

Ssebuggwawo gives new life to Rubaga division

By Juliet Waiswa

Peter Wasswa the Local Council chairman, Bunamwaya Ngobyia zone B, Rubaga division, is one of the residents who will applaud the mayor of Joyce Nabbosa Ssebuggwawo once the Kabuusu Lweza road is complete.

The road from MM Pub Kabuusu to Lweza is narrow and filled with potholes. It has murram from Bunamuwaya up to Lweza.

It is through Ssebuggwawo's efforts as the mayor of Rubaga that residents have offered part of their land to have the road constructed to ease traffic follow.

Ssebuggwawo went out to convince the residents to accept the arrangement

"We have managed to convince residents along Kabuusu to Lweza to pave way for the construction of that road. Each resident has managed to give the

Challenges

Ssebuggwawo says garbage is still a challenge in her division. "Instead of the community blaming KCCA for failing to collect garbage, they should put the blame of the contractor assigned the duty of collecting garbage," Ssebuggwawo says.

However, the issue of devolution of power still stresses the division mayors who think they should handle their finances like before.

"We make plans for the division activities. However, we do not have the powers to implement, we first need to seek approval from the head office, which has the mandate," says Ssebuggwawo.

She adds that there is a good working relationship between the technical team at the head office and the political team.

contractors about two metres off their land without compensation, which is an unprecedented act," she explains.

Ssebuggwawo says since she became mayor of Rubaga division about three years ago, several achievements have transformed the area.

Once the few residents along the road are compensated, construction will begin in August and the road will connect the users

to Entebbe Road, according to the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA).

Road works

The works involve reconstruction, widening and upgrading from gravel to bitumen.

Other roads in the division which have been upgraded are Bakuli through Nakulabye to Kasubi, along Hoima Road, Mutundwe, Kiyimba and Nalukolongo, among others

These roads will be widened to four-lanes, in addition to installing traffic lights at the Bakuli and Kasubi junctions.

Schools renovated

Amid challenges, Ssebuggwawo says, her leadership has managed to convince the technical team under the stewardship of the KCCA executive director, Jennifer Musisi, to renovate and equip schools.

"Most of our schools were dilapidated and had fewer pupils, but since they were renovated the number of pupils has gone up coupled with improved performance," reveals Ssebuggwawo.

Schools like Kitebi, Kawaala, Busega and Namunggoni have since secured land titles.

Better health care

The division had only one small room operating as a maternity ward, but now there is a fully-fledged hospital for the division, Kitebi Health Centre III.

Ssebuggwawo explains that the health workers operating in the division facilities have



Rubaga mayor Joyce Ssebuggwawo

had their welfare improved and an allowance has been topped up on their salaries, unlike before when they were given little funding.

Youth funded

For the women and youth groups in Lubaga, KCCA boosted their income, through community mobilisation. The youth have been able to form groups so that they can access funds.

"We have 400 women's groups that have been funded by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development," Ssebuggwawo says.

Through sensitisation and

training the youth, they have been able to access the Youth Livelihood Programme to a tune of sh550m for about 35 youth groups, this is another programme was secured through the gender ministry.

KCCA also gives funding through the community-driven development programme grant of sh5m to set up their own businesses.

Ssebuggwawo found ungazetted markets in the division, some of which required monitoring and supervision. Currently, a new market at Busega is being constructed to cater for the people who operate in ungazetted areas.