



## Municipality of Naivasha

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### REPORT ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION EXERCISE ON IDENTIFICATION OF NAIVASHA MUNICIPALITY PROJECTS IN HELLS GATE WARD FY 2025/2026

#### 1. Background Information

Public participation is a fundamental principle of governance in Kenya as provided for under Article 10 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the County Governments Act 2012, and the Public Finance Management Act 2012. These legal frameworks emphasize the importance of citizen engagement in decision-making processes, particularly in matters relating to the allocation and utilization of public resources.

Public participation enhances transparency, accountability, and inclusivity by providing citizens with an opportunity to contribute to the identification and prioritization of development projects that address their socio-economic needs.

In line with these constitutional and statutory provisions, the County Government of Nakuru, through the Department of Finance and Economic Planning, organized public participation forums across all 55 wards in the county to collect public views and development priorities during the preparation of the Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2025/2026 and the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF).

Hell's Gate Ward held its budget public participation exercise on 1st April 2025 at the Mirera Chief's Administration Office premises within Naivasha Sub County. The venue had been officially gazetted, and the schedule indicating the date, venue and time for the public participation forums across all wards was released by the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) in charge of Finance and Economic Planning.

#### 2. Public Notification and Mobilization

In order to ensure adequate public awareness and participation, the County Government used several communication channels to notify residents about the exercise. The notification for the Hell's Gate Ward public participation forum was disseminated through the following platforms:

- Social media platforms
- Posters placed at strategic public locations including Karagita trading centre
- Announcements through church leadership within the ward



- Communication through local cooperative societies and community groups
- Mobilization through the National Government Administration Officers (NGAO) including the area Chief, Assistant Chief and the Nyumba Kumi initiative

These mobilization strategies were aimed at ensuring broad participation from residents and stakeholders within the ward.

### **3. Overview of the Public Participation Exercise**

The public participation forum was facilitated by the Ward Administrator, Madam Ann Jackson, who welcomed the participants and outlined the purpose and agenda of the meeting.

During the session, the Ward Administrator presented the list of development projects that had been approved and allocated funds through Supplementary Budget I of the Financial Year 2024/2025.

Participants were also briefed on the implementation status of the approved projects. The Ward Administrator explained that some projects had experienced delays in implementation due to factors beyond the control of the County Government of Nakuru. In particular, the rejection of the Finance Bill 2024 resulted in delays in the disbursement of funds from the National Exchequer to county governments, thereby affecting project implementation timelines.

The meeting provided an opportunity for residents and stakeholders to review ongoing development initiatives and propose priority projects for consideration in the FY 2025/2026 budget.

### **4. Participation Demographics**

The forum attracted participants from different sectors of the community including farmers, youth groups, cooperative societies, educationists, environmental advocates, business community representatives and local professionals.

The participation breakdown was as follows:

Category	Number of Participants
Youth (18–35 years)	21
Adults (36 years and above)	47
Male Participants	37
Female Participants	31
Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)	3

Participants represented diverse community interests and contributed valuable insights on development priorities within the ward.



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## **5. Key Issues Raised by Participants**

During the discussions, participants raised several issues concerning development planning, service delivery, environmental management and governance.

### **5.1 Slow Implementation of Development Projects**

Participants expressed concern regarding the slow implementation of previously approved development projects within the ward. They emphasized the need for improved project execution to ensure communities benefit from the resources allocated through the county budget.

### **5.2 Changes to Projects Through Supplementary Budgets**

Participants raised concerns about changes to projects during the supplementary budgeting process without adequate consultation with the public. They emphasized that projects identified through public participation should be implemented as agreed unless the public is consulted on any proposed revisions.

### **5.3 Inadequate Ward Development Allocation**

Participants noted that the funds allocated to ward-based development projects are often insufficient to address the growing infrastructure and service delivery needs within the ward. They requested the County Government of Nakuru to consider increasing the allocations directed to ward development projects.

### **5.4 Solid and Liquid Waste Management**

Participants strongly emphasized the need to improve solid and liquid waste management systems within the ward, particularly in rapidly urbanizing areas such as Mirera and Karagita which fall within the Naivasha Municipality urban area.

Key concerns raised included:

- Poor waste disposal practices
- Lack of proper waste collection mechanisms
- Disposal of wastewater into drainage systems
- Environmental pollution affecting public health

Participants called for stronger measures to improve environmental sanitation and waste management.

### **5.5 Environmental Health Risks**

Participants noted that poor environmental management contributes to increased disease burden within the community. They emphasized the need for enhanced public awareness on environmental hygiene and stronger enforcement of public health regulations.

