

# COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF THARAKA NITHI



## FINANCE, ECONOMIC PLANNING, REVENUE AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Tel: 0800720370

Email: [countytreasury@tharakanithi.go.ke](mailto:countytreasury@tharakanithi.go.ke)

P. O. BOX 10, 60406

KATHWANA

---

### COUNTY LEVEL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FY 2024/25 HELD ON MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2024 AT KATHWANA SOCIAL HALL

#### PREFACE

Pursuant to the provisions of sections 125(2) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, the County Treasury is expected to undertake public participation hearings on the budget process.

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Kenya sections 201(a) which call for openness, accountability, and public participation in financial matters and as per provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 under section 125 that confer the right to the citizen and the obligation on the Government to ensure that the public participates and is consulted in the budget process and also as per the County Governments Act, 2012, and the Tharaka Nithi County Finance Bill, through a notice of invitations to members of the public, public sector organizations, interested parties and all key stakeholders submitted their proposals for inclusion in the Annual Budget Estimates for FY 2024/25.

The invitation to the public forums were done in the Daily Nation of Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and in other local diaries. Members of the public were also allowed to submit their written Memoranda/proposals through [budget@tharakanithi.go.ke](mailto:budget@tharakanithi.go.ke), via post office box 10-Kathwana or even hand delivered to the Budget office and the proposals were to include Key sector priority projects to be included in the budget and possible sources of funding for the projects, strategies and cost saving measures and investments. The County level consultative meeting was scheduled and took place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 at Kathwana Social Hall as from 9.00am – 12.00 Noon

Further, chapter 7 of the Constitution examines public participation in public finance management in Kenya as enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya 2010. Specifically, the chapter examines the following:

- i. The constitutional and legislative public participation opportunities in Kenya
- ii. The mechanisms through which the public can effectively participate in financial matters.
- iii. Recommendations for effective public participation in fiscal decision-making processes.

The Constitution and the PFM Act, 2012 provide a distinct opportunity to enhance the role of citizens in public financial management processes in Kenya. Chapter Twelve of the Constitution deals with Public Finance. Article 201 introduces principles of public finance, among them being, openness and accountability including public participation in financial matters. These principles, if

strictly adhered to, would strengthen policy formulation and management of public resources for the improved livelihoods of many Kenyans.

Similarly, public participation in planning, budgeting and oversight at both the national and County levels of Government is guaranteed by the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and the PFM Act, 2012. Sections 35(1) and 125 of the PFM Act, 2012 elaborately outline the stages in the budget process at the national and County Government levels respectively in any financial year. Specifically, Chapter Twelve of the Constitution, at Article 201 sets out the principles of public finance as follows:

- (a) Openness and accountability including public participation in financial matters;
- (b) Public finance system shall promote an equitable society;
- (c) Burdens and benefits of the use of resources and public borrowing shall be shared equitably between present and future generations;
- (d) Public money shall be used in prudent and responsible way; and
- (e) Financial management shall be responsible and fiscal reporting shall be clear.

Tharaka Nithi County has been conducting public participation forums during the planning and budgeting processes in the county which always has been conducted by the Budget and Economic Planning team. During the public hearing forum, deliberations and contributions by members of the public were captured and reports prepared by the teams.

## **PUBLIC VIEWS**

### **PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET ESTIMATES**

The public participation meeting was officially opened by Mr. Lawrence Micheni the County Director in charge of Budget and Economic planning. He highlighted the budgeting making process in the county and the need for public input in formulation and implementation of county policies and programs. He stated that the budget process includes development of several documents that includes the County Annual Development Plan (CADP), County Budget Review and Outlook Paper (CBROP), County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP), Development of Sector Reports, preparation of the Annual Budget Estimates and that all along the public must be involved in the process.

The members present were taken through the proposed Annual Budget Estimates for the FY 2024/25 which included.

