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The pictorial is published weekly

NYERI COUNTY WEEKLY REVIEW

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Yet another win for Nyeri as County shines again



PHOTO | KENNEDY KARANJA

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (centre) interacting with Nyeri town traders while being accompanied by some of Nyeri CECs.

Nyeri County has been hailed by the Controller of Budget Ms. Margaret Nyakang'o for leading the Mt. Kenya counties in generation of own source revenue for the past four financial years. The Finance Department also put Nyeri on a pedestal for being among only 12 counties that were hailed by Treasury CS Ukur Yatani for clearing their pending bills.

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Nyeri County shines again



PHOTO | KENNEDY KARANJA

From left; A Nyeri trader at a local market greeting H.E Mutahi Kahiga during one of his routine visits. He is accompanied by Water CEC Fredrick Kinyua and Trade CEC Diana Kendi.

Nyeri County has been hailed by the Controller of Budget Ms. Margaret Nyakang'o for leading the Mt. Kenya counties in generation of own source revenue for the past four financial years. The report shows that the county collected Ksh. 270 million, which Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga attributes to electronic automation of revenue collection through Nyeri Pay which aids to curb theft of public resources, a rampant vice with manual payment systems. Nyeri which led with Ksh. 270 million was followed by Embu at Ksh. 259 million, Murang'a at Ksh. 242 million, Meru at Ksh. 168 million and Tharaka Nithi Ksh. 112 million.

“ In the recent past, Nyeri has recorded a streak of wins. The report shows that the county collected Ksh. 270 million, which Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga attributes to electronic automation of revenue collection through Nyeri Pay.

The National Treasury in its budget policy statement last year noted that administrative inefficiencies and gaps in policy and legislation contributed to low levels of own-source revenue in some counties.

In the recent past, Nyeri has recorded a streak of wins. Most notably, the World Bank through the Kenya Devolution Support Program, ranked Nyeri as position two in the entire country for having accomplished set

parameters in five key areas, Public Financial Management, Planning and Monitoring and Evaluation, Human Resource and Performance Management, Civic Education and Public Participation and Environmental and Social safeguards.

On yet another front, the County Government of Nyeri's Finance Team was recognized by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) as being in Position one among all counties in Kenya for its adherence to procurement laws and regulations with a 75% success.

The Finance Department also put Nyeri on a pedestal for being among only 12 counties that were hailed by Treasury CS Ukur Yatani for clearing their pending bills.

Source: Daily Nation Newspaper

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One on one with Municipal manager, Perister Kigwa

Tell us more about the Municipality of Nyeri, its establishment and the geographical area it covers.

The County Governor of Nyeri with approval of the County Assembly, granted the Municipality of Nyeri a Municipal Charter on 23rd August 2018. This was done in accordance to the Urban Areas and Cities Act, (No. 13 of 2011) and all other enabling provisions of law.

The municipality is located in the central highlands of Kenya, about 160 Km North of Nairobi. It lies between the eastern base of Aberdare Ranges and western slopes of Mt Kenya. It covers an area of 167km², with five wards namely; Kiganjo/Mathari, Kamakwa/Mukaro, Rware, Ruring'u and Gatitu/Muruguru.

The boundaries of the municipality are those existing under the defunct Nyeri Municipal council immediately before the establishment of County Government of Nyeri and also include Chaka Town.

What is the difference between a municipality in the devolved government and their predecessor in the old constitution?

The management of a municipality in the devolved government is vested in the county government and administered on its behalf by a municipal board headed by a chairman while the predecessor was run by a local authority headed by a mayor. The board has a municipal administration headed by a municipal manager while the predecessor was run by a town clerk.

What is the mandate of the board?

The municipal board oversees the affairs of the municipality in refer-

ence to the provisions of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011, Nyeri Municipal Charter and any other written laws. It also exercises executive authority as may be delegated by the county executive committee for the necessary performance of its functions under this Act.

