Environmental and social project brief of the proposed construction of a commercial stored building on plot no. 7, kanjokya street, Kamwokya, central division, Kampala District

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Project Brief

A Project Brief is an assessment carried on projects which are envisaged not to have adverse environment and social impacts, it entails a description of the location of the project, the nature of the project, the potential hazards or threats, project alternative, baseline environment, methodology of impact evaluation and makes recommendations for mitigate the likely negative impacts during the project implementation. (National Environment Act No.5 of 2019.)

Introduction

The study was carried out on a proposed Commercial Stored block to be constructed on plot No. 7 Kanjokya Street, Kamwokya, Central Division, Kampala District by Mr. Neena Harsh Patel (owner) who requires approval by Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) before he can begin to construct. The building will have rental space with ambiance and good finishing with good aesthetics and security to attract tenants.

Project Brief Objectives

The overall objectives of the project assessment was to generate a brief report of the likely environmental, health, safety and social impacts of the proposed commercial stored building. Specifically the assessment aimed to: identify the specific negative impacts of the proposed commercial stored block on the environment, health, safety and social wellbeing of the people and recommend measures to mitigate the likely negative impacts.

Methodology

Various methods were used during the assessment which included among others; onsite observation and analysis was used to understand the environmental components around the site; discussions with developer were conducted to comprehensively understand the project; discussions were also conducted with the stakeholders in the neighborhood to understand how they perceived the proposed development in term of social cohesion; corroborated with other projects of similar nature that had been implemented before.

Likely Impacts Of The Proposed Devlopment

During construction and operation phase:

The impacts that are likely to accrue during the construction and operation phase of the proposed development include: Creation of employment opportunities to both local residents and others from outside during construction; Source of income for the disadvantaged groups in the area especially the women; Create more rental space in the area; Enabling government to avail good urban commercial housing facilities in urban areas and Uganda as a whole; and Improve on the aesthetics of the area. On, negative side, impacts are likely to occur during same phase which relate with: noise and air pollution caused by the demolition dust; Improper disposal of demolition wastes; Traffic flow impairment if access to the project site is not well designed and properly managed; Drainage impairment, soil erosion; HIV/AIDs and diseases are likely to come up; among others.

Impact mitigation Measures

This study recommends the following mitigation measures to the likely negative impact:

Traffic managers should be put in place during construction to manage the smooth flow of vehicles to avoid un necessary traffic blockages in the neighbourhood; Wet demolition should be done to minimize dust emission; The developer should seek the guidance of Environment Officer on proper disposal of the wastes; A qualified person should be employed on site take charge of Environment Health and Safety aspects on the site; first Aid and clinical facilities should be created to help workers in case of any accidents; All personnel should be contract agreement for the works; Soil erosion control such as silt fencing, diversion channels, site restoration should be done on completion of construction; among other.

Recommendations

The report recommended that; wet demolition be conducted as well as spraying of water to suppress the dust; the developer was advised to collaborate with KCCA in the management of waste collection, transportation and offsite disposal; all workers should dressed in personal protective equipment (PPEs); the site should horded off during construction to avoid spillage of dust and other materials to injure the people in the surrounding; construction of an adequate storm water drainage system was also recommended to minimize the effect of increased surface water runoff.

References:

- 1. Building control Act (2018)
- 2. Draft National Environment Management Policy (2018)
- 3. Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 1998
- 4. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), 2002
- 5. Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment in Uganda, (1997) Reference Manual
- 6. National Environment Act No.5 of 2019