### **5.6 Accessibility of Public Participation Forums**



Participants recommended that future public participation exercises be conducted at multiple venues within the ward in order to enhance accessibility and increase participation from residents living far from the designated meeting venues.

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## **6. Feedback from County and Ward Officials**

In response to the issues raised, the Ward Administrator, the area Member of County Assembly (MCA) Hon. Virginia, the Sub County Public Health Officer, and other departmental representatives provided clarifications and responses.

The officials acknowledged the concerns raised by participants and reiterated the County Government's commitment to improving service delivery, environmental management and project implementation within Hell's Gate Ward.

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## **7. Linkage to Naivasha Municipality**

Participants were informed that beginning in the Financial Year 2025/2026, development projects identified through the ward public participation process within areas falling under the Naivasha Municipality will be implemented through the Municipal administration.

This approach aims to enhance coordination of urban service delivery and ensure that ward development projects are aligned with the Naivasha Municipal Investment Plan and urban development priorities.

Through this framework, the Municipality will support implementation of projects related to:

- Solid waste management
- Urban drainage and wastewater management
- Market and trade infrastructure
- Urban road and non-motorized transport infrastructure
- Street lighting and urban safety infrastructure
- Public open spaces and environmental conservation

The integration of ward projects into the municipal implementation structure will enhance technical planning, project supervision, efficiency and accountability in urban service delivery.

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## **8. Resolutions and Way Forward**

Following discussions and responses from the officials present, the meeting agreed on the following resolutions:

1. The Ward Administrator, together with the area Chief and Assistant Chief, will organize community sensitization meetings on proper waste management and environmental hygiene.



2. The sensitization exercise will involve technical officers including:

- Public Health Officers
- Physical Planners
- Environmental Officers
- Trade Officers

3. Plot owners and tenants were given 21 days to establish appropriate waste management measures, including proper waste disposal and construction of soak pits for wastewater management.

4. Property owners currently discharging wastewater into drainage systems were directed to immediately adopt proper waste disposal mechanisms to prevent environmental pollution.

5. The area Chief and Assistant Chief committed to working closely with county and municipal officers to ensure compliance with environmental health regulations.

**Department of Infrastructure:**

- i) Grading, murraming and fueling for roads upgrading works of hells gate access roads under Imarisha Barabara program- allocated **Kshs 6,000,000**
- ii) Installation of solar flood lights at hells gate - location **Kshs 4,500,000**
- iii) Construction of drainage and installation of culverts mwafrika road - allocation **Kshs. 3,500,000**

**Department of Water and Sanitation, Environment, Climate Change and Energy**

- iv) Equipping and laying of piping infrastructure for hells gate Nyamathi area Water works project – allocated **Kshs.1,800,000**

**Department of Education, ICT, e-Government and Public Communication**

- v) Construction and equipping of one (1) ECDE classroom at Mwiciringiri- allocated **Ksh 2,000,000.**
- vi) Construction of a perimeter fence at Mirera ecde – allocated **Kshs.3,000,000**
- vii) Construction of a workshop at Mirera Polytechnique 12m long and 8 m wide with terrazzo floor finish with paint on wall internally and key wall finishes externally - allocation **Kshs 3,000,000**
- viii) Construction and equipping of one (1) ECDE classroom at karai - allocated **Ksh 2,000,000.**
- ix) Equipping of kamuyu ecde classroom- allocated **Kshs. 500,000**
- x) Construction of a modern kitchen and equipping at Mirera ecde -allocation **Kshs. 3,500,000**



- xi) Construction of a four-door toilet with urinals at mountain view ecde– allocation **Kshs. 950,000**

**Department of Gender, Youth Affairs, Sports and Social Services**

- xii) construction of an ablution block at ymca social hall allocation - Kshs 3,047,734

**Conclusion and Recommendation**

The public participation exercise in Hell’s Gate Ward experienced relatively low attendance due to several challenges. These included ongoing planting activities by farmers, who prioritized farming due to favorable weather conditions, public perception arising from delays in the implementation of the previous year’s budget, and the economic pressures faced by residents, with many indicating that they needed to prioritize income-generating activities over attending public meetings.

Despite these challenges, the public participation forum proceeded successfully and provided an important platform for engagement between residents and the County Government of Nakuru. Participants expressed appreciation to the County Government for creating an opportunity for citizens to contribute their views in governance and development planning processes. They also acknowledged the efforts made to facilitate the meeting, including the provision of refreshments. The meeting concluded as scheduled at 4:00 PM.

Participants recommended that greater efforts be made in mobilizing residents for future public participation forums to enhance inclusivity and participation. In particular, they proposed that future engagements be decentralized to the village unit level to enable wider community involvement and ensure that more residents can effectively participate in government decision-making processes.

**Report compiled by**



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