

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI



THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THIRD ASSEMBLY- (THIRD SESSION)

COMMITTEE ON LANDS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

REPORT ON INSPECTION EXERCISE OF ROAD PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN  
THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021/2022 IN KITUI COUNTY.

*clerk*  
*Approved.*  
*[Signature]*  
*11/03/2024.*

THE CLERK'S CHAMBER  
P. O BOX 694 – 90200

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.

FEBRUARY, 2024

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## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **1.0 PREFACE.**

**Mr. Speaker sir,**

On the behalf of Members of the County Assembly Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development and pursuant to the Article 185(3) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 elaborates that a County Assembly while respecting the principles of separation of powers, may exercise oversight over the county executive committee or any other county executive organ.

**Mr. Speaker,**

Due to the persistent public plight by Kitui County residents on the state of County roads in the County, the designated County Assembly Committee of Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development as per Standing Order 191(5) as well as the Second Schedule made a resolution to inspect road projects undertaken in the financial year 2021/2022 in Kitui County and the exercise was carried out from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2023.

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE EXERCISE**

Provisions of article 185(3) of the 2010 constitution of Kenya, which states that "A county Assembly while respecting the Principle of the Separation of Powers, May exercise oversight over the county Executive Committee and any other county Executive organ.

Terms of reference were as follows;

- i. To evaluate the quality of work done in regard to above mentioned financial year projects in respect to the budgetary allocation.

- ii. The level of workmanship to the on-going and recently completed projects.
- iii. To establish whether there was value for tax payers' money.
- iv. Report on the findings of the Committee's inquiry.

The following program was drawn conveniently sampling some of the Centres visited by the Committee within the County;

S/No.	Sub-County	Ward	Road Project
1.	Kitui Central	Township	Katyethoka Primary School-Mulundi Road
2.	Kitui West	Matinyani	Kwa Ngie-Musosya Road.
3.	Kitui East	Nzambani ward	Box Culvert at site area on Kitui general-resort club-SDA-Hospital Road Junction
4.	Kitui rural	Mbitini	Kitungati-Kanzauwu-Maangani-Katwala Road.
5.	Kitui South	Athi Ward	Makutano ma Ilengi to Mbakoni Road.
6.	Mwingi West	Kiomo/Kyethani Ward	Mbondoni-Kiomo Market Road
7.	Mwingi Central	Mwingi Central	Makutano Junction-Mulange-

			Kayambombo Road.
8.	Mwingi North	Kyuso/Tharaka Ward	Murangeni Market- Ngomano-Kyuso-Kakongo Junction Road

## 1.1 METHODOLOGY

The Committee's work was guided by the above terms of references and the following general methodologies of gathering data on Road projects were adopted; -

- i. **Preparatory meetings;** Prior to the exercise, the committee held preparative meetings during which an itinerary was drawn.
- ii. **Direct observations;** part of the learning was gathered through direct observations.
- iii. **Recording of information;** this was done through physical writing and this information has been maintained for referencing.
- iv. **Meeting with the residents;** part of the information was gathered having face to face communication with the residents.

## 1.2 Committee's Mandates

Article 185(3) of the Constitution states that, "*A county Assembly, while respecting the principle of separation of power, may exercise oversight over the County Executive Committee and any other County executive organ.*" The Sectoral Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development derives its mandate from the provisions of Standing Order No. 190(5) and the second schedule to the Standing Orders, which defines the functions of the committee as to inter-alia; -

- i. Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operation and estimates of the assigned department.
- ii. Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.
- iii. Study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation.

### **1.3 Committee Membership**

The Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban development currently comprises of the following members: -

- |                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Hon. Alphonse Mukwayu Musyirni  | – Chairperson      |
| 2. Hon. Aron Kilonzi Kasele        | – Vice-chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Godfrey Muthengi Ndagara   | – Member           |
| 4. Hon. Mathew Vuthi Ngovi         | – Member           |
| 5. Hon. Judith Wanza Kasyoka       | – Member           |
| 6. Hon. Muthama Kieti              | – Member           |
| 7. Hon. Alex Mutambu Nganga        | – Member           |
| 8. Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter     | – Member           |
| 9. Hon. Mark Kitute Nding'o        | – Member           |
| 10. Hon. Kyalo Kimuli              | – Member           |
| 11. Hon. Benard Mwangangi Munyasya | – Member           |

### **1.4 Acknowledgement**

**Mr. Speaker sir,**

The Committee extends its appreciation to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the Assembly for the support accorded to it in the execution of its mandate and the opportunity accorded to its members to undertake the exercise.

