

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MACHAKOS
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF MACHAKOS



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THIRD ASSEMBLY
(THIRD SESSION)

TRANSPORT, ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE

THE FIRST REPORT OF TRANSPORT, ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
ON THE PROGRESS OF TARMACKING OF FOUR COUNTY MAJOR ROADS
PROJECTS FOR FY 2023/2024

NOVEMBER, 2024

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PREFACE

1. Hon. Speaker, road construction is considered to be one of the most important aspects of human development as it interacts with nearly all fields of human endeavor. Roads play a crucial role in the development and economic growth. Machakos County is vast and diverse, encompassing various landscapes and terrains, and a well-developed road network is essential for connecting communities, facilitating trade and commerce, and promoting social integration. With reliable and accessible roads, transportation becomes more efficient; allowing goods and services to reach markets more easily, which in turn boosts the economy and creates job opportunities for the local population.

2. Hon. Speaker, furthermore, roads are important for providing access to healthcare, education, and other essential services in remote areas. Improved road infrastructure can make it easier for people in rural communities to access healthcare facilities, reducing maternal and infant mortality rates, and increasing life expectancy. Additionally, it can enhance access to education by enabling students to commute to schools thereby improving literacy rates and expanding opportunities for higher education.

3. Research reveals that road construction projects do not succeed as initially planned. Road construction in Kenya has faced a myriad of challenges over the years, resulting in numerous failures and setbacks. One of the primary reasons for this has been the lack of proper planning and execution by the authorities involved in implementation of these projects. To address these issues and prevent further failures in road construction, there is a need for greater transparency and oversight.

4. Many projects are not adequately supervised, leading to poor construction practices, lack of adherence to quality standards, and ultimately, roads that deteriorate quickly and require constant maintenance. In order for road construction to succeed in Kenya, and in particular Machakos County there needs to have a concerted effort to improve oversight, project management and planning, and ensure that quality standards are met in all construction works.

5. Hon. Speaker, in summary, the importance of roads in Machakos County cannot be overstated. They are the lifelines of the County, connecting people, resources, and opportunities. It is crucial for National Government, County Governments and International Organizations to invest in the

development and maintenance of road infrastructure to promote economic growth, social development, and overall well-being. By prioritizing the expansion and improvement of roads, Counties can unlock their full potential and pave the way for a brighter future for all.

2.0 COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

6. Honorable Speaker, the Transport, Roads and Public Works Committee currently has thirteen members as listed below;

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Muoki Musila | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Julius Munywoki | Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Judas Ndawa | Member |
| 4. Hon. Raphael Lucky | “ |
| 5. Hon. Dominic Ndambuki | “ |
| 6. Hon. Francis Ngunga | “ |
| 7. Hon. Paul Muli | “ |
| 8. Hon. Fredrick Muia | “ |
| 9. Hon. Alphonse Mutinda | “ |
| 10. Hon. Charles Mbuva | “ |
| 11. Hon. Dee Kivuva | “ |
| 12. Hon. Anna Ndilo | “ |
| 13. Hon. Grace Bahati | “ |

SECRETARIAT

1. Ms. Evelyn Kimote - Clerk Assistant
2. Mr. Patrick Muange - Clerk Assistant
3. Ms. Luiza Kamau - Hansard Editor
4. Mr. Lewis Muoki - Research Officer
5. Mr. Erastus Mutua - Serjeant-at-Arms

3.0 COMMITTEE MANDATE

7. Honorable Speaker, the Transport, Roads and Public Works Committee is created pursuant to Standing Order 190 and its mandate derived from the Second Schedule of Machakos County Assembly Standing Orders. The committee is mandated to deal with all matters related to county

transport, including county roads, housing, street lighting, traffic, parking, public transport, ferries and harbors, excluding the regulation of international and national shipping and matters related thereto; county public works and services.

4.0 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

4.1 Background Information

8. Honorable Speaker, Article 183(3) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 stipulates that the County Executive Committee Member shall provide the County Assembly with full and regular reports on matters relating to the County. Further, Article 185(3) of the same Constitution states that the County Assembly, while respecting the principle of separation of powers, may exercise oversight over the County Executive Committee Members and any other County Executive Organs.

9. Premised on the above provisions, the Transport, Roads and Public Works Committee received information on the status of county major roads projects and even engaged the department's Acting Chief officer on several occasions during site visits that the Committee conducted to ascertain their actual status.

