and other stakeholders to refine the market reorganization plan. The final plan will aim to accommodate the diverse needs, including space for informal traders, while promoting orderly development.

3. Construction of market Stalls

The need for additional market stalls was a central issue raised by traders, many of whom currently operate under makeshift structures. These conditions are particularly problematic during the rainy season, when poor shelter and drainage increase the risk of damage to goods and inconvenience to customers. The traders urged the Municipality Management to expedite the construction of more permanent and well-designed market stalls.

The **CECM- Urban Development** informed the public that the Municipality has committed to construct the new market stalls as part of its broader market modernization plan. It was emphasized that the stalls would be allocated to traders based on a transparent registration process to ensure fairness. Registered businesses will be prioritized, while informal traders will be assisted in formalizing their operations so that they can benefit from the ne

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infrastructure. It was added that the Municipality also plans to incorporate green building practices into the design of these market stalls to promote environmental sustainability. This includes installing solar powered lighting and rain water harvesting systems to reduce the markets carbon footprint and improve resilience to climate change.

4. Security in Kaanwa Market

Security concerns in Kaanwa market was another major point of Discussion with numerous incidents of theft, vandalism and other crimes reported by the traders and customers.

The absence of adequate security measures, especially during busy market days, has led to growing anxiety among market users. In response the **Chief Officer- Urban Development** outlined a plan to enhance security within the market. This will include the number of Municipal enforcement officers stationed at the Market. As well as introducing CCTV surveillance in strategic locations. Additionally, the Municipality is in talks with local Law enforcement to establish a police post near the market, which would offer round-the-clock security services.

The Municipality management also highlighted the importance of community policing urging market traders and customers to work together to deter criminal activities. Public awareness campaigns will be conducted to encourage cooperation with Law enforcement agencies and promote safer market environment.

Key urban Areas highlighted:

- 1. Infrastructure Development:**
The need for better urban road networks, drainage systems, pedestrian friendly infrastructure to facilitate mobility and resilience to weather impacts
- 2. Urban Zoning and Planning:** The importance of structured market planning, address congestion, Sanitation and space allocation challenges.
- 3. Public Health and Sanitation:** The sanitation challenges, including waste management and inadequate sanitary facilities, were identified as critical areas requiring urgent intervention
- 4. Inclusive Economic Growth:** Addressing the needs of informal traders and ensuring that market expansion is equitable and inclusive.



5. **Safety and Security:** Strengthening security measures in urban markets to promote safety and reduce crime

Conclusion and Way forward:

The citizen Fora a provided a vital opportunity for public participation in Kathwana Municipality's Urban Development processes. The Municipality management reaffirmed its commitment to addressing the concerns raised by citizens, with actionable timelines provided for each agenda item. The members of the public were encouraged to remain engaged in the follow-up processes to ensure the successful implementation of the discussed projects.

Report prepared by:

