

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BOMET



COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THIRD ASSEMBLY - (THIRD SESSION)

COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF ROADS DONE BY THE COUNTY HEAVY MACHINE

FEBRUARY, 2024

*Tabled on
18/06/2024
at 2:30 p.m
Dallu.*

*Hon. Speaker
You may approve for tabling
27/05/2024*

Wassiah

02 MAY 2024

Clerk

*Approved for
tabling
03/05/2024.*

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ACRONYMS

CECM – County Executive Committee Member

Hon – Honorable

Km- Kilometers

Sq. – Square

PREFACE

Mr. Speaker Sir, this report is submitted in accordance with the County Assembly Standing Order 201(5) and the Committee resolution dated February 15, 2024. The Committee resolved to conduct an oversight visit to assess the projects facilitated by Bomet County through the acquisition of heavy machinery during the 2022/23 fiscal year within the Department of Roads, Transport, and Public Works. The primary objective of this visit is to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the aforementioned machines.

1.1 THE COMMITTEE'S MANDATE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Sectoral Committee on Roads, Transport, and Public Works is constituted under the provisions of Standing Order No. 201(5) of the County Assembly of Bomet and executes its mandate under the provisions of the said Standing Order; which mandates the Committee 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. Study programs and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- iii. Study and review all County legislation referred to it;
- iv. Study, assess, and analyze the relative success of departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;***
- v. Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
- vi. To vet and report on all appointments where the constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 197(Committee Appointments); and

- vii. ***Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendations for proposed legislation.***

1.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee is composed of the following members:

1. Hon. Peter Mutai – Chairperson
2. Hon. Richard Ruttoh – Vice-chairperson
3. Hon. Hon. Josphat Kipkirui – Member
4. Hon. Nathan Kibet – Member
5. Hon. Peter Langat – Member
6. Hon. Japhet Cheruiyot – Member
7. Hon. Evaline Sang – Member

1.3 METHODOLOGY

Mr. Speaker Sir, to expedite its oversight role, the committee deliberated on the concerns regarding the operation and management of the heavy machinery acquired by Bomet County. A questionnaire was devised to gather comprehensive information on these matters. During its session, the committee divided into two groups: Group One and Group Two. Group One conducted visits to Sotik Sub-county, where two wards, Kipsonoi and Ndanai/Abosi, are utilizing the machines. Meanwhile, Group Two visited Konoin and Bomet Central Sub-counties where the following wards were visited, Boito Ward, Chepchabas Ward, and Ndaraweta Ward. Each team engaged with the County engineers responsible for supervising their respective sub-counties.

Additionally, the following methods were employed;

1. Observation of the projects visited.
2. Engagement of experts(Sub County Engineers) during the visits
3. Getting views from the residents of the respective Wards.
4. Taking photographs of the projects.
5. Taking the actual distance of the road coverage and size of culverts.

The following were the group membership

Group	Members	Secretariats
One	Hon. Peter Mutai	Titus Rono - Research
	Hon. Nathan Kibet	Irine Ruttoh - Hansard
	Hon. Japheth Cheruiyot	Eng. Lillian Ngetich – Sub County Eng.
Two	Hon. Richard Ruttoh	Weldon Ngetich – Committee Clerk
	Hon. Josphat Kipkirui	Amos Yegon - Hansard
	Hon. Evaline sang	Eng. Brian Bett - Sub County Eng.
	Hon. Peter Langat	

1.4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee is thankful to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the logistical support accorded to it during the fact-finding visit and report writing as it executed its mandate. The committee further extends its gratitude to the Sub County Engineers for accompanying the committee during fieldwork.

Secondly, I wish to express my appreciation to the Honorable Members of the Committee for their resourceful input that informed the content of this report. My sincere gratitude also goes to the Secretariat for their dedication to compiling this report.

It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of the Sectoral Committee on Roads, Transport and Public Works to table this report on the status of roads done by the county heavy machine and its recommendations to the Assembly for deliberation and adoption.

Thankyou.