5.0 STATUS OF TARMACKING OF THE COUNTY MAJOR ROADS FY 2023/2024

10. Honorable Speaker, the Committee on Transport, Roads and Public Works wishes to inform this Honorable House of four Major roads projects currently being undertaken by our County Government. These include: -

1. Kathalani – Kaviani – Nzaikoni Road in Kathiani Sub County
2. Katangi – Malava – Kinyaata Road in Yatta Sub County
3. Proposed Construction of Gossip – Mlolongo – Police Housing Road, Mlolongo Dispensary & Assisi Nursing Home Access Roads in Mavoko Sub County
4. Kincar – Airways – Zebra and Muungano Police Station Road Phase II in Mavoko Sub County

5.1 KATHALANI – KAVIANI – NZAIKONI ROAD

11. Kathalani – Kaviani – Nzaikoni road links Upper Kaewa Ward and Lower Kaewa Wards in Kathiani Sub - County.

12. The length of the road is 3.37km and will be done in phases in two financial years. The contractor is Turin Enterprises Limited and the contract sum is Ksh. 154,580,347.20. So far the amount certified and paid as at 7th August, 2024 is Ksh. 69,941,202.40 representing 45% of the total contract sum. The project commenced on 23rd February, 2024 and is expected to be completed by 22nd February, 2025. The contract's scope of works includes the following;

- i) Site clearance and top soil stripping
- ii) Earthworks
- iii) Preparation of road sub-base and base
- iv) Installation of Culverts and drainage works
- v) Bituminous surface treatment
- vi) Installation of road furniture

13. The Committee visited the road on 7th August, 2024 and as at the time of visit overall project completion status was 61% and observed as follows;

- a) The Contractor had tarmacked a road section of 1.37km and part installation of drainage and road furniture.
- b) The Road earthworks had been done in the entire road stretch of 3.37km
- c) The Contractor had dumped material for preparation of sub-base on a stretch of 1.8km

14. The Engineer also highlighted that the main challenges affecting the execution of this project included;

- a) Lack of suitable gravel near the site hence the Contractor sourced it at a distance around Kyevaluki which is about 18km away.
- b) Road encroachment especially life fences.

15. When this project is complete, the residents of this area will have several benefits including;

- a) Ease of transport of farm inputs and produce to markets
- b) Social-economic improvement on the people due to reduced cost of transportation
- c) Improved mobility of people thus improving access to social amenities such hospitals, schools etc.

5.2 KATANGI – MALAVA – KINYAATA ROAD

16. This project is located in Yatta sub-county, Katangi ward. The works start from Katangi market and cover a cumulative length of 5 km and average width of about 8.5 m. The project is being undertaken by Prime Quantifiers (K) Limited at a contract sum of Kshs. 244,514,716. The project commenced on 23rd February, 2024 and the expected completion date is 23rd February,

2026. Amount Certified and paid as at 17th September, 2024 was reported as Ksh. 49,584,765.84.

17. As per the contract, the project's scope of works includes the following;

- a) Site clearance on road reserve - This includes site clearance, removal of unsuitable top soil and dismantling of structures on roadway
- b) Earth works - These include cutting in soft and hard material and removal of topsoil, filling in murrum and other earth works necessary for upgrading and rehabilitating the road
- c) Preparation of sub base and base using natural gravel and cement (soil stabilization)
- d) Laying of bituminous surface treatment and mixes for carriageway
- e) Drainage works which includes installation of culverts and stone pitching
- f) Road furniture which involves installation of road kerbs, warning signs, bollards and marking of carriageway as appropriate.
- g) Environmental mitigation measures such as tree planting
- h) Relocation services including water pipes, power lines etc.

18. The Committee visited the site on 17th September, 2024 and observed as follows;

- i. Site clearance, dismantling of structures on the road and top soil stripping had been done
- ii. That the contractor had already tarmacked a section of 1.2km of the 5km stretch of road
- iii. Additional road subbase and base done on a stretch of 1.2 km awaiting laying of Asphalt Concrete (AC)
- iv. Earthworks ongoing and already done on a stretch of 1.8 km
- v. Culverts installed on some sections
- vi. That the average estimated percentage of completion of permanent works was 35 %

19. Hon. Speaker, upon Completion of the road, the residents would experience the following benefits;

- a) Improved access and transportation of goods and services within the sub-county and neighboring regions
- b) Improved trade opportunities within the region
- c) Ease of access to social, economic and education facilities
- d) Stimulation of more economic investment in the area
- e) General improvement of livelihood of the local citizens.

