

**PRESS STATEMENT**

3rd FEBUARY, 2020

**TRANSFORMATION OF KAMPALA CITY 2020**

The transformation of Kampala City begun over 8 and a half years ago in April 2011 with the operationalization of KCCA. KCCA’s vision is to be a Vibrant, Attractive and Sustainable City and our Mission is to deliver quality services to the people of Kampala. At the beginning of 2019, we set an ambitious plan across our areas of operation starting with roads and drainage works, street lighting, waste management, revenue administration to economic empowerment of the vulnerable groups through skilling and job creation, among others.

**Improving Transport Infrastructure**

Improved quality of the city road network for enhanced connectivity and Mobility, and Institutional efficiency. With fundng from the World Bank through KIIDP 2, we launched Batch 2 roads civil works that include; Kulambiro Ring road and its extension (5.7 km), Nakawa-Ntinda Road (2.8km), Acacia Road (1.4km) (dualing to four lanes), Kabusu- Bunamwaya roads (8.06km), Lukuli Road (7.7km). In these areas, we engaged the community and we were able to secure free land worth UGX 4.5bn to facilitate these projects. These projects were handed over to the contractors and works are on going and completion is expected by end of November 2020.

We are making preparations to start renovation of Old Taxi park as per the cabinet decision

**Signalization of 13 junctions and the Roads being worked on.**

Works to signalize 13 junctions commenced;

1. Ntinda Junction,
2. Matyr’s Way Junction ,
3. Ssemawata Junction,
4. Ntinda 2 Junction,
5. Lower Kololo Terace Junction,
6. Upper Kololo Terrace Junction,
7. Mabua Road Junction,
8. Sturrock Road,
9. Acacia Avenue Junction,
10. Kabusu/Masaka Rd Junction,
11. Lweza/ Entebbe Junction,
12. Lukuli Road/Kayemba Junction,
13. Masaka Road Junction,

With support from JICA, a total of 30 Junctions and a traffic control centre will be realised. The support is worth UGX 89 Bn and begins April 2020 and will take up to 24 months to complete.

Plans are underway to carry out major rehabiliatation and capacity improvement for a numebe of roads that have outlived their design life. This will address the pothole challenges experienced recently.

**Drainage Improvement.**

Procurement of consultant for supervision and contractor for construction works of Lubigi primary and Nakamiro secondary drainage channels, a consultant for Daigonistic study and modelling for Nakivubo drainage system to address the flooding incidences at clock Tower, Fire Brigade, and Nsambya GAPCO areas was completed.

The team has also managed to desilt and maintain 7.85km of drainage network bringing the cummulative maintained section to 162.8km. The weekly output also includes the output from the out sourced maintenance using Nippon.

We have four major drainage contracts ongoimng;

1. Lubigi Drainage Channel
2. Nakamiro Channel
3. Nabulagala Channel
4. Kitamanyangamba

**Gender, Community Development and Production**

In a bid to empower and facilitate communities, particularly the vulnerable groups, to realize and harness their potential for purposeful and sustainable development, we embarcked on the contruction of Kasubi Market that will house over 1300 vendors. Construction of this market is 99.9% complete and will be Launched mid Feb.

We are also finalising the construction of Kitintale and Busega Markets which will add to the number of decent work spaces to empower vulnarable groups fro economic development.

**Directorate of Public Health and Environment activities earmarked for launching/ commissioning and/or handover.**

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| **NO.** | **ACTIVITY** |
| 1. | Kisenyi Neo-natal center – under G.O.U grant |
| 2. | Kiswa Maternal unit (ground breaking)– under G.O.U grant |
| 3. | Integrated Outreach for service delivery in the community |
| 4. | Construction and renovation of public and community toilets:   1. 14 public toilets – 4 toilets (CWIS project) and 10 toilets (LVWATSAN project) 2. 10 community toilets – 2 toilets per division 3. WASH facilities (toilets and incinerators) in 16 schools – (Sanitation for millions, S4M project) |
| 5. | Investor’s conference for Integrated Solid waste Management PPP Project - Kiteezi landfill. |
| 6. | Stakeholders Engagement for the Solid Waste Management Concessioners |

**ACTIVITIES EARMARKED FOR LAUNCHING/COMMISSIONING AND/OR HANDOVER FROM OTHER DIRECTORATES**

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| **NO.** | **ACTIVITY** |
| 7. | KIIDP2   1. Handover of Kasubi Market 2. Site Handover for Kasubi Junction 3. Site handover for Lubigi and Nakamiro Drainage Channels 4. Launch of the CAM/CAMV Modules 5. Handover of completed Batch 2 Roads & Junctions. |
| 8. | Climate Change Project   1. Air Quality Monitoring equipment –Next week (Tentative) 2. Vermiculture at Kyanja Agricultural Centre |
| 9. | Directorate of Engineering   1. NMT at Completion 2. Launching 30 junctions 3. Traffic Control Center |
| 10. | Directorate of Gender, Community Services and Production   1. Launch of Busega market 2. Launch of Kitintale market |

**Redesign of Namirembe Road and Luwum Street into - Non-Motorised Transport**

This stretch starts from Entebbe Road through Luwum street down to Namirembe road, up to Bakuli Junction.