The board works in collaboration with county departments in discharge of its functions and duties. The functions are overseeing the affairs of the municipality, developing and adopting policies, plans, strategies and programmes, and set targets for delivery of services, formulating and implementing an integrated development plan, controlling land use, land sub-division, land development and zoning by public and private sectors for any purpose, including industry, commerce, markets, shopping and other employment centres, residential areas, recreational areas, parks, entertainment, passenger transport, agriculture, and freight and transit stations within the framework of the spatial and master plans for the municipality as may be delegated by the county government Promoting and undertaking infrastructural development and services within the municipality as delegated by the county government Settling and implementing tariff, rates and tax and debt collection

policies as delegated by the county government.

The board ensures that the residents participate in the municipal activities and projects through the citizen fora conducted on quarterly basis they are involved in decision making.



Ms. Kigwa addressing the public during official launch of the Nyeri Bus Termini at Asian Quarters, last year.



How is the municipal board constituted?

The municipal board is made up of nine members appointed by the county governor with the approval of the county assembly. The members hold the office for five years on a part-time basis. Their membership may be renewed for a second term.

The board is headed by a chairman who is elected by the members and deputized by a vice chair who is of the opposite gender. The board is answerable to the county governor through the county executive member in charge of urban development

The members of the board are; The county executive member responsible for the urban area or his representative, three members appointed by the county governor with the approval of the county assembly, four members nominated by an association and appointed by the county governor with the approval of the county assembly as follows;

- An umbrella body representing professional associations in the area;
- An association representing the private sector in the area;
- A cluster representing registered associations of the informal sector in the area; and
- A cluster representing registered neighborhood associations in the

area

The chief officer responsible for urban development and the municipal manager who is the secretary of the board and an ex officio member.

What are functions of the municipal manager?

The municipal manager implements and executes the decisions of the Board. He/she is answerable to the board.

The manager also prepares and presents for approval of the board an annual estimate of revenue and expenditure to fund and carry out the programs and operations of the municipality, acts as the secretary to the Municipal Board; Acts as an ex-officio member of all committees of the board of the municipality and makes reports and recommendations to the board about the needs of the municipality and any other functions as the board may confer upon him/her.

What has the board achieved since its inauguration?

The board has developed a Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDeP), 2018-2022. This is a five-year plan that seeks to provide the basis which will guide the execution of the priority projects and programs within the municipality.

The board has been preparing an urban investment plan for every financial year for the purpose of operationalizing of municipality noting that activities of the municipal board affect the lives and livelihoods of the community by how they utilize the land as a resource to realize their social-economic goals

To address the challenge of garbage collection the board has developed a Solid Waste Management Plan & Policy.

The board is in the process of establishing municipal by-laws and is actively involved in the development of County spatial plan.

The board has also been overseeing the construction of the Nyeri main transport termini at Asian Quarters. This is a World Bank funded conditional grant. The board has been able to meet all the conditions and performance standards to qualify for the subsequent funding. The project is progressing well with the first phase scheduled for completion in July 2020. After this phase, the bus termini will be operational as phase two progresses.

The board has been conducting quarterly citizen fora which has given the residents an opportunity to build consensus and make recommendations on governance-related issues that affect their lives.



A group photo of Nyeri Municipal Board members with H.E Mutahi Kahiga (centre) in his office recently.

The board has been advocating for the improvement of Nyeri town. What has it done about it?

The board in collaboration with the Department of Transport, Public Works and Infrastructure has embarked on giving the town a facelift through construction and maintenance of parking, rehabilitation of the drainage systems, lighting and re-carpeting roads within the town. Plans are underway to rehabilitate Whispers Park, streetscaping, and town beautification, provision of walkways and traffic management and enforcement.

How do you expect Nyeri town to be in the next three years being the head-quarter of Nyeri county?

I expect the town to be a clean, safe, commercial and administrative hub. This will be achieved through decongesting of the town, beautification, provision of walkways, rehabilitation of Whispers Park construction of a waste transfer station, adequate lighting, paved roads and adequate parking space, establishment and enforcement of by-laws.

Together with the Department of Environment and Sanitation, what have you done concerning garbage collection in Nyeri Municipality?