20. It was reported that among the challenges affecting the progress of the works during the execution period were:

- a) Encroachment by sewerage structures
- b) Encroachment by power lines.
- c) Poor storm water drainage system
- d) Life fences along the road reserve

5.3 GOSSIP – MLOLONGO – POLICE HOUSING LOOP ROAD, MLOLONGO DISPENSARY & ASSISI NURSING HOME ACCESS ROADS

21. Hon. Speaker, the proposed Construction of Gossip - Mlolongo Police Housing Loop Road, Mlolongo Dispensary & Assisi Nursing Home Access Roads is 4.24km which will be done in three Financial Years (phased). The contractor is White Span Enterprises Limited and the Contract sum is Kshs. 326,815,929.50. The project commenced on 23rd February, 2024 and is expected to be completed on 24th February, 2026.

The Contracts scope of works include;

- a) survey works,
- b) site clearance and removal of structures,
- c) relocation of services
- d) earthworks,
- e) drainage works,
- f) construction of diversions,
- g) preparation of base and sub-base works,
- h) Asphalt Concrete surfacing,
- i) construction of pedestrian footpath.

20. The overall completion of the project was at 9.1% and the amount certified as at 1st August, 2024 and paid was Ksh.14,934,507.00 signifying 5% of contract sum.

22. The Committee visited the project on 1st August, 2024 and observed that the following works had been done;

- i. Excavation and removal of unwanted material from the road on a stretch of 1.4Km
- ii. Filling of the excavated area with hardcore and gravel

iii. Provision of diversion & traffic management

23. The expected positive impact of the road in the region include;

- a) Improved mobility and accessibility for people, goods and services within the Mlolongo urban area.
- b) Improvement in land value of the urban area.
- c) Drainage management & control especially during rainy seasons
- d) Reduction in human and vehicle traffic conflict through separation of carriageway and walk ways
- e) Dust control and improvement of general area aesthetics
- f) Reduction in cost of transportation for people, goods and services
- g) Opening up of business opportunities
- h) Stimulation of more economic investment activities in the area
- i) General improvement of livelihoods of the local citizens

24. The Committee noted that implementation of this project has been faced by a number of challenges which include;

- a) Ongoing encroachment litigation affecting excavated part of the road around Kasina area
- b) Discharge of waste water onto road facilities
- c) Encroachment of road corridor by the residents
- d) Lack of approved survey maps in the area
- e) Existence of service lines such as power, water, sewer drainage along the road corridor

25. As Mitigation to above challenges, the department recommends as follows;

- a) prosecution of errant landlords discharging waste on to the road,
- b) engagement with the plot owners to demolish structures encroaching the road
- c) follow up with department of lands & physical planning as regards survey maps to ensure the actual physical position of the road is restored.
- d) speedy conclusion of the court case
- e) construction of sewer system to help in sewer waste management,
- f) adoption & approval of the area's survey maps
- g) demolition of illegal road encroachments.

5.4 KINCAR – AIRWAYS – ZEBRA AND MUUNGANO POLICE STATION PHASE II ROAD

26. Hon. Speaker, the proposed Construction of Kincar-Airways and Zebra- Muungano Police Station Phase II Road is 2.6km which was complete as at the date of the committee site visit on 23rd August, 2024. The contractor was Amuka Builders and Construction Ltd contracted at a Contract sum of Kshs. 84,017,245.60 and the contract period was six months.

27. The work commenced on 23rd February, 2024 and the expected Completion date was 23rd August, 2024. The main works in this phase included;

- a) repair of hand pack hardcore
- b) construction of a granular sub-base with cement stabilization (GCS) layer for regularization and act as new base layer.
- c) surfacing with Asphalt layer and
- d) road marking

28. Hon. Speaker, on 1st August, 2024, the committee inspected the construction of this road and noted that the Contractor had already tarmacked a section of 2.6 km with 2.1 km covering Kincar-Airways Road and 0.5km covering Zebra-Muongano Police access road.

29. A major concern arose in this project on the quality of drainage initially done as enumerated below:

- a) Drainage was only done on one side of the road despite the area being identified as one that experiences regular flooding during the rainy season.
- b) Discharge of waste water by the resident into the road especially for sections between Airways to PCEA, Muungano access road and section around Grace apartment.
- c) Unauthorized and/or inappropriate emptying of waste water using ducts or sewer line hence compromising road pavement which has resulted to potholes between Kincar and MC section.
- d) insufficient gradient hence siltation and ponding especially on the right-hand side between Airways PCEA section and Coca Cola- Kincar section and absence of drains for the entire stretch.

- e) flash floods from JKIA with recent rains resulting to damages around Glory Court and Coca-cola - Kincar section.