Signed _____


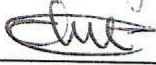

**Hon. Peter Mutai,
Chairperson, Roads, Transport and Public Works
County Assembly of Bomet.**

22ND February, 2024

1.5 OWNERSHIP OF THE REPORT

Mr. Speaker Sir,

We, the honorable Members of the Committee on Roads, Transport and Public Works here append our signatures to this report to affirm our approval, confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity.

S/NO.	NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
1	Hon. Peter Mutai	Chairperson	
2	Hon. Richard Rutto	V/Chairperson	
3	Hon. Peter Langat	Member	
4	Hon. Evaline Sang	Member	
5	Hon. Japhet Cheruiyot	Member	
6	Hon. Josphat Kipkirui	Member	
7	Hon. Nathan Kibet	Member	

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Mr. Speakersir,

It is recognized that the benefits of a good road network system ease movement of goods and services throughout the county. This also facilitates the administration and the security in the county. The transport sector is an important pillar of the economic growth and development of the county.

The county government of Bomet commissioned multi-million road construction and maintenance equipment in October 2023. The equipment which comprises a vibrator drum roller with detachable sheet foot, a prime mover, a skip loader and a low bed, and five tippers, crawler excavators, and motor graders respectively, were bought to facilitate the construction of roads and infrastructure, to reduce the cost of hiring equipment from other sources. While commissioning the equipment, the Governor promised that the equipment would improve road connectivity and assured the residents of Bomet that there would be more road development witnessed across the county going forward.

After the equipment were launched, it became apparent that no clear framework was developed to guide the deployment and selection of the wards where work would commence. Nevertheless, these machines have been distributed to the following five wards: Chepchabas, Boito, Ndaraweta, Kipsonoi, and Ndanai/Abosi.

In light of these initiatives, the Committee on Roads conducted a visit to assess the operation of this equipment to check on the status of the roads that have so far been constructed and to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of those machines to make informed recommendations to guide decision-making.

2.1 PROGRAMME FOR THE VISIT

Mr. Speaker sir,

On February 15th, 2024, during its sitting, the committee devised a program for the fact-finding mission and formulated a questionnaire to guide the prerequisite information to be collected. The visit was guided by the following principles:

- i. Commencement and Completion Information of the road construction.
- ii. The type of equipment used in the construction of roads as well as the detailed information of personnel involved.
- iii. The name, state, and the distance of the road constructed in each ward as well as the distance from the quarry.
- iv. The cost of construction, fuel consumption and maintenance of heavy machines
- v. Project Timeline.
- vi. Stakeholders involved during the construction of roads.
- vii. Challenges encountered during road construction.
- viii. Proposed Solutions.

The following was the programme for the visit;

Date	Group	Sub County	Wards
19/02/2024	One	Sotik	Kipsonoi
			Ndanai/Abosi
19/02/2024	Two	Konoin and Bomet Central	Chepchabas
			Boito
			Ndaraweta

3. COMMITTEE FINDINGS

3.1 CHEPCHABAS WARD

Chepchabas is a ward found in Konoin Sub County. The road construction was launched on 5th October 2023 by the governor. The road construction commenced in October 2023 and was completed in January 2024.

Site observations

S.no	Project name	Distance	Activity	Remarks
1.	Barrier – Kapkauria – Kuruma Bridge	2 km	Graded, Graveled, and compacted	Completed
2.	Arap Chepkwony - Arap Chumo	1.5 km	Graded, Graveled, and compacted	Completed
3.	Ara Barchok – KT 13	1.2 km	Graded, Graveled, and compacted	Completed
	AIC - Kauria			

3.2 BOITO WARD

Boito ward is found in Konoin Sub County. The road construction was launched on 19th October 2023 by the governor. The committee conducted a site visit to the following roads and made the following observations.

S.no	Project name	Distance	Activity	Remarks
1.	JC Junction- Kabiangek road	3 km	Graded, Graveled, and compacted	Completed
2.	Mosombobet tea buying center - Nyamarenda Happy ChurchRoad	3.5 km	Graded, Graveled, and compacted	Completed

The total kilometers of roads graded in Boito ward is **6.5 Km**

It was noted that the quarry used in road construction in Boito ward is the Koiwa quarry. The committee also observed that the distance of the quarry from the road construction was as follows;

- JC Junction- Kabiangek road is twenty-onekilometers (21 km) from Koiwa quarry
- Mosombobet tea buying center- Nyamarenda Happy Church road is six point nine kilometers (6.9 Km) from Koiwa quarry
- The two-road construction in Boito ward took four weeks as per the information given by the Sub County engineer
- The roads in Boito wards were constructed to a high standard, with well-established drainage systems noted during the assessment.

