

Gov Peter Mbah Revolution in Road Transportation in Enugu

In a major move revolutionizing transportation in Enugu State, Governor Peter Mbah recently, inaugurated five ultramodern transport terminals in various parts of the state in line with his integrated blueprint for a modern and multimodal transport ecosystem. Governor Mbah also launched 100 out of the 200 CNG Mass Transit buses acquired by the administration, the Enugu State Modern Transport System, as well as over 80 modern bus shelters constructed across the state.

The terminals the governor visited and personally commissioned were the Holy Ghost Terminal 1 (Enugu Central Station 1), designated for interstate transport; Holy Ghost Terminal 2 (Enugu Central Station 2) for intercity transport; Nsukka Terminal (Nsukka Central Station); Abakpa Nike Terminal (Abakpa Central Station), and Gariki Terminal (Gariki Central Station). They feature food courts, banking halls, motels, shops, CNG refilling stations, and cinemas, and expansive spaces capable of taking 500 buses, while the Holy Ghost Terminals 1 and 2 are connected by a 400m-long sky bridge, said to be the longest in Nigeria. The buses feature free wifi and security equipment.

Mbah said the projects which drew huge crowds and elicited palpable joy among the residents, was a key part of the administration's integrated five-terminal Transport Infrastructure Project, Phase 1, in line with his vision to grow the state's economy from \$4.4 billion to \$30 billion. Addressing a mammoth crowd at the Holy Ghost Terminal 2, the governor recalled that until the

commencement of the project in late 2023, the Holy Ghost area was “practically a synonym for chaotic traffic and general disorderliness.” He elaborated: “Aside from the fact it constituted a major municipal blight, we knew we could not attain our audacious economic goals if we lacked an efficient public transport system that offered both comfort and dignity. “We knew that our goal to make Enugu the most livable city in Nigeria will be a futile bid, if we were unable to tackle problems such as persistent traffic gridlock. “So, from the very first day of this administration, we made a promise: to build a world-class transport system that moves people, connects businesses and communities, and, crucially, that rightfully positions Enugu State as a model of modern governance, sustainable growth, and human dignity. “Today's commissioning of the newly completed world-class terminals and the CNG Bus Mass Transit Scheme is indeed, beyond a ribbon-cutting exercise. It ushers in a whole new experience; fundamentally connecting our vision to action, and our action to the daily lives of the over seven million residents of Enugu State.”

He explained that alongside the CNG Rapid Bus Service (Mass Transit Scheme), the terminals were “central pillars of our transport agenda – a multimodal highway to the future – integrating road, rail, air, and waterways into one seamless, safe, and efficient ecosystem.” He also described the terminals as catalysts for economic development and “engines of economic revival.” “They represent our capacity to deliver projects that empower





position Enugu as an aviation and economic hub.

'So, we commend the President because no administration has given as much support to the sub-nationals as this President has done, he concluded. In his goodwill message, the Programme Director/CEO of the Presidential Initiative on CNG, Engr. Michael Oluwagbemi, who was represented by Engr. Tari Mayor-Bright, commended Governor Mbah for the ultramodern terminal and massive deployment of CNG buses. "This is not just infrastructure, but a bold step in setting up a modern transportation system geared towards a cleaner, safer and more affordable transport for the people of Enugu State," he stated. Also, the Managing Director of contractors, Planet Project Construction Company, Biodun Otunola, said that building five terminals simultaneously was unprecedented. "No administration has ever done this before since the history of Nigeria. We are in this industry and we have the records," he stated. He described the terminals as products of a good research and political will of the governor to get things done. Speaking at the various locations, the Commissioner for Transportation, Dr. Obi Ozor; Council Chairman of Enugu North LGA, Dr. Ibenaku Onoh; Chairman of Nsukka LGA, Engr. Jude Asogwa; Chairman, Enugu State Council of Traditional

Ndi Enugu and set our state on a robust trajectory of growth. "Already, this project is creating jobs, stimulating SMEs, and positioning Enugu to compete with Africa's best. Through it, we're creating over 20,000 jobs across BRT, 2,000 hybrid city taxis, airport operations, ride-hailing and support services."

He said that the Enugu Transport Management system would eliminate corruption that had been the bane of government enterprises to ensure sustainability, counting on an e-ticketing system that eliminates leakages, guarantees transparency, and ensures every payment is accounted for. "Commuters simply need to purchase a ticket and top-up as they find suitable. Remarkably, a single valid ticket grants the holder access to other buses. Importantly, our comprehensive insurance coverage protects both the assets and the people who use them," he stated. Mbah thanked President Bola Tinubu for his commitment to the state's development. "Through words and deeds, the President has demonstrated a sincere love and support towards Enugu – and indeed the South East's progress