In July 2019, the Nyeri Municipality solid waste management function was delegated to the Municipal Board. The board developed a solid waste management policy and plan to provide guidance on the execution of the function and also the day to day operations. The County Public Service Board (CPSB) seconded 71 employees to the Nyeri municipal administration to handle garbage collection and disposal. To enhance efficiency the department purchased skips and litter bins that are placed in strategic points within the Nyeri CBD, estates and highways. All dumping sites were mapped and hotspots identified. This information was used to allocate resources and establish collection routes. Public awareness and sensitization on



Perister Kigwa (left) during a public participation recently.

waste management has been ongoing where residents are encouraged to keep their environment garbage free. The board is committed to make Nyeri Municipality clean and ensure full adherence to Waste Management Regulations (2006).

Which projects has the board planned for Chaka Town?

Chaka town is within the Nyeri Municipality and one of the fastest growing towns. It is a transit town which is strategically located with vast hinterland where a lot of farming goes on. A modern horticultural market has been put up and once complete it will be a game changer especially to the farming community and also the residents. The board is working with the directorate of physical planning to encourage commercial and industrial investment. Sewer system is coming up. Public amenities lands have been identified for future development. The board plans to construct a mata-tu stage in the town which will be integrated with the markets/ and the train station provide and manage street lighting within the town, maximize commercial activities within the town by encouraging construction of commercial storey.

What challenges have you experienced so far?

The board has faced several challenges in the execution of its mandate including solid waste management, congestion in Nyeri town, influx of hawkers

with the Nyeri Town CBD, poor infrastructure, lack of recreation facilities, lack of pedestrian's walkways, uncontrolled development, pollution including noise, waste and garbage disposal, encroachment of riparian areas, emerging street families and beggars in the urban areas among others.