3.3 NDARAWETA WARD

Ndaraweta is a ward found in Bomet Central Sub County. The road construction was launched at the Bongo junction on 26th October 2023 by the governor. The committee conducted a site visit to the following roads and made the following observations;

S.no	Project name	Distance	Activity	Remarks
1.	Zero two- Bongo- Nyongores	3.5 km	Graded	Incomplete- need graveling and compacting
2.	Sorionik- Zero two	2 km	Graded	Incomplete- need graveling and compacting
3.	Kap Patrick- Kapkugorwet road	1Km	Graded	Incomplete- need graveling and compacting
4.	Mogoiwet- Ngainet Road	2.5Km	graded	Incomplete- need graveling and compacting

The total kilometers of roads graded in Ndaraweta ward is **9 Km**

It was observed that the nearest quarry for the lower side of the ward is Kapngetuny in Silibwet Township ward, while for the upper side, Koiwa quarry in Mogogosiek ward serves as the nearest quarry.

Observation

It was observed that road construction in Ndaraweta ward has experienced significant delays, despite the grading of the roads.

It was also noted the grading of roads are more than 6Km as earlier agreed by the members.

3.4 KIPSONOI WARD

Kipsonoi is a ward found in Sotik Sub County. The road construction in this ward was launched in Kipsonoi on 12th October 2023 by the governor. The committee conducted a site visit to the following roads and made the following observations;

S. No	Road	Total Distance	Status	Remarks
1.	Kapkelei center-OinopTindi nyek	1.5 km	Maintenance	Well maintained and completed.
2.	Kapkelei center-Motiret	5.4 km	New road	Incomplete. The road has been fully graded; however, a 2.3 km stretch remains graveled but not compacted, leaving it vulnerable to erosion. It was observed that the road has been intersected by a stream, rendering it currently inaccessible. It was noted the road needs the installation of culverts.

3.	KapkeleiOs ken center road	0.8 km	New road within the market	Incomplete. Graded but 500m graveled and not compacted.
4.	Makutano junction – Cheptebe Water point	1.5 km	maintenance	Incomplete. Graded but 200m graveled.

The total kilometers of roads in Kipsonoi ward is **9.2Km.**

It was noted that the quarry used in road construction in the Kipsonoi ward is the Rotik quarry in Ndanai/Abosi, a far distance. The nearest quarry should be identified within Kipsonoi.

3.5 NDANAI/ABOSI WARD

Ndanai/Abosi ward is found in Sotik Sub County. The road construction commenced on 2ndNovember 2023 and the works are ongoing.

The committee conducted a visit to various roads and made the following observations;

S. No	Road	Total Distance	Status (Maintenance/New)	Remarks
1.	Karap Chebose-Sukuma	1.8 km	Maintenance	Graveled awaiting compaction
2.	Kaplekwa-Gorgor center	1.6 km	Maintenance	Gravelling ongoing
3.	Kalamushaka-Kipsimbol	2.8 km	maintenance	Completed
4.	Kaplelach center - Arab Birir	4.1 km	New	Graded only
5.	Tabarit – Berea PAG church	0.6 km	maintenance	Graded only

The total kilometers of road constructed in Ndanai Abosi is **10.9Km**

Observations

1. Most of the works are not complete.
2. The machines are currently stored in Kipsonoi, which is distant from the work sites. This arrangement results in unnecessary fuel consumption as the machines need to be driven back and forth.
3. Private quarry owners, including those of Kipsimbol, Kerongoro, and Rotikquarries, are owed a total of KES 892,000, which remains outstanding.
4. The distance from the quarries to the site is far leading to higher fuel consumption.
5. It was observed that fuel delivery from a Bomet fuel station to the site was carried out using jerrycans, causing delays in the process. Consequently, work

commenced late, thereby impeding operational efficiency.

