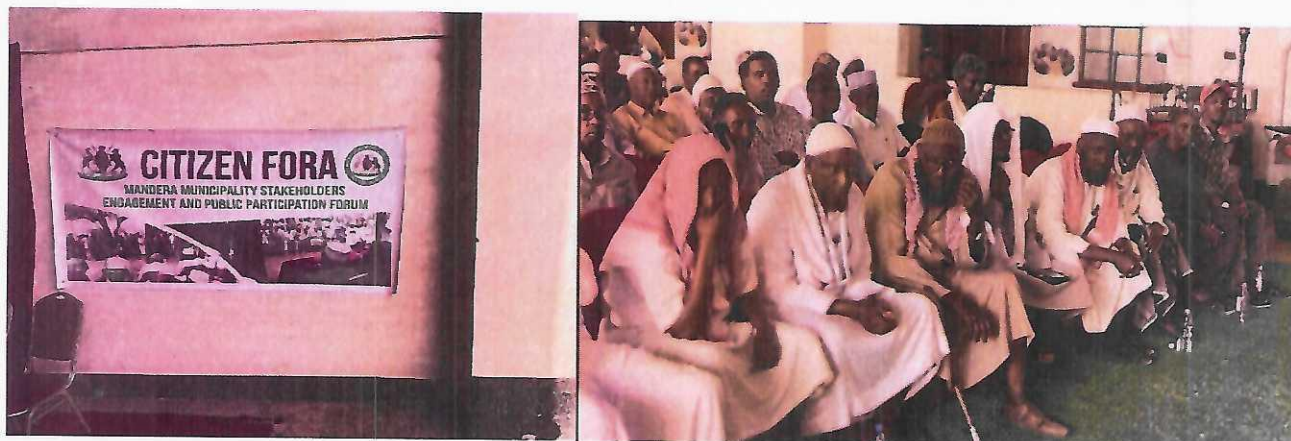


MANDERA MUNICIPALITY CITIZEN FORA REPORT for Q4 FY 2024/2025 HELD ON 25TH JUNE 2025 AT MUNICIPALITY CONFERENCE HALL.

INTRODUCTION



The Mandera Municipality Citizen Forum for Quarter 4 of the Financial Year 2024/2025 was held on June 25, 2025, at the Mandera Municipality conference hall. The forum marked the annual review cycle for the financial year and served as a platform for evaluating municipal performance, strengthening accountability, and engaging stakeholders on sustainable urban planning and environmental stewardship.

The session provided an opportunity for the Municipality to present achievements, operational challenges, and planned reforms in key sectors including street lighting maintenance, development control enforcement, solid waste management, and public health regulation. Participants engaged actively in discussions aimed at improving service delivery and ensuring orderly urban growth within Mandera Town.

The session was chaired by the Chairperson of the Municipality Board and attended by Board Members, the Municipal Manager, technical officers, enforcement officers, and representatives of the public.

ATTENDEES

In addition to the members of the public, the Board members and Municipality management team in attendance included;

1. Kullow Mohamed Sheikh – Chairperson of the board
2. Abdia Hussein Abdi – Vice Chairperson
3. Matker Mohamed Noor – Municipal Manager
4. Mohamed Abdullahi Omar – Board Member
5. Famsahara Adan Maalim – Board Member
6. Ibrahim Hassan Malow – Board Member
7. Hussein Maalim – Board Member
8. Abdi Adan Baraka – Finance Manager
9. Abdiaziz Ali Alio – Environmental Officer
10. Said Haji Hassan – Civil Engineer
11. Hussein Adan – ICT Officer
12. Abdi Kahiye – Enforcement Officer in Charge
13. Suleiman Adan – Fire Officer

1. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The forum commenced with a comprehensive presentation on the Municipality's performance during the Financial Year 2024/2025. The Municipal Manager outlined progress made in infrastructure maintenance, environmental management, and regulatory enforcement. Particular emphasis was placed on the maintenance and operational oversight of 1,417 street lighting units distributed across Mandera Town.

The street lighting network, comprising solar-powered units, grid-connected lights, and high-mast security installations, has been instrumental in enhancing public safety and economic productivity. Routine inspections, timely repairs, and replacement of faulty components were

undertaken throughout the year to maintain high functionality levels and reduce dark spots in residential and commercial areas.

Participants acknowledged noticeable improvements in night-time mobility, especially within market zones and major access roads. Traders and transport operators reported increased commercial activity during evening hours due to improved illumination. The Board emphasized that street lighting remains a strategic investment in security enhancement, crime reduction, and support for a 24-hour local economy.

2. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND ORDERLY URBAN GROWTH

The Board provided an update on enforcement measures undertaken to address unauthorized developments and restore order within planned urban spaces. Particular focus was given to the Mandera–Arabia Road corridor, where temporary structures had been erected on designated road reserves.

It was reported that these unauthorized developments had compromised pedestrian safety, restricted future road expansion potential, and contributed to traffic congestion. In response, the Municipality undertook structured demolition exercises to remove the illegal structures and reclaim public land. The enforcement actions were carried out in accordance with existing development control regulations and after issuance of appropriate notices.

The removal of these structures restored road visibility, enhanced safety margins for pedestrians and motorists, and safeguarded long-term infrastructure planning objectives. Community members expressed support for these enforcement measures but also emphasized the need for increased public awareness campaigns to educate residents and traders about zoning regulations and approved construction procedures.

The Urban Development Department reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening monitoring mechanisms and ensuring that all future developments comply with approved building codes and spatial plans.

3. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT REFORMS

Solid waste management reforms formed a key component of the forum deliberations. The Environmental Officer reported that the Municipality had initiated procurement planning for the acquisition and deployment of 15 additional skip bins at an estimated budget of Ksh 7,500,000.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

The Enforcement Unit presented a report on public health compliance activities conducted during the fiscal year. It was reported that 262 food handlers operating within markets, hotels, kiosks, and food establishments underwent mandatory medical examinations as required under public health regulations.

This exercise was aimed at ensuring hygiene compliance, preventing food-borne diseases, and safeguarding public health standards within the Municipality. Routine inspections of food premises were also conducted to verify cleanliness, proper waste disposal, and adherence to licensing requirements.

The Enforcement Officer reaffirmed the Municipality's commitment to continuous inspection and regulatory oversight to maintain high public health standards. Participants acknowledged the importance of these measures in protecting residents and maintaining confidence in local markets and food establishments.

KEY PRIORITY AREAS IDENTIFIED IN THE PLENARY SESSION

During the plenary session, participants identified several priority areas to guide future municipal interventions:

1. Strengthening maintenance of street lighting infrastructure to ensure consistent functionality and reduce vandalism.
2. Enhancing enforcement of development control regulations to prevent encroachment on road reserves and public land.
3. Expanding waste management infrastructure and introducing recycling initiatives to promote environmental sustainability.
4. Increasing public sensitization on sanitation, zoning regulations, and public health compliance requirements.
5. Improving collaboration between the Municipality, community leaders, and security agencies to safeguard public investments.

The new skip bins are to be strategically distributed across high-density residential neighborhoods, commercial centers, and market areas where waste generation levels are highest. This intervention aims to address existing waste collection gaps and reduce illegal dumping in open spaces and road reserves.

The Municipality anticipates that the additional skip bins will significantly improve environmental sanitation, streamline waste collection scheduling, and reduce health risks associated with unmanaged waste. Participants were informed that waste collection routes are being reorganized to enhance efficiency and ensure regular emptying of bins.

Community members welcomed the initiative and proposed exploring recycling programs as a long-term sustainability strategy. Youth involvement in waste collection and environmental awareness campaigns was also suggested as a means of promoting employment while strengthening community ownership of sanitation efforts. The Municipality expressed willingness to explore partnerships with youth groups and local organizations to support responsible waste management practices

transparency.

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

The forum concluded with a summary of the discussions and resolutions reached. The Municipality committed to sustaining progress made in infrastructure maintenance, strengthening enforcement mechanisms, and enhancing environmental management strategies. Participants were assured that validated priorities would be incorporated into planning frameworks for the subsequent fiscal year.

The Chairperson thanked all attendees for their active engagement and constructive contributions. He reiterated that citizen fora remain an essential platform for promoting transparency, accountability, and inclusive urban governance in Mandera Municipality.

The next Citizen Forum for Quarter 1 of FY 2025/2026 will provide further updates on implementation progress and emerging development priorities.

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

The forum concluded with a summary of resolutions and a commitment to follow up on the actions discussed. The next citizen fora for Q1 2025/2026 is scheduled, and ongoing updates will be provided to keep the community informed on the progress of current projects. The chairperson thanked all participants for their insights and active engagement, reinforcing the municipality's commitment to community-driven governance and service excellence in Mandera.

Prepared by:
Municipal Manager
Mandera Municipality