I wish to express my appreciation to the members of the committee who sacrificed their precious time to participate in this laborious activity. Your commitment and participation during the exercise was invaluable.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

On behalf of the Committee, I now have the honor to present the Report to the House for debate and thereafter subsequent adoption.

SIGNED .....  ..... DATE 26/2/2024 .....

**(HON. ALPHONCE MUKWAYU MUSYIMI, MCA –CHAIRPERSON)**

Report compiled by: *Grace Musombu- Clerk Assistant*

## CHAPTER TWO

### **2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION.**

Kitui County covers an area of 30,496 km<sup>2</sup>. This area is covered by tarmac, earth and gravel roads, some of which need improvement, while some have been improved.

Kitui County has around 225 kilometers of bitumen roads, 278 kilometers of gravel surface roads, and 2,598.7 kilometers of earth roads. The County has one Class A road, the A3 Thika-Garissa-Somalia border (Liboi) 556 kilometers long, that passes through it. The County government oversees the construction of major roads in the county, with the help of the national government bodies such as Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KeRRA) and Kenya Roads Board (KRB). The county government is solely responsible for the construction and maintenance of County roads.

The Kitui County Government is currently carrying out large-scale road construction initiatives throughout the county in an effort to improve the road network. These projects are being implemented in all 40 wards and are intended to expand the county's road network while also improving existing roads. This will be beneficial in terms of increasing trade, mobility, and access to emergency medical services throughout the vast county.

Over 130 drifts; which act as sand dams, have been built. These drifts have protected the neighboring areas from flooding and have enabled easier commute.



Kiongwe drift on B87 Kiongwe-MutulaD1441 junction is an example of a complete drift constructed successfully by the County government.

Unfortunately, most of the county's roads are in poor condition and become impassable during the rainy season. This hinders access to market centers, schools, and health facilities, which in turn hinders development. An efficient and reliable transport system is essential to attract the investment necessary for economic growth.

## CHAPTER THREE

### **3.0 COMMITTEE FINDINGS**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The Committee Inspected the following Roads; -

- a) **Kitungati-Kanzauwu-Maangani-K:twala Road Project- Mbitini Ward, Kitui Rural Sub County**  
**Cost of the Project: Kshs. 4,994,884.11**

#### **Committee finding and observations.**

The committee established that;

- i. The road requires routine maintenance because some parts of the road were washed away by April rains.
- ii. Murraming of the road was done at a length of 2 Kilometres and still in good condition.
- iii. The constructed slabs are still in good condition and the installed culverts along the road require maintenance.
- iv. Drainage of storm water along the road not done.
- v. The grading of the road was to done to good standards.

#### **Committee Recommendations**

- i. The committee recommends that the County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to install quality culverts along the road and maintain the existing culverts.
- ii. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport maintain to do routine maintenance of the road as a way of improving transport within the Ward.

- iii. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to construct storm water drainage systems along the road as a way of protecting the road from being washed away by the rains.

**b) Makutano ma Ilengi – Makutano-Kyandula to Mbakoni Road Road Project- Athi Ward, Kitui South Sub County.**

**Project Cost- Kshs. 4,824,788.00**

**Committee Findings and observations:**

- i. There are huge pot holes and some of the installed culverts have clogged.
- ii. The grading of the road was poorly done.
- iii. The road is in bad state as it was washed away by heavy rains.
- iv. Some parts of the road need culvert installation.
- v. Bush clearing needs to be done to widen the road and additional drifts needs to be constructed.
- vi. Bill of quantities was not availed to the community despite making requests severally thus leaving the community in total darkness about the whole project.

**Committee recommendations:**

- i. The committee recommends that the County Ministry of Roads, Public Works to construct additional drifts along the road, to install culverts as a way of improving drainage system along the road.
- ii. Bill of Quantities must be availed to the communities and all concerned stakeholders during commissioning of County projects to enhance accountability and transparency.

- iii. The County Engineers should strictly supervise the works to ensure all the provisions in the BoQs are adhered to and contractors use standard materials.
- iv. The County Ministry should install culverts along the road as a way of controlling storm water from washing away the road.

**c) Road opening from Katyethoka Primary School- Mulundi project-Township Ward in Kitui Central Sub County**

**Project Cost- Kshs. 4,639,373.60**

**Committee findings and observations**

- i. Murraming of the road was slightly done.
- ii. The road is narrow and needs to be widened.
- iii. Bush clearing along the road needs to be done.
- iv. Slab was constructed across the stream but no rails were installed.
- v. Erection of gabions along the road were done.