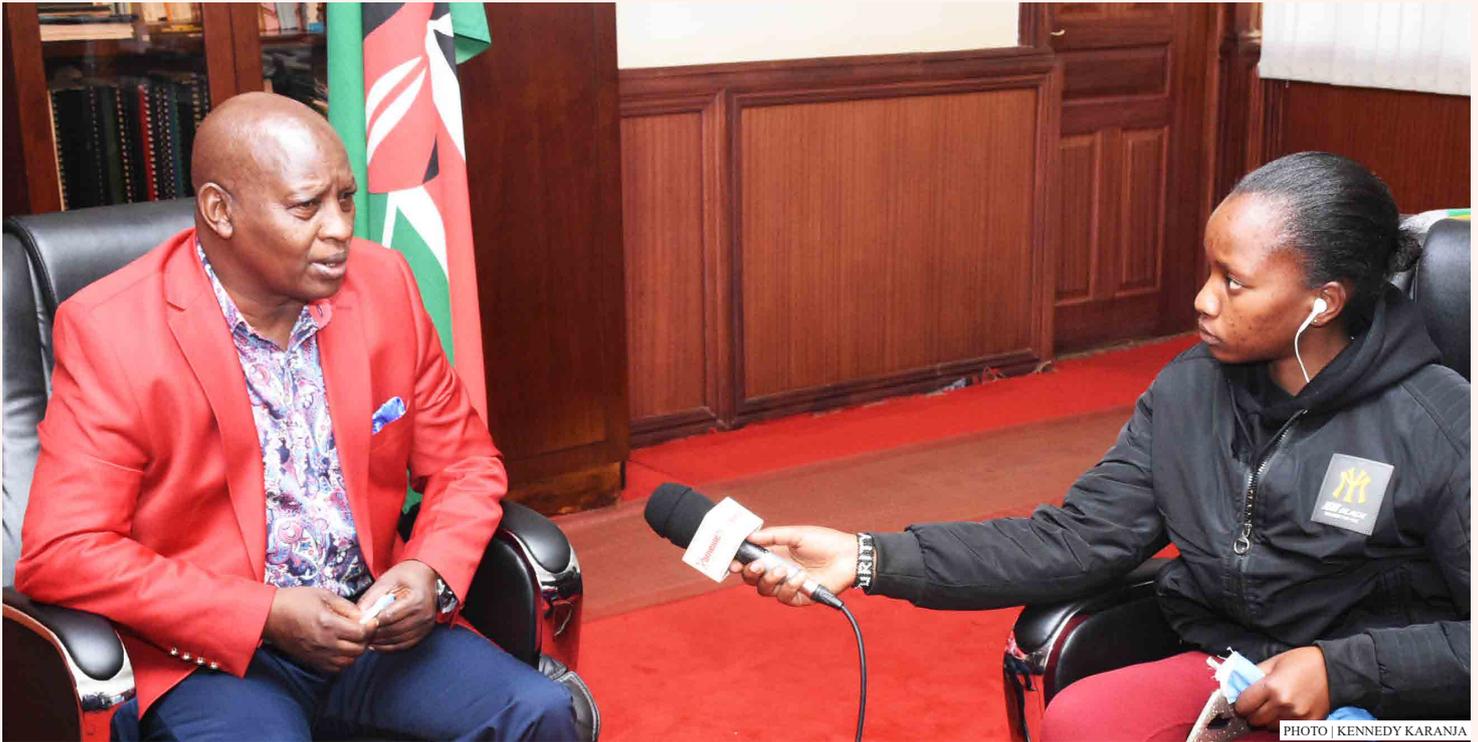


PHOTO | KENNEDY KARANJA

H.E Mutahi Kahiga speaking to Kameme Tv journalist Wahu Wa Ngugi in his office. The Governor revealed that the county is seeking a hospital with a bed capacity of about 180 to supplement Mt Kenya Hospital which has 21-bed capacity.

Nyeri County plan to expand isolation and quarantine facilities

By Jackline Gikunju

As the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise in the country, the County Government of Nyeri is working to ensure there is public safety. It is also keen on prioritizing the health and welfare of the residents.

Speaking in his office, Governor H. E Mutahi Kahiga revealed that the county is seeking a hospital with a bed capacity of about 180 which will supplement the 21-bed capacity Mt Kenya Hospital which is currently serving as an isolation facility.

He also added that his government is planning another facility (Nyeri National Polytechnic) to be used as a quarantine facility as Wambugu Farm's capacity in the event it

might get overwhelmed.

Governor Kahiga encouraged Nyeri residents to adhere to government directives, noting that COVID-19 is severe to patients with underlying medical issues, reiterating that Nyeri is at the top of the list of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

He also made clear that any entertainment joint that will flout laid down guidelines will have their licenses revoked besides the manager and owner being put to forced quarantine and later prosecuted.

The Governor further discouraged unhygienic handling of masks, noting that trying out masks may increase the risk of transmission and hence anyone selling masks must have them individually packed.

As a reminder, the County Government of Nyeri further urges residents to follow public health guidelines. While there is currently no vaccine to prevent the virus, simple steps can help to stop the spread of COVID-19.

“ Governor Kahiga encouraged Nyeri residents to adhere to government directives, noting that COVID-19 is severe to patients with underlying medical issues. Nyeri is at the top of the list of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

Maendeleo Ya Wanawake donates foodstuffs to aid fight against COVID-19



H.E Mutahi Kahiga while receiving foodstuffs donations from Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organisation, Nyeri branch members led by Chairperson Purity Ngunjiri (left). On the right is Youth, Gender and Social Services CEC Esther Ndung'u.

PHOTO | KENNEDY KARANJA

By Jackline Gikunju

Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organisation, Nyeri branch members led by Chairperson Purity Ngunjiri donated foodstuffs of assorted types to the County Government of Nyeri in a bid to aid in the fight against COVID-19 which continues to wage mayhem globally.

The Governor thanked them for the kind gesture reiterating that nobody is too poor to give nor too rich to receive. He also noted that the county will need more than Ksh. 300 million to feed over 200,000 residents who have been adversely affected by the Covid-19 restrictions. Already, the County Government of Nyeri has committed Ksh. 10 million for the programme.

Governor Kahiga urged all to adhere to stipulated guidelines to ensure Kenyans defeat this pandemic.

