



THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**REMARKS BY H.E THE GOVERNOR - PROF PETER
ANYANG' NYONG'O DURING THE GROUND BREAKING
CEREMONY FOR ULTRA-MODERN OTONGLO MARKET –
25th JANUARY, 2021**

The Speaker of the Kisumu County Assembly,

My Deputy, Mathew Owili

Executive Committee Members

The City Manager, Mr. Aballa Wanga,

Representatives of the Government of France and ADF

Traders,

Development partners

The people of this great County of Kisumu,

Ladies and Gentlemen, God is Good!

1. We are gathered here today to witness the birth of yet another pillar of Kisumu's epic transformative journey. I thank you most sincerely for finding time to be part of this history.

2. The construction of this modern market that will accommodate up to 500 traders once complete, will not only change the face of Kisumu but will significantly improve the business environment in this urban center which sits on a major Highway to Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).
3. Our traders will no-longer sit under scorching sun or besides sewer lines.
4. I wish at this earliest opportunity to thank the Government of France which is funding this project to the tune of Ksh 79m through the Kenya Urban Project. It is expected to be ready within the next 8 months.
5. What we have witnessed here today is testimony of what partnership and friendship with the international community can do to a county.
6. This is the Fourth market we are building in Kisumu just within the past three years ever since you elected me into office three years ago.

7. Just last year, we built and opened the Chichwa market which is currently accommodating 500 traders relocated from various trading zones two years ago. The Ultra-Modern Uhuru Business Park with a capacity to house 10,000 traders is nearing completion.
8. Last month, we launched the construction of the Kibuye Market, which once completed later this year, will be one of the most beautiful markets in Kenya. We are also negotiating for more funds to expand and modernize the Jubilee Market.
9. Our resolve to put up these ultra-modern markets, Ladies and Gentlemen is clear testimony that my government is committed in growing the Small and Medium Enterprises across the county.
10. We have ensured the transformation has a human face. This is why we are relocating the traders affected by the operations to new grounds as they await the opening of Uhuru Business Park, Kibuye and Otonglo.
11. Ladies and Gentlemen, when we started re-allocating the traders from the streets and removed

structures built on top of sewer lines and drainages, some attention -seeking politicians poured out money to discredit our noble intentions.

12. They hollered and screamed at funerals, bars and on social media, thinking that they had found the best opportunity to become relevant and stop our commitment in making Kisumu a better city.

13. But I am happy our people rejected their ill-motives and have now drowned their voices of hate and doom. Just like Nobody can stop Reggae, nothing can also stop us from implementing projects whose time has come.

14. I challenge these pessimists to climb down from the roof tops and hideouts and join this journey of hope. The journey to Canaan.

15. Ladies and gentlemen, I wish to inform you that my government has robust plans for Kisumu even as we prepare to become the first small city in Africa to host the Africities Summit in April next year.

16. Our plans to transform this lakeside City through an enhanced Urban aesthetics is already bearing fruits. The future is bright. For this I want to sincerely thank

our City Manager and his team for being courageous and focused in re-arranging Kisumu.

17. Ladies and Gentlemen, what we are doing is not new if you look at what has happened in other countries such as Singapore, Australia and South Africa, among others.

18. Right now, we are de-congesting the Central Business District and we thank you for the support. All Passenger Busses and trailers will no-longer use the streets at the CBD.

19. We are building satellite bus and matatu termini at Nyamasaria, Mamboleo and Otonglo. Already are constructing a Ksh. 99.8 Million terminus at Nyamasaria. Others will follow shortly.

20. We have formed Kisumu Stakeholders Committee with mandate to beautify the City. We plan to plant up to 10 million trees at strategic positions within the City and its environs, just to mention a few.

21. And in this epic journey, no one will be left behind. Everyone, include our small-scale traders must board this bus.

TICH TIRE. THANK YOU