**Committee Specific recommendations:**

- i. The committee recommends that rails along the slab to be installed as a way of protecting the road users from falling into the stream.
- ii. The Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to do bush clearing along the road as a way of widening the road.
- iii. Routine road maintenance of the road should be undertaken periodically by the County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to ensure that the road is in good condition.

- d) Box Culvert at site area on Kitui General-Resort club- SDA- Hospital Junction project- Nzambani Ward, Kitui East Sub- County.**  
**Project Cost- Kshs. 4, 980,450.00**

**Committee findings and Observations**

- i. The slab was poorly done and has already been washed by rains.
- ii. No gabions were erected along the stream.
- iii. There are no storm drainage systems along the road.

**Committee specific recommendations:**

- i. The county Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport should construct gabions along the stream as a way of reinforcing the box culverts and preventing soil erosion.
  - ii. Installation of culverts along the road to aid in storm drainage
  - iii. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport should clear bushes along the stream as a way of increasing security within the area.
  - iv. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to construct a slab along the Box Culverts and to ensure that the Contractor uses quality and standard materials.
- e) Kwa Ngie- Musosya Road Project- Matinyani Ward, Kitui West Subcounty.**  
**Project Cost: 3,726,979.08**

**Committee Findings and Observations:**

- i. Construction of slab on the drift is required.
- ii. The road is narrow.
- iii. Construction of drainage system for storm water is required.

- iv. The grading and murraming of the road were done to standards because it was not washed away by the rains.

#### **Committee specific recommendations**

- i. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to construct a slab on the drift to aid smooth movement of vehicles and pedestrians.
- ii. Routine maintenance of the road should be done regularly.
- iii. The committee recommends widening of the road through bush clearing and grading.

#### **f) Mbondoni- Kiomo Market Road- Kiomo/Kyethani Ward in Mwingi West Sub-County.**

**Project Cost- Ksh. 3,844,177.69**

#### **Committee findings and observations**

- i. The grading and murraming of the road were done to standards because it was not washed away by the rains.
- ii. The road is covered with bushes which needs to be cleared.
- iii. The road should be maintained regularly.

#### **Committee Specific Recommendations**

- i. The Committee recommends routine maintenance of the road to be done regularly as way of maintaining a standard road.
- ii. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to do bush clearing along the road as a way of widening the road.

#### **g) Makutano Junction- Mulange- Kayambombo- Mwingi Central/ Migwani Wards.**

**Project Cost- Kshs. 3,419,180.22**

#### **Committee findings and observations**

- i. The road is too narrow and needs to be widened.
- ii. The road was washed away by rains.
- iii. The road needs routine maintenance.
- iv. No murraming was done.
- v. The contractor did a substandard job on the road.
- vi. Slab of ten Metres was constructed on the road but is in delapidated condition.
- vii. More culverts need to be installed along the road as a way of improving drainage of storm water.

### **Committee Specific Recommendations**

- i. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to do bush clearing along the road as a way of widening the road.
- ii. Routine road maintenance of the road should be undertaken periodically by the County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to ensure that the road is in good condition.
- iii. The County Ministry should install culverts and construct slabs along the road as a way of improving storm water drainage and easing on transportation during rainy season.

### **h) MURANGENI MARKET- NGOMANO- KYUSO KAKONGO JUNCTION- KYUSO/THARAKA WARDS**

**Project Cost- Kshs. 4,971,657.57**

### **Committee findings and observations**

- i. The road is too narrow and needs to be widened.
- ii. The road was washed away by rains
- iii. The road needs routine maintenance
- iv. Construction of drainage system for storm water is required

- v. The grading and murraming of the road were done poorly.

#### **Committee Specific Recommendations**

- i. Routine road maintenance of the road should be undertaken periodically by the County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to ensure that the road is in good condition.
- ii. The committee recommends that the County Ministry of Roads, Public Works to construct additional drifts along the road, to install culverts as a way of improving drainage system along the road.

#### **4.0 COMMITTEE GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS.**

- i. There has been little involvement of the local community in the process of project implementation which has led to contractors abandoning the site without having properly completed and handed over the projects.
- ii. There was poor workmanship in almost all the projects visited amounting to imprudence use of public funds.
- iii. Most roads are in bad state and impassable owing to irregular grading and some have been washed away by surface run off.
- iv. That most drift constructed had been washed away due to poor workmanship and use of substandard materials.



