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THE TRANS NZOIA COUNTY TRANSPORT BILL, 2016

A Bill for

AN ACT of the Trans Nzoia County Assembly to provide for matters relating to traffic, parking, county roads, street lighting, public road transport, to establish the County department of transport and for connected purposes

ENACTED by the Trans Nzoia County Assembly as follows—

PART I—PRELIMINARY

1. This Bill may be cited as the Trans Nzoia County Transport Bill, 2016.

2. In this Bill unless the context requires otherwise:
   “authorised person” means any person responsible for carrying out any duty or function or delegated to carry out any duty or function in terms of this Bill;
   “chief officer” means the chief officer for the time being responsible for public works, transport and infrastructure;
   “certificate” means operating authority issued under this Bill;
   “county” means Trans Nzoia County;
   “County Assembly” means the County assembly of Trans Nzoia;
   “County Government” means the County Government of Trans Nzoia
   “County roads” means all other roads except those marked as National Roads in the 2nd schedule of the Kenya Roads Act;
   “county transport stakeholders forum” means the Trans Nzoia county stakeholders forum;
   “department” means the County department of public works, transport and infrastructure established under section 5 of this Bill;
   “director” means the director for the time being responsible for, public works, transport and infrastructure;
   “Executive Member” means the County Executive Member for the time being responsible for public works, transport and infrastructure;
“governor” means the governor of Trans Nzoia county;

“hazardous materials” means a substance or material in a quantity and form which may pose an unreasonable risk to health and safety or property when transported in commerce by all modes;

“motor vehicle” includes a vehicle, machine, bus, tractor, truck trailer or semi-trailer, motor cycle, tricycle propelled or drawn by mechanical power and used upon public roads in the transportation of property or passengers, but does not include any locomotive or car operated exclusively on a rail, rails or track;

“owner” when used in relation to goods includes any consignor, consignee, shipper or agent for the sale, receipt, custody, loading or unloading and clearance of those goods and includes any other person in charge of the goods and his agent in relation thereto; and when used in relation to a vessel includes any part owner, broker, charterer, agent or mortgagee in possession of the vessel or other person or persons entitled for the time being to possession of the vessel;

“permit” means operating authority issued under this Bill;

“person” includes an individual, firm, partnership, Association or corporation;

“ranking facility or Public Transport Facility” includes—

(a) a place upon a public road from which a public transport service may ply for hire or convey and drop off passengers; and

(b) any place demarcated or designated for the exclusive parking of specific public transport vehicles by a road traffic sign.

“vehicle” means a device designed or adapted mainly to travel on wheels or crawler tracks and includes such a device which is connected with a draw bar to a breakdown vehicle and is used as part of the towing equipment of a breakdown vehicle to support any axle or all the axles of a motor vehicle which is being salvaged other than such a device which moves solely on rails.

3. The object and purpose of this Bill is to provide for all matters necessary to;
The Trans Nzoia County Transport Bill, 2016

(a) provide for adequate, safe and efficient County transport facilities and services at a reasonable cost to the people;
(b) facilitate the planning and development of County transport facilities and transport infrastructure;
(c) give effect to, and ensure a balanced transport policy and planning

4. This Bill applies to County roads and County transport, infrastructure and services.

PART II—THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

5. (1) There is established the County department of transport which shall be charged with the responsibility of implementing this Bill.

6. The department, by or through the Executive Member or his duly authorized officer or employee, shall have the following general functions, powers and duties:

   (1) To coordinate and develop a comprehensive and balanced transport policy and planning for the county;
   (2) To coordinate and assist in the balanced development and operation of transport facilities and services in the county;
   (3) To make such studies and analyses of transport problems relating to any aspect of transport in the county.
   (4) To consult with and co-operate with—
      (i) officials of the state department having duties and responsibilities concerning transport;
      (ii) officials and representatives of public corporations as defined in the State Corporations Act of the Laws of Kenya;
      (iii) official representatives of neighboring counties and of inter-County Government agencies on problems affecting transport in the counties;
      (iv) officials and representatives of transport facilities and systems in the county;
      (v) Persons, organizations and groups utilizing, served by, interested in or concerned with transport facilities and systems in the county.
   (5) To exercise all functions, powers and duties
relating to traffic regulation and control as set forth in this Bill;