Amidst bustling businesses, people shopping, taxi touts calling out to passengers, to hundreds of Boda Bodas carrying or seeking passengers, this makes shopping very unsafe and unpleasant in the Central Business District of Kampala. As a result, businesses miss potential customers, as many opt not to shop in this unpleasant environment.

Because of this challenge, KCCA has redesigned Namirembe Road and Luwum Street in 2018 to create a conducive shopping environment in order to promote business. By March 2020, residents of Kampala will enjoy shopping without worrying about speeding bodas and taxis. And we are certain businesses will record high sales with more people shopping.

**For example,** part of the business district **in Jerusalem, Israel** was redesigned to only be accessible by light rail in 2011. No cars were allowed in this area. The number of shoppers increased because it was more accessible, and the shopping experience was pleasant. Business owners, who had earlier objected this concept during the construction phase, realized unmatched profits and now are big supporters of pedestrian shopping streets.

Today, Kampala city is experiencing a similar situation: -

* KCCA is dedicating more space to pedestrians and bicycles from Entebbe road to Bakuli Junction. This is to promote the safety of shoppers from reckless bodas, cars and taxis.
* Construction work for the 2 kilometre Non-motorized transport Corridor started in April 2018 and is due be completed by March 2020. It was financed by the Government of Uganda at about 4 billion Shillings.
* KCCA also received support for the design of the non-motorized transport corridor in 2011 to 2013 from United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN- Habitat), and Gouddapel Coffeng of Netherlands.

**THE CONCERNS ARE AS FOLLOWS**

Although KCCA has consulted and involved the business community along the route in collaboration with KACITA - a business support association that facilitates trade and brings together the business community: -

1. There is little knowledge among the business community about the benefits of non-motorized shopping areas.
2. There is fear of interference with business operations and reduction in customers.
3. There are concerns about access to Luwumu & Namirembe road and delivery of goods to businesses
4. Taxi and boda operators are also concerned about their very existence and access to passengers.
5. Clients and customers are uncertain of what is planned and need guidance from KCCA.

**HOW WILL THIS CORRIDOR OPERATE?**

It is important to note that,

1. The NMT corridor (Entebbe Road through Luwum Street to Bakuli Junction) will not totally ban cars, taxis or buses from the entire route but will restrict them in certain sections of the route.
2. In certain sections of the route vehicles will be allowed only at certain hours for delivery of goods (late night and very early morning before 10 PM to 6 AM).
3. KCCA is planning to work with a vendor to provide bicycles or scooters for hire along this corridor, which has special bicycle lanes.
4. Route Guides and traffic signage will be displayed at junctions and along the route.
5. No street vendors, taxi touts or bodas will be allowed in this area. Only licenced businesses, buyers, citizens, and guests of Kampala city will be allowed to operate in this area.
6. KCCA shall work with its enforcement team and Uganda Police Forces to ensure businesses operate smoothly and in accordance with set regulations.
7. We appeal to business owners, customers, vendors and residents of Kampala to support this initiative and protect all the street furniture, street lights, benches, and flowers, grass etc.

**OPEN & ACCESSIBLE SECTIONS OF LUWUM ST. & NAMIREMBE ROAD**

* A two directional flow of vehicles will be permitted from Bakuli (Mengo) to Jaguar bus terminal.
* Access will be permitted for vehicles of ONLY residents and businesses around Jaguar bus terminal and Kobil, as well as loading and offloading merchandise late at night from 10 PM to 6 AM in the morning.
* Meanwhile, vehicles will be allowed in one direction,

* + From Pride theatre to Mackay Road (New Taxi Park) & Kisenyi Road,
  + Vehicles will be allowed from Entebbe Road to Dastur in one direction.
  + From Ben Kiwanuka Street and Burton Street vehicles will be restricted.
  + While, traffic on Ben Kiwanuka and Burton Street will be allowed to cross the NMT route but with signalised control at the Ben Kiwanuka Junction.

**WHAT WILL I GAIN – BENEFITS**

1. Increased sales and income for businesses who will attract buyers because of an organized, safe and pleasant shopping experience.
2. Customers will be safer as they shop in an area free of reckless motorists and bodas.
3. Part of the city will be de-congested. Car use and air pollution will be controlled.
4. All business people and customers shall enjoy clean air and be healthier due to reduced air pollution from cars entering the city.
5. The redesigned route will have wider green spaces for recreation, street benches and shades for shoppers, and walking paths to encourage walking as a way of living healthy.

**APPEAL**

1. KCCA appeals to all businesses to operate in accordance with set regulations, as well as observe loading and offloading hours (10pm to 5am)
2. All motorists - cars, boda, taxi, lorries, buses should follow the route guide.
3. We appeal to business owners, customers, vendors and residents of Kampala to support this initiative and protect all the street furniture, street lights, benches, and flowers, grass etc.
4. Street vendors shall only operate in designated areas. We appeal to all vendors to abide by these guidelines.

**Going forward;**

1. We are gearing up for more infrastructure works in 2020 with funding from GOU and Development Partners such as ADB,JICA, World Bank, DFID among others.
2. Staffing matters. We are working with Public Service Commission to validate staff and conclude the exercise so that people can settle in their respective job roles to deliver services.
3. More economic empowerment programmes to boost the wellbeing of our communities are lined up during the year.
4. We are looking forward to a brighter 2020 in all our areas of operation.

***For any queries, please contact us on 0800990000 or info@kcca.go.ug***