The County Government of Nyeri is ready to support women initiatives to ensure they are empowered economically.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI



DEPARTMENT OF LANDS, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND URBANIZATION

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PLAN

Notice is hereby given to all residents and stakeholders in the County of Nyeri that pursuant to the provisions of The Constitution of Kenya, 2010; Physical and Land Use Planning Act No.3 of 2019, National Land Commission Act, County Government Act and the Urban Areas and Cities Act, the County Government of Nyeri intends to prepare Local Physical and Land use Development Plans for Marua, Ruthagati and Ihururu settlements.

The exercise will involve community mobilization, establishment of the settlements' boundaries, identification and enumeration of residents and socio economic surveys. This will form the basis for preparation of the Plans to guide the growth of these settlements in an integrated and coordinated manner so as to promote sustainable development as well as provide a basis for provision of infrastructure, housing and public facilities.

The process will be participatory and therefore all stakeholders are invited to participate. Any comments, enquiries or suggestions on the same may be done in writing to:

**The County Executive Committee Member
Department of Lands, Housing & Physical Planning
County Government of Nyeri**

**P.O. Box 1112 – 10100
NYERI.**

Dated 30TH March 2020

**Dr. KWAI WANJARIA
County Executive Committee Member
Lands, Housing & Physical Planning and Urbanization**



Officers from the department of Gender, Youth and Social Services during a social visit to some of the affected families.

Aid for Mukurwe-ini and Tetu families

By Dynah Mwangi

Officers from the County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services visited two Mukurwe-ini based families in a bid to accord them social welfare support. The officers first paid a visit to Samuel Mwangi's family of Gaichuni village, Rugi Ward.

The visit was a follow up after an outcry by villagers seeking assistance to help the family build a house of one of their sons. The school going boy who has been sharing a dwelling unit with his brother had resulted to digging a grave-like hole where he has been residing and sleeping after a sharp disagreement with the brother.

Later on, the officers visited Samuel Irungu's family at Kinuri village in the same ward. The family's dwelling unit had one of its walls falling off as a result of weak foundation. Other walls also look unstable which necessitated quick construction of another house for the family of four.

In aid of these families, they received donations in terms of foodstuff and some building materials from the department.

The officers also visited two families both located within

“The visit was a follow up after an outcry by villagers seeking assistance to help the family build a house of one of their sons. Families were assisted with foodstuff and some building materials by the department.”

Nyaikwa village in Dedan Kimathi ward, Tetu. The first visit was to Margaret Muhoro family where two Blue Gum trees from the neighbouring primary school fell off due to the heavy downpour that was being experienced at the place recently and fell on the edge of her house, damaged the roof and distabilised the structure.

This family was assisted with foodstuff and some building materials by the department.

They also visited a vulnerable family within the same village. Simon Nderitu, 56 who takes care of his four children, a grandson and his ageing father with constraints as he depends on casual labour. In aid of this family, the department also donated foodstuff.

Ongoing projects



Drilling of Biricha borehole in Mugunda ward, Kieni West sub-county is complete. Equipping and fitting it with solar panels to ease the cost of operations ongoing.

County Government of Nyeri under the leadership of H. E Mutahi Kahiga is committed to providing adequate, safe and clean water for all Nyeri County residents for both domestic and irrigation purposes.

Nyeri Water CEC Fredrick Kinyua inspected the project.

Ongoing projects



The final phases of the construction of Mapema Primary School borehole in Kabaru ward. The borehole was drilled by County Government of Nyeri under the leadership of H. E Mutahi Kahiga and will be fitted with solar panels.



Ongoing construction of Gatiko dispensary in Kirimukuyu ward, in Mathira. Once complete, process of equipping and operationalizing will begin immediately to ensure improved accessibility health care for the community. The project has also created employment opportunities for the locals, especially the youth during the construction.



Chain link fence and gate construction of Tambaya public play ground in Mukurwe-ini West ward by County Government of Nyeri.

Your say on Facebook



Benson Ngure

This is great wisdom by Nyeri county administration. In these times of Covid pandemic where no one is certainly of its extent of devastation and length of time guided wisdom counts. Accessible roads to majority of areas including rural villages is a bedrock among others to citizens accessing emergency 🚑 services incase the situation demands. Heko sana mhesh, where leaders have vision the county progresses, proud to be a Nyerian.