(6) To formulate and execute contracts, keep accounts, record personnel data, acquire property, adjust, verify, and arbitrate over claims, compile statistics and engage in research opportunities; all according to the department orders and regulations in such cases made and provided;

(7) To prepare plans, specifications, designs and estimates, and, by the procedures and methods provided by the laws relating thereto, to construct and reconstruct—

(i) The public roads that are under the jurisdiction of the department;

(ii) The waterways of the County and structures that are under the jurisdiction of the department;

(iii) The bridges and grade separation structures that are under the jurisdiction of the department;

(iv) Parking facilities and appurtenances at or adjacent to transportation interfaces and connections to such facilities.

(8) To operate and maintain—

(i) the highways in the County, other public ways, bridges and grade separations;

(ii) the waterways and structures of the county; and

(iii) either on its own account or by agreement with another county, authority or private contractor, parking facilities and appurtenances at or adjacent to transportation interfaces and connections to such facilities

(9) The department shall have power to establish and manage committees that are necessary in the furtherance of the purposes of this Bill.

(10) The department of transport shall cooperate with the agencies of other counties and of the National government which are connected with national defense, in the formulation and execution of plans for the rapid and safe movement over County roads of troops, vehicles of a military nature, and materials affecting national defense.

(11) (a) A person who contravenes a provision of this Part commits an offence.
(b) Any person who commits any offence under this part is liable for a fine not exceeding One Hundred Thousand Shillings (100,000/=) or Six Months Imprisonment or both.

PART III—TRAFFIC AND PUBLIC ROAD TRANSPORT

7. The department in consultation with other relevant County departments is hereby authorized to promote safety in the transportation of hazardous materials by all modes of transport, and in connection therewith it shall have the power to make rules and regulations governing transportation of hazardous materials.

8. (1) An authorized officer may, in enforcing the provisions of this Bill, at any reasonable time and without prior notice—

(a) enter a public transport service facility to inspect the facility; and

(b) make enquiries from a person connected with such facility.

9. (1) No person shall drive a motor vehicle on a public road—

(a) except under the authority and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued to him or her in terms of any relevant law or this Bill; and

(b) unless he or she keeps such licence or document or any other prescribed authorization with him or her in the motor vehicle.

10. No person may, by using force, intimidation, threats or by any other means, prevent or try to prevent—

(a) a person from obtaining or engaging a public transport vehicle; or

(b) the driver of a public transport vehicle from taking on passengers at designated areas.

11. A person who is in charge of a public transport vehicle may not knowingly convey a person or thing or allow that person or thing to be conveyed in such vehicle, whether or not the public transport vehicle has been engaged, if that person or thing—

(a) is not permitted to be conveyed in terms of an existing law; or

(b) has obviously been exposed to or contaminated by
12. (1) No person may board a public transport vehicle until all persons desiring to disembark from such vehicle have done so.

(2) No person may board a public transport vehicle where the number of passengers would be in excess of the total number of passengers which it is authorized to carry.

(3) No person may board or alight or attempt to board or disembark from any public transport vehicle whilst such vehicle is in motion.

(4) No person may board or disembark from a public transport vehicle except at designated points.

13. (1) The department may establish ranking facilities in the County and may further erect or cause to be erected a queue sign or queuing barrier in any suitable form for the purpose of queuing;

(2) All passengers intending to enter any public transport vehicle at an established ranking facility or stopping place must queue from the point at which it is indicated that such public transport vehicle will leave;

(3) Where no queue sign has been erected, passengers waiting to enter a public transport vehicle must form themselves into a queue not exceeding two abreast or in a single file when required to do so by an approved public transport conductor or authorised official of the County;

(4) A passenger may only enter a public transport vehicle when he or she gets to the front of the queue;

(5) Every passenger queuing must comply with all the instructions given by a public transport conductor, authorised officer or authorised official when on duty.