## **5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

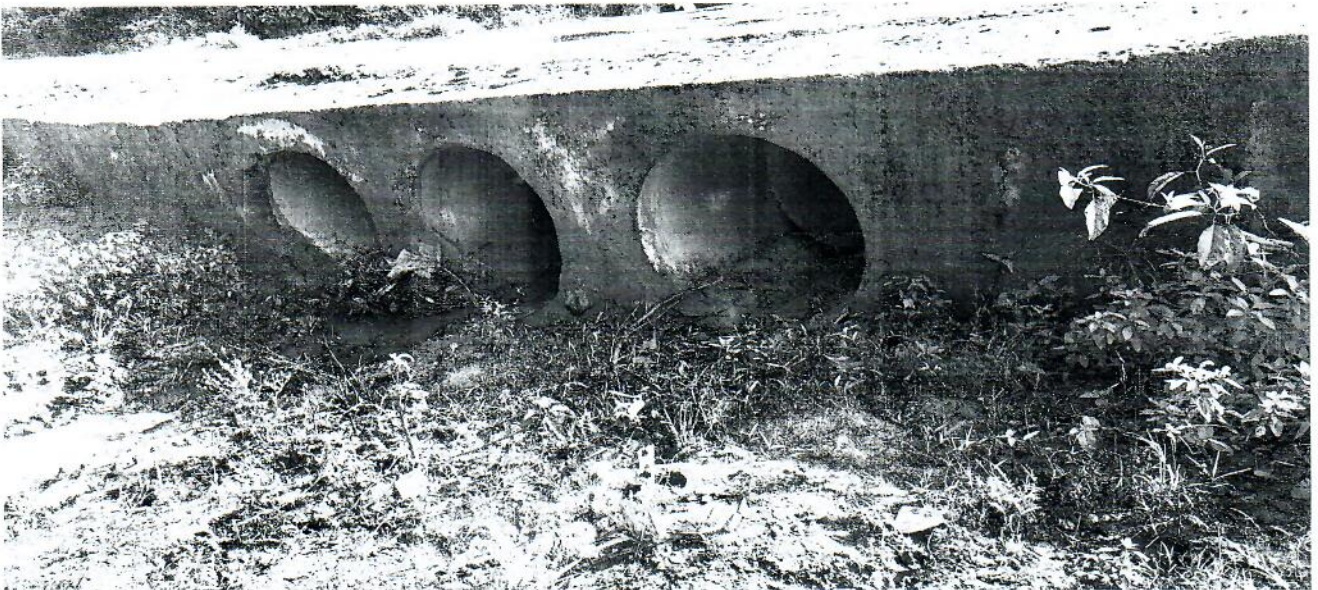
The committee recommends the following:

- i. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport should ensure that the local community is fully involved in project identification, implementation and handing over once completed to ensure value for public funds is realized.
- ii. The procurement tendering laws should be adhered to as a way of ensuring proper workmanship is realized.
- iii. The County engineers should strictly supervise the works to ensure all the provisions in the BQs are adhered to.
- iv. The County Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport should formulate road maintenance schedules so as to ensure routine maintenance of the existing roads.

## PHOTO GALLERY



Road washed away by rains



Culverts without Rails



Honorable Members inspecting slab


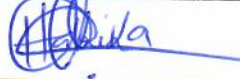

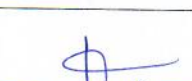

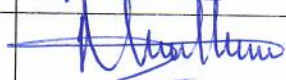

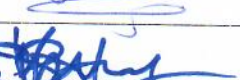


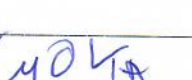


Honorable Members inspecting a road project.



Members inspecting a slab constructed using sub standard materials.

**WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE LANDS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE DO HEREBY APPEND OUR SIGNATURES TO CONFIRM AND APPROVE THE AUTHENTICITY, ACCURACY AND VALIDITY OF THIS REPORT.**

S/No.	MEMBERS	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Alphonse Musyimi Mukwayu	CHAIRPERSON	
2.	Hon. Aron Kilonzi Kasele	V/CHAIRPERSON	
3.	Hon. Kyalo Kimuli	MEMBER	
4.	Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter	MEMBER	
5.	Hon. Mathew Ngovi Vuthi	MEMBER	
6.	Hon. Godfrey Muthengi Ndagara	MEMBER	
7.	Hon. Judith Wanza Kasyoka	MEMBER	
8.	Hon. Bernard Mwangangi Munyasya	MEMBER	
9.	Hon. Mark Kitute Nding'o	MEMBER	
10.	Hon. Alex Mutambu Nganga	MEMBER	
11.	Hon. Muthama Musyoka Kieti	MEMBER	

29/1/22

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