Bernard Kabaru

This is great and commendable. A great move to have a healthy Nyeri-Witemere and also fill the development gaps for the larger Kieni constituency. Please give us the Updates on the Kiawara Hospital construction plan and progress.



Smarto Marto

Congratulations gov kahiga and the entire team, if only all of us nyerians could realize we are in good hands and let mwalmu take us through a second term. Well done team kahiga once again.



Top Fan

Wilson Kiblack

Good work ...and make an effort also to reach to those people who are vulnerable not in Nyeri town only or those close to u...may that donation benefit the required pple kindly



Evah Mwangi

On behalf of giakairu community we r grateful to **Governor Mutahi Kahiga** n mostly to our subcounty administrator Mr mwangi, after I cried to him about the poor drainage now it's sorted



Top Fan

Wanjiku Simon

Congrats your Excellency, this is going to change our lifestyles In kieni with such a health facility, the place will also experience growth



Top Fan

Catherine Mwangi

Job well done and keep it up my governor. Health services closer to the common mwananchi



Ann Rose Wangechi

Proud to be a Nyerian, Congratulation Gvn Mutahi and your team. Tell them you branded Sanitizers to curb corruption. Well done!



Anthony Tumuti

Now that is a good job Governor Mutahi. This is what we would love to see projects befitting the status.

PICTORIAL

PHOTOS | PETER MUBARI & SOURCE



Giving Nyeri town, Rware ward a new facelift. The County Government of Nyeri under the leadership of H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga is committed to the renovation and upgrading of Nyeri's urban centers.



Murraming of Kang'ong'i road in Rugi ward, Mukurwe-ini has kicked off.



Recently upgraded Mathenge Guandaru road in Wamagana ward, Tetu sub-county.



Upgrading of Kamuma road in Dedan Kimathi ward, Tetu sub-county.



Grading, murraming and compacting of Migiti Kariko-ini road in Mukurwe-ini West ward.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT, PUBLIC WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE

PICTORIAL

PHOTOS | PETER MUBARI & SOURCE



The newly murramed Mioro Road, Ruguru ward in Mathira.



Ongoing Rehabilitation of Mweiga Town drainage system, Mweiga ward in Kieni East.



Ongoing murraming of Wanjithi -Kariko-ini road, Mukurwe-ini West ward.



The process of upgrading Kwa Wakagure- Kagundu Thunguri, Iria-ini ward, Othaya sub-county has kicked off.



Recently upgraded Giakaru road in Karatina town. The roads in the area are now in good condition and passable.

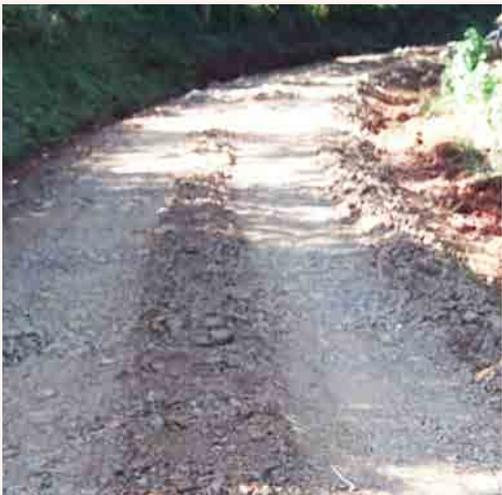
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT,
PUBLIC WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE**

PICTORIAL

PHOTOS | PETER MUBARI & SOURCE



Upgrading of Wangoro road, Dedan Kimathi ward in Tetu sub-county. The road is awaiting to being compacted.



Murraming of Mukurwe-ini Boys - Gathitu road, in Mukurwe-ini Central ward is complete.



Newly murramed Lela road, Ruguru ward.



Rehabilitation of Kamunyaka- Turi - Thunguri road at Iria-ini ward in Mathira.



Kirihiga access road upgrade ongoing in Kiamuya in Chinga ward, Othaya sub-county.



Upgrading of Gitandara road in Karima Ward, Othaya sub-county.