(6) Persons living with disability, an expectant mother or any passenger with an infant(s) shall be allowed not to queue and shall be allowed to enter the public transport vehicle first.

14. (1) A passenger must pay the determined fare for the journey.

(2) The fare to be paid shall not exceed the amount displayed on the vehicle according to the Public Service Vehicle Act.

15. (1) If a public transport vehicle becomes defective or, for any reason whatsoever, is unable to proceed, the
passengers must disembark such defective vehicle and should the passengers have already paid their fares, they are entitled to a refund to the amount of their fares so paid for the remainder of the journey.

(2) Upon agreement with the driver, conductor or agent of the defective public transport vehicle, passengers are allowed to travel with the next available public transport vehicle for the remainder of the distance in respect of the paid fares, at the cost of the owner of the defective public transport vehicle.

(3) A driver, conductor or agent who refuses to refund a passenger, as contemplated in subsection (1), or who refuses to allow a passenger to travel in the manner as contemplated in subsection (2) commits an offence.

(4) A driver, conductor or agent who commits any offence under this part is liable for a fine not exceeding Fifty Thousand Shillings (50,000/=) or Six Months Imprisonment or both.

16. (1) The following actions are prohibited on a public transport vehicle—

(a) smoking;
(b) playing offensive or excessively loud music;
(c) using obscene or offensive language;
(d) committing an offensive act;
(e) interfering with the comfort of any passenger;
(f) damaging anything and interfering with the equipment of the public transport vehicle in any way;
(g) forcibly causing the driver to deviate from his route;
(h) endangering the life of another passenger;
(i) interfering with the actions of the driver and
(j) showing or displaying any pornographic material

(2) A person who contravenes sub-section (1) commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand shillings or to an imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or both.

17. The driver, conductor or agent of a passenger-carrying vehicle must carefully examine the vehicle after a trip, and if a passenger has left behind any property in the
vehicle, the driver must—

(a) deliver that property to the person who left it behind; or

(b) if he or she is unable to deliver that property to the person who left it behind, take the property, as soon as possible, to the lost property office of his or her employer or to the nearest police station and de-posit it with the officer on duty and obtain a receipt for it.

18. (1) No person may park or allow a public transport vehicle to park in a stopping place designated for specific public transport vehicles.

(2) No public transport vehicle may traverse a pedestrian crossing when stopping to enable passengers to be picked up or dropped off.

(3) No public transport vehicle may park in a demarcated parking place any longer than is required to enable waiting passengers to be picked up or dropped off.

19. (1) A pedestrian may cross a public road only at a pedestrian crossing or an intersection or at a distance further than 50 metres from such pedestrian crossing or intersection.

(2) Where a marked pedestrian crossing exists at an intersection, a pedestrian may only cross the intersection within the marked pedestrian crossing.

(3) Where a traffic-control light signal, which embodies pedestrian signals, operates at an intersection, a pedestrian may not commence to cross the roadway in a pedestrian crossing at the intersection while the red light of a pedestrian signal is displayed in the direction opposite to that in which he or she is proceeding.

(4) Where no pedestrian signals are operating at an intersection, but such intersection is controlled by a traffic-control light signal, a pedestrian may not commence to cross the roadway in a pedestrian crossing at the intersection while the red light of the traffic-control light signal is displayed in the direction opposite to that in which he or she is proceeding.

(5) Where a traffic-control light signal, which embodies pedestrian signals, are operating at a pedestrian crossing elsewhere than at an intersection, a pedestrian may only commence to cross the roadway in the pedestrian
crossing when the green light of the pedestrian signal is displayed in the direction opposite to that in which he or she is proceeding.

(6) No pedestrian may carelessly, negligently or recklessly disregard, or endanger his or her own safety, or the safety of a person or vehicle using a public road.

20. No person shall on a public road use the sounding device or hooter of a vehicle except when such use is necessary in order to comply with the provisions of this Bill or any other law or on the grounds of safety.