30. Other challenges that were reported included the following;

- a) Long exposure of constructed layers that were done over three years ago resulting in an extensive damage which were rectified under the current contract even though there was appraisal done
- b) unauthorized heavy axle vehicles some overloaded originating from quarries passing through the newly constructed road hence causing damages.
- c) Road encroachments in some sections leading to challenges in construction of drainages.
- d) Existence of services lines such as power, water and sewer lines

31. To resolve the above challenges, the department made the following recommendations;

- a) budgetary allocation to expand and improve drainage on both sides of the road
- b) intercept overflows from Airport channels during rains and redirect run off appropriately.
- c) address the issue of heavy traffic from quarries and redirect them to Quarry – Mlolongo road whose pavement structure has been designed to carry the heavy load trucks through to the weighbridge at Mlolongo.

6.0 COMMITTEE GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

32. Hon. Speaker, the committee made the following general observations;

- 1. Execution of the above projects is ongoing well save for the Mlolongo – Gossip which was found to have delayed due to the challenges highlighted above.
- 2. Implementation of the three (Katangi/Kathalani/Mlolongo-Gossip) major road projects is phased and budgeted for annually due to financial constraints
- 3. The Kincar-Airways and Zebra-Muungano-Police Station road was not phased and had been completed as per the contract.
- 4. All the projects were faced with similar challenges of encroachment of road reserve which delayed their execution.
- 5. The works already done was commendable and of good quality.
- 6. All the projects once completed will impact positively on the public.

7. Payments done in all the four road projects represents higher volumes of work done viz-a-viz the amount so far paid. The following represented the percentage of payment in each road projects:
- a) Kathalani-Kaviani-Nzaikoni work done was 61% against 45% payment.
 - b) Katangi-Malava-Kinyaata work done was 35% and against 20% payment
 - c) Gossip – Mlolongo – Police Housing Loop Road, Mlolongo Dispensary & Assisi Nursing Home Access Roads_work done was 9% and against 5% payment
 - d) Kincar-Airways and Zebra-Muongano-Police Station road was 100% complete and Ksh. 84,013,712 were paid representing 99.99% of the contract sum.

7.0 COMMITTEE GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

33. Hon. Speaker, the committee makes the following general recommendations: -

1. Budget allocation for these major roads in the current FY 2024/2025 should not be reallocated to any other use in order to ensure that these projects are completed and the public starts benefitting.
2. The County Government should establish partnership and a good working relationship with the Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KeRRA), Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA), Kenya Roads Board (KRB) and Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) in order take advantage of the agencies' huge resources in maintenance of these tarmacked roads.
3. The department needs to fast-track these projects to ensure they are completed and paid within the contract period.
4. The department should prosecute the owners of the buildings which are emptying their households' effluents and waste water to the tarmacked roads hence compromising the road.
5. The department should consider constructing a barrier at a strategic position along Kincar – Airways Road to bar the heavy trucks from passing through the road and redirect them to the Quarry – Mlolongo road whose pavement structure has been designed to carry heavy load trucks through to the weighbridge at Mlolongo.

7.0 CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

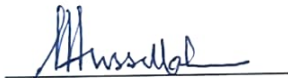
32. Hon. Speaker, the Committee is also grateful to the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the continuous and relentless support received as it discharged its oversight mandate.

33. I wish to also appreciate the Committee members, the secretariat and the Department of Transport and Roads for their cooperation during site visits, committee sittings and the entire process of compiling this report.

34. It is therefore my humble duty, on behalf of the Transport, Roads, and Public Works Committee to table the report on the progress of tarmacking of four County major roads projects FY 2023/2024 and recommend it to this Honorable House for consideration and adoption.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

SIGNED BY:



HON. MUOKI MUSILA

CHAIRPERSON, TRANSPORT, ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Date 12/11/2024.....



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COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MACHAKOS
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF MACHAKOS



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Adoption Schedule for Report of the Transport, Roads and Public Works Committee on the Progress of Tarmacking of Four County Major Roads Projects FY 2023/2024

Date: 7th October, 2024

S/NO.	COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Muoki Musila	
2.	Hon. Julius Munywoki	
3.	Hon. Paul Muli	
4.	Hon. Alphonse Nzioka	
5.	Hon. Charles Mbuva	
6.	Hon. Fredrick Kitetu	
7.	Hon. Judas Ndawa	
8.	Hon. Dominic Ndambuki	
9.	Hon. Grace Bahati	
10.	Hon. Francis Ngunga	
11.	Hon. Ann Ndilo	
12.	Hon. Raphael Lucky	
13.	Hon. Dee Kivuva	