

Pres. Weah's Pro-Poor Promise Takes Root, As SKD Community Celebrates Asphalt Pavement

Hope is gradually being restored in every sector of Liberia as the president of Liberia, as H. E. George Manneh Weah turns his promises to ordinary Liberians into concrete reality.

Nearly three months ago, President Weah paid his first visit as president to the Samuel Doe Community, one of Liberia's urban slums, where he was confronted with dire living conditions that the residents were enduring on a daily basis.

During the 2017 elections and even afterwards, the President has said over and over that he would not let his people down and that his "Change for Hope" slogan would be converted into concrete transformation that will impact the lives of the long impoverished majority of Liberians for the better.

Residents of the Samuel Doe Community on the Bushrod Island used the President's visit to unveil the social and economic stings they were undergoing, and it also afforded the President the opportunity to hear and see firsthand how the terrible bad road condition and the lack of electricity were foremost difficult conditions compounding the residents' socioeconomic woes.

At that moment, the President's natural passion for helping suffering people to overcome their nightmare overtook him, and he immediately mandated the Ministry of Public Works and the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) to proceed without fail by reaching out to the slum dwellers with paved road and electricity. He gave them three months to do so.

On the fringes of the three-month deadline, both the Ministry of Public Works and the LEC are putting up finishing touches to their respective assignments with the LEC planting light poles and running electric wires while at the same time penetrating the slum community from the CEMENCO end to the Clara Town flank, everything nearing completion.

Engineers said completion of the entire project is now at 85 percent, as asphalt pavement takes full shape and electrification penetrates the community.

Over the decades, residents of the S.K. D. Community had lamented the lack of good road connectivity, and the main stretch running through the community was often impassible, particularly during the raining season; making it difficult for students and marketers to timely get to their destinations.

"Our mothers and fathers have for so long prayed for this day, the day when their children would walk a better road to and from school, and the parents will get to and from work and market," said Tina Mayson, 16.

Tina said the visitation of President Weah two months earlier in the SKD Community has brought much joys and smiles to many in the slum community, who she noted are saying, “goodbye to muddy and dusty road.”

“We are proud that in a month time, our community will be connected by a paved road and Clara Town and our major street will be electrified,” **James S. Tiaklan**, a schoolteacher said, adding: “This is truly laudable and remarkable. Indeed, President Weah’s commitment to developing prosperous Liberia is glaring and sure, and all Liberians will have no regrets for electing this God-sent public servant [President Weah]”

By Madame Kate Weah and Mohammed Bah