21. (1) Subject to any other law, no person shall drive a motor vehicle on a public road—

(a) while holding, using or operating a cellular or mobile telephone or any other communication device in one or both hands or with any other part of the body unless such a cellular or mobile telephone or other communication device is affixed to the vehicle or is part of the fixture in the vehicle and remains so affixed while being used or operated, or is specially adapted or designed to be affixed to the person of the driver as headgear, and is so used;

(2) An authorised officer may, in the public interest and safety of the public, confiscate and impound a hand held communication device;

(3) The authorised officer must, when confiscating any hand held communication device—

(a) inform the owner of such communication device of the reasons of confiscating and impounding;

(b) issue a receipt to the owner of such hand held communication device, stating the place at which such device may be claimed; and

(c) follow all procedures contained in any policy of the County dealing with the confiscation and impoundment of property.

22. (1) A person who contravenes a provision of this Part commits an offence.

(2) A person who commits an offence referred to in subsection (1) is, on conviction, liable for a fine of Fifty Thousand shillings (50,000/=) only or a term of imprisonment not exceeding three years, or to both fine and imprisonment.
23. The County government shall install street lights within the County with special attention to the following areas; Major Traffic Routes, High Crime Urban Areas, Town Centres, Pedestrian Crossings and Pedestrian Subways.

24. The department shall be responsible for the maintenance of streetlights

25. No person shall willfully or carelessly cause damage to any streetlight. Any person who contravenes this section shall, upon conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding thirty thousand shillings or a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year or to both and shall be liable to cater for the cost of replacing the damaged street light(s).

PART IV—PARKING

26. No person shall park or permit a vehicle to be parked on a public road contrary to a traffic sign or in a manner that impedes the flow of traffic.

27. Unless required or permitted by this Bill or by a traffic control device, or in compliance with the directions of a traffic officer, or to avoid conflict with other traffic, no person shall stop or park a vehicle—

(a) at an intersection nearer than ten (10) metres to the projection of the curb line immediately ahead or immediately to the rear;

(b) within ten (10) metres on the approach to a stop sign or yield signs;

(c) within five (5) metres of any fire hydrant, or when the hydrant is not located at the curb, within five (5) metres of the point on the edge of the roadway nearest the hydrant;

(d) within ten (10) metres of the approach to a pedestrian crossing;

(e) on a sidewalk;

(f) facing oncoming traffic;

(g) on any bridge or approach to any bridge;

(h) in a passenger loading or unloading space posted as such by a traffic control device except when actually taking or discharging passengers;

(i) on any portion of a public road posted as “No
Parking”;

(j) on any land owned by the County which the County uses or permits to be used as a playground, recreation area, utility lot, or public park, except in such areas designated or posted for parking;

(k) on any space posted as a fire lane except for emergency vehicles;

(l) on any space posted for disabled persons parking unless such vehicle is designated as a disabled persons vehicle;

(m) in a transit zone except a transit vehicle;

(n) in such a manner so as to obstruct an emergency exit; and

(o) in such a manner so as to obstruct the entrance or exit of a fire station or ambulance station;

28. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Bill, the department through any of its authorised officers or employees, is hereby authorized to cause moveable signs to be posted on or near a highway to indicate “No Parking”, or “Street Maintenance” and when so posted, such signs shall take precedence over all other traffic control device.

29. (1) (a) Any person commits when they—

(i) place a sign post or reserving a parking space without authority in the County;

(ii) park in a designated parking space without payment of fees;

(iii) park on a pavement or on County Government gardens;

(iv) interfere with writing or marking on a parking ticket.;

(v) using parking space for advertisement or business;

(vi) damaging a vehicle clamp, removing or attempting to remove the same;

(vii) obstructing an officer in enforcing this Bill; and

(viii) knocking down an electricity pole, this will automatically lead to the owner paying for the restoration of the pole.
(b) A person who commits any offence under sub-section (1) above is liable for a fine not exceeding Fifty Thousand Shillings (50,000/=) or one year Imprisonment or both.

30. (1) The Executive Member may alter or make further regulations on the following—

(a) Non-payment parking fee will lead to clamping and towing of the vehicle at the vehicle owner’s expense. Any vehicle clamped must pay clamping fees to the County.

