

Wakiso counts on Shs110b road projects to ease traffic

BY MICHAEL AGABA

WAKISO. Leaders in Wakiso District have welcomed the rollout of road projects worth Shs110 billion, describing them as a major boost to connectivity and a solution to persistent traffic congestion in the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area.

The projects, which fall under the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area Urban Development Programme (GKMA-UDP), were launched on Wednesday at Jjany Church of Uganda Primary School in Kajjansi Town Council. GKMA-UDP is funded by the World Bank.

The works will see key roads upgraded to bitumen standard, including the Seguku-Nalumunye-Bandwe-Kinaawa-Kyengera road (8.9km) and its Seguku Link (0.9km), as well as the Namulanda-Bweya-Kajjansi road (7.5km).

The Wakiso Chief Administrative Officer, Mr Jude Mark Bukenya, said the projects mark a significant step in improving transport infrastructure in the district. He revealed that the Namulanda-Bweya-Kajjansi road will cost Shs57 billion, while the Seguku-Nalumunye-Kyengera road will cost Shs56 billion.

Wakiso District chairperson Mr Matia Lwanga Bwanika also welcomed the projects, but cautioned contractors to first address feeder roads to minimise disruption to residents.

"We have many feeder roads connecting to the highways which are currently impassable. Contractors should work on them first to make it easier for people to move when construction begins," he said.

Mr Bwanika further urged local leaders to mobilise youth to take advantage of employment opportunities expected during the construction phase.

The Commissioner for Urban Administration in the Local Government Ministry, Mr Charles Magumba, said the project was designed to improve interconnectivity and reduce traffic pressure on key corridors such as Entebbe Road and the Kampala-Masaka highway.

"These roads will act as alternative routes to minimise traffic jams and improve movement within the metropolitan area," he said.

The Under Secretary in the Ministry of Kampala, Ms Monica Edemach, asked contractors to prioritise safety and ensure the projects are completed within the 18-month timeframe. She also urged them to employ local labour.

The works will be supervised by Nova Consult, with contractors including China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation and China Wu Yi Construction Co.Ltd.

BACKGROUND

Under the programme, Wakiso District has prioritised 16 roads, three markets and two swamp improvement projects, signalling a broader effort to upgrade urban infrastructure and support rapid population growth.