6. Gravelling of some roads was done in patches. Particularly, Kaplekwa - Gorgor Center. Some section of the road was not graveled.

4. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

1. There was no proper supervision during the construction, affecting the quality of the projects.
2. There was a lack of clear timeframes for work completion per ward, leading to extended project durations in some areas. Additionally, there is no established policy framework outlining the operation procedures for the equipment.
3. It was observed that fuel delivery from a Bomet fuel station to the site was carried out using jerrycans, causing delays in the process and risk of leakages, fire outbreaks, and environmental hazards. Consequently, work commenced late, thereby impeding operational efficiency.
4. Some roads required the installation of culverts, but there was a lack of a clear framework for their implementation. Particularly, the Kapkelei center-Motiret road in Kipsonoi ward has been cut off by a stream, making it currently inaccessible.
5. It was noted that the welfare of the plant operators and their assistants is inadequate. Notably, since the projects commenced in October 2023, the drivers have only received salaries for one month up to the present date. Additionally, it was noted that the operators do not receive allowances.
6. The County Government owes some of the private quarry holders a total of **KES 892,000**, which remains outstanding.
7. In certain wards, the quarries are situated at a considerable distance, leading

to increased fuel consumption during the transportation of gravel. Specifically, in Ndanai/Abosi and Kipsonoi wards, tippers are required to travel a distance of **47 kilometers** from the road construction site to the quarry.

8. A total of **46.8 kilometers** has been constructed across the five (5) wards so far
9. Within a span of four (4) months since the commencement of road construction, a total of **KES 17,467,326** has been utilized for fuel consumption across five (5) Wards, leaving a remaining balance of **KES 22,505,120** from the initial allocation of **KES 40 million** designated in the financial estimates for 2023/2024. This highlights a shortfall in the fuel allocation, indicating that the current budget is insufficient to adequately cover road construction activities throughout the County.
10. It was observed that most of the operations were affected by heavy rains.
11. There was no clear framework for the community members' involvement in the implementation of county road projects.

5. COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The committee recommends that this House adopts this report with the following recommendations;

- i. To mitigate the risks related to fuel handling, it's crucial to follow safety guidelines, use appropriate containers designed for fuel transport, and adhere to regulations and standards set by relevant authorities. Additionally, considering alternative and safer methods for fuel transport, such as approved fuel containers and proper vehicle tanks, can help minimize the associated dangers. Alternatively, the County could prequalify some of the petrol stations in the wards.

- ii. There is a need to develop further guidelines, policies, and regulations to foresee the use of heavy machines as well as the installation of fleet management in all county vehicles to ease their management.
- iii. There is a need to acquire or lease a nearby quarry to mitigate the high fuel costs associated with transporting gravel over long distances.
- iv. There is a need to formulate a clear framework and schedule of work per ward in advance and share it with all stakeholders to reduce conflicts.
- v. In cases where heavy rain affects work progress, the schedule should permit the deployment of the machinery to other wards with more favorable weather conditions to avoid project delays.
- vi. There is need to develop mechanism of even distribution of development in all wards by ensuring even distribution of resources such as funds, machines and fuel.
- vii. It is crucial to augment or increase the fuel allocation in the budget to ensure the smooth progress of road construction projects. Allocating additional funds specifically for fuel is imperative for enhanced operational efficiency.
- viii. The County Government should address the outstanding debt owed to private quarry holders by establishing a structured payment plan, prioritizing payments, maintaining open communication, considering negotiation, and monitoring progress towards repayment.
- ix. The county government should consider acquiring more tippers to facilitate for faster supply or transportation of gravels during the construction processes.

6. COMMITTEE CONCLUSION

Mr. Speaker Sir

The Committee is cognizant that this report will play a crucial role in decision-making, and if its recommendations are fully considered, it will contribute to the efficient management and operation of the heavy machinery as well as to ensure transparency and accountability

in the County's infrastructure development initiatives. Therefore, the committee strongly recommends that this house adopt the report.

7. ANNEXURES

- i. Committeeminutes(AnnexI)
- ii. Site visit photographs (Annex II)
- iii. Site visit Questionnaires
- iv. Site visit program