(b) Failure to pay towing fees and other expenses incurred by the Council within 60 days, may lead to disposal of the vehicle through the public notice auction.

(c) The parking ticket must be displayed on the front windscreen. Non displays will mean nonpayment of the same.

(d) Parking attendants shall at all times put on a uniform, carry and have with them a proper identification badge issued by the county government.

(e) A person needs a county government permit to run a commercial or private parking place.

(f) Vehicles must be parked within the space indicated by lines or any other mark provided by the County.

(g) The county government will not be responsible for damage or loss incurred during clamping or removal of the offending vehicle.

(h) Parking is free from 2.00 pm on Saturdays, whole day Sundays and Public Holidays.

31. (1) No person shall park a vehicle on any alley unless a traffic control device otherwise permits, except for the following purposes—

(a) the loading or unloading of goods from a commercial vehicle for a reasonable period;

(b) the loading or unloading of goods or passengers from a vehicle other than a commercial vehicle for a reasonable period;

(2) Notwithstanding Subsection (1) above, no person, while loading or unloading passengers or goods, shall park
in such a manner as may obstruct the passage of other vehicles along the alley.

32. No person shall park a vehicle or permit a vehicle to be parked on private property without the permission or authorization of the owner of the private property or a person having lawful possession or control of the private property.

33. No person shall park or permit to be parked, any trailer upon any public road unless the said trailer is attached to a vehicle by which it may be propelled or drawn and when so attached, the trailer shall be deemed part of the vehicle and subject to the provisions pertaining to vehicles.

34. No person shall park or permit to be parked a vehicle that is not a taxicab, in an area posted as a taxi zone.

35. (1) The operator of a taxicab, except when answering a call, shall not park the taxicab upon any roadway other than within a taxi zone, unless such taxicab is displaying a “Not for Hire” sign and the operator is out of the taxicab.

(2) Nothing in this part shall be construed as to allow parking contrary to any other provision of this Bill.

36. Notwithstanding the establishment of a taxi zone on a roadway, an operator of a taxicab stopping or parking in such a zone shall comply with the requirements of this Bill.

37. When parking a vehicle on a roadway, a person may only park a vehicle—

(a) with the sides of the vehicle parallel to the curb or edge of the roadway, and the right wheels of the vehicle not more than five hundred (500) millimeters from the right curb or edge of the roadway; or

(b) in the case of a one-way highway where parking on either side is permitted, with the sides of the vehicle parallel to the curb or edge of the roadway, the wheels that are the closest to a curb or edge of the roadway not more than five hundred (500) millimeters from that curb or edge, and the vehicle facing in the direction of travel authorized for the highway.
38. (1) When a sign indicates that angle parking is permitted or required, and no parking guidelines are visible on the roadway—

(a) a person may only park a vehicle with the vehicle’s sides at an angle of between thirty (30) and sixty (60) degrees to the herb or edge of the roadway; and

(b) in the case of a vehicle other than a motorcycle, with the nearest wheel not more than five hundred (500) millimeters from the herb or edge of the roadway; or

(c) in the case of a motorcycle, with the nearest wheel of the motorcycle not more than five hundred (500) millimeters from the herb or edge of the roadway, and the motorcycle angled adjacent to the lane on which the motorcycle is parked.

(2) (a) A person who contravenes a provision of this part commits an offence.

(b) Any person who commits any offence under subsection (1) above is liable for a fine not exceeding Fifty Thousand Shillings (50,000/=) or One year imprisonment or both.

39. (1) An application of parking permit should be made to the Head of County Revenue Collection. The permit expires on 31st of December of the year it is issued.

(2) Parking of any vehicle other than a matatu at a matatu terminus is an offence.

(3) The permit issued to a matatu is not transferable to another vehicle.

(4) One needs a written authority of the County Head of Revenue Collection to establish a private matatu terminus.

(5) Matatus should only be parked at a matatu terminus and will only stop to pick or drop passengers at a designated bus stop.

(6) All matatus at terminus should be under direction of an enforcement official.

(7) It is an offence to drive more than 10km/hr within the terminus.