- a) Proposed sources of financing for the budget:
  - ❖ County Own Source Revenue of KShs 450million
  - ❖ National government financing, Equitable share of KShs 4,438,768,407
  - ❖ Conditional Grants and Loans of KShs 1,499,470,255Total proposed Budget Estimates: KShs 6,388,238,662
  
- b) Proposed budget expenditures
  - ❖ Proposed Recurrent expenditures of KShs 4,108,679,103 (Representing 64% of the total County Government proposed budget expenditures): Out of which KShs 2,403,996,131 has been set aside for Personnel Emoluments (which represents 38% of the total proposed budget expenditures) and KShs. 1,704,682,972 has been set aside for Operations and maintenance

- ❖ Proposed Development expenditure of KShs 2,279,559,559 which represents 36% of the total proposed budget expenditures for the FY 2024/25
- c) Proposed Departmental Development projects for the FY 2024/25

Programme Name	Project name	Project Location	Proposed Development Budget Estimates 2024-2025
Department: Medical services			
General Administration and Support Services	Completion of Health Centres and Dispensaries	Countywide	10,000,000
	Upgrading of Hospitals and Pending Bills	Countywide	20,000,000
	Upgrading of Hospital Management System	Countywide	40,000,000
	Equipping of ICU	Karingani	40,000,000
County Assembly			
General Administration and Support Services	Construction of chamber and offices	Igambang'ombe	-
Water Services and Irrigation			
Domestic Water Supply	Drilling and equipping of boreholes	Countywide	10,000,000
	Other Civil Works	Countywide	8,000,000
	Community Dometic Water Projects	Countywide	25,000,000
Irrigation and Drainage	Community Irrigation Water Projects	Countywide	20,000,000
Water Supply Services	Kenya Water and Sanitation Programme (K-WASH P)	Countywide	353,808,808
Education and Vocational Training			
Promotion of basic education	Construction of ECDE classes	Countywide	45,000,000
Youth Training and Capacity Building	Rehabilitation of vocation training centres	Countywide	15,000,000
Public Health and Sanitation			
Curative and Rehabilitative Services	Managed Equipment Services (MES)	County Headquarters	80,000,000
Trade, Investment Promotion, Energy and Industry			
Energy Resource Development & Management	Electricity reticulation	Countywide	10,000,000
General Administration, Planning and Support Services	Development of the County Aggregation and Industrial Park (CAIP)	Igambang'ombe	250,0000
Roads, Infrastructure, Public Works and Urban Development			
Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development	The Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project (KISIP)	Marimanti	168,945,347
	Acquisition of Land (Dumpsite, Airstrip and ATI)	Karingani/Igambang'ombe	40,000,000
Roads and Transport	Tarmacing of Major Roads (Tunyai - Nthaara - Marimanti Road, Cheera - Ruguti Road, Mitheru-Kaanwa Road, Karandini-Kithioroni Road, Katharaka Road)	Countywide	180,000,000
	Access Roads -Maintenance and Improvement	Countywide	150,000,000
	Bridges and Foot bridges	Countywide	40,000,000

	Road maintenance Levy	Countywide	161,810,687
Public Works and Housing			
	Construction of County Headquarters	Igambang'ombe	100,000,000
Environment, Mining and Natural Resources			
Environment and Natural Resources Management	Climate Change Fund-FLLOCA	Countywide	146,000,000
Fisheries And Ecosystem Development			
Fisheries Production and Development	Aquaculture Development & support	Countywide	12,810,384
	Fish farming support	Countywide	3,000,000
	Renovation of Chuka Fish Culture system	Karingani	2,000,000
Public Administration, Intergovernmental Coordination and Devolution Affairs			
General Administration, Planning and Support Services	Construction of ward/sub county offices	Muthambi	5,000,000
Youth and Sports			
Sports and Talents Promotion	Development of stadia	Countywide	70,000,000
Lands, Physical Planning and Housing			
Physical Planning Services	County Spatial Plan	Countywide	4,000,000
	Itugururu Airstrip buffer zone LDLUDP	Igambang'ombe	1,100,000
	Chuka Town Survey & Planning	Karingani	3,900,000
	Kaare Market LPLUDP	Mwimbi	1,000,000
Agriculture, Livestock, Veterinary Services and Cooperative Development			
Crop Production	Crop Subsidy	Countywide	65,000,000
	Emergency Locust Response Project (ELRP)	Countywide	104,600,000
	Kenya Agribusiness Development Programme (KABDP)	Countywide	21,918,919
General Administration and Support Services			
	Operationalization of Itugururu ATI	Igambang'ombe	5,364,592
	Mitheru Store Rehabilitation	Mitheru	1,000,000
	Agricultural value addition support	Countywide	3,000,000
Livestock Production	Infrastructural support for Livestock produce value addition chain/centres	Countywide	7,000,000
Veterinary Services	Purchase of vaccines and sera for disease prevention	Countywide	5,000,000
	Artificial Insemination and Breeding Programme		8,000,000
P: Crop Development and Management	National Agriculture Value Chain Development Project (NAVCDP)	Countywide	161,515,152
Gender, Children and Social Services			
Gender and Youth Empowerment	Development of Rescue centre	Countywide	10,000,000

## **Discussion:**

### **Agriculture sector**

The members present suggested that more funds be allocated to the crop subsidy program and the upper part of the county be supplied with certified maize variety 513. The lower part of the county to be supplied with arrow root variety (nduma) 43.

The members present commented that the AI program has been beneficial to them and suggested that it continues in all parts of the county. If possible, they also request more funds be allocated.

Members also requested to be supplied with milk coolers.

Provision of pond liners, fish equipment and fingerlings to farmers was also requested.

The KEMRI institute to be utilized to support fish farmers in the area.

Agricultural Extension officers have also been requested for by the public.

Then members proposed that the department of agriculture to work on a sustainable plan for provision of the certified seeds to farmers, like establishment of a seed production site within the county.

### **Education sector**

More funds be allocated in the budget for employment of a second ECDE teacher in the county ECDE classes and more ECDE classes be constructed

Also, the department be allocated more funds for the bursary so that the needy children in the society can get through their basic education.

### **Roads and Infrastructure**

The members appreciated the fact that the sector has been allocated a bigger percentage of the development funds to cater for tarmacs, maintenance and grading of rural access roads.

However, they suggested that there is need for more funds to be allocated for the grading of ward feeder roads that have been affected and carried away by rains

### **Water and irrigation**

Members requested for establishment/ drilling and equipping of more boreholes especially in the lower zones of the county (Tharaka Region) since the area falls under the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands.

Expansion for the intake of Mutonga-Gituma water project because the current intake is inadequate.

Renovation of Nkungata – Gatithini water project was requested, in addition to construct an intake and piping for the project.

Kuura-Kathangacini area requires pipes to replace damaged pipes.

Kibungá – Kakimiki water project serving Nkondi, Marimanti and Kathangacini areas to be expanded to increase the number of households served.

There is need for NIWASCO to improve on their service provision so that more members of the society can be connected to clean and reliable water supply

### **Gender and Social services**

There is need for the department to be allocated more funds for provision of assistive devices for the persons abled differently

### **Youth and Sports**

The members of the society expressed the need for the youth's empowerment programme to be added more funds, so that more youths can benefit. Many youths are unemployed, and this will be a good opportunity for the youths to be self-employed.

Regarding the establishment of stadia, the member present requested the county to consider the improvement of at least one playground for each ward, to promote sporting activities.

### **Health Sector**

The members requested provision of more medical supplies drugs and non-pharmaceutical commodities. The ICU at Chuka Referral Hospital to be equipped so as the be fully utilized by members of the public.

Operationalization of the mortuary at Chuka Referral Hospital to be done by the County Government to achieve its intended use.

### **Pictorial presentation of the Public Participation forum**