(8) Importuning for passengers on the streets or terminus is an offence.
(9) A matatu abandoned at the terminus without adhering to the by-laws may be removed by an enforcement officer.

(10) If fees and expenses incurred in the removal of the matatu are not paid within 60 days from day of removal, the county government may dispose it to cover outstanding fees and expenses.

(11) If there are six or more persons waiting to enter a matatu at a terminus or designated stopping place, they must form a queue.

(12) Hawking of goods at a matatu terminus without a permit of the county government is illegal.

(13) All persons in a matatu terminus must follow directions and instructions of enforcement or police officers.

40. (1) The County Government may from time to time control the traffic of hand cart(s) and animal driven carts in the streets.

(2) A person authorized by the County Government to propel a hand cart(s) or animal driven cart(s) shall observe all traffic rules and these regulations.

(3) A person who uses a hand cart or animal driven cart and causes or permits such cart to be used in contravention of the regulations is guilty of an offence.

41. (1) A person commits an offence when he or she does the following acts—

(i) obstructs a person from entering and alighting from a matatu;
(ii) boards a matatu through any other portal apart from the door;
(iii) obstructs a conductor or a hinder the driver from performing their duties;
(iv) behaves in a disorderly manner;
(v) interferes or molests anyone else;
(vi) causes any verbal disturbance or use any abusive language;
(vii) litters or spits; and
(viii) damages county government equipment.

PART V—SAFE AND ADEQUATE SERVICE, JUST AND REASONABLE CHARGES
42. (1) Every corporation, person or public transport service providers performing a transport service in the County, shall furnish, with respect thereto, such service and facilities as shall be safe and adequate and in all respects just and reasonable.

(2) All charges made or demanded by any such corporation, person or transport service provider for the transportation of passengers or property or for any service rendered or to be rendered in connection therewith shall be just and reasonable and not more than allowed by law or by order of the director of transport and made as authorized by this Bill.

(3) Every unjust or unreasonable charge made or demanded for any such service or transportation of passengers or property or in connection therewith or in excess of that allowed by law or by order of the director of transport is prohibited.

(4) All transport service providers have a general duty to deal reasonably with customers and adequately address customer complaints.

43. Every County transport service provider shall file with the department and shall print and keep open to public inspection schedules showing the rates, fares and charges for the transportation of passengers and property within the County between each point upon its route and all other points thereon; and between each point upon its route and all points upon every route leased, operated or controlled by it.

44. (1) There is established the County Transport Stakeholders Forum.

(2) The County Transport Stakeholders Forum shall be comprised of—

(a) The Executive member who is the convener and chair of the Forum;

(b) The Chief officer;

(c) Director(s) in the Department;

(d) An officer responsible for the coordination of national government functions in the County; and

(e) Three representatives from the County Transporters Owner’s Association.

(3) The County Stakeholders Forum shall—
(a) Promote and improving road safety in the County;
(b) Engage in education campaigns of the public about transport issues and matters; and
(c) Make change(s) in any rate, fare or charge, or joint rate fare or charge, which shall have been filed and published by a county transport provider in compliance with this Bill.

45. A person who obstructs or interferes with or assists a person to obstruct or interfere with any person in the performance of a function conferred on that person under this part shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand shillings (100,000/=) or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 1 year or to both.

PART VI—GENERAL PROVISIONS

46. The Executive Member shall in consultation with the department make any further regulations for the implementation of this Bill including but not limited to regulations relating to—
(a) Matatu termini
(b) Taxi-cabs
(c) Motor cycles
(d) Bicycles
(e) Tri-cycles
(f) Hand Carts and Animal Driven Carts.

47. This Bill repeals all transport bylaws in the County before the coming into effect of this Bill.
MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The principal purpose and objectives of this Bill is to provide for establishment of the County department of transport, to provide for matters relating to traffic, parking, county roads, street lighting, county public road transport and for connected purposes.

This Bill is not a money Bill within the meaning of Article 114 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010.

Dated 24th February, 2016.

SAMUEL YATOR,
Chairperson Transport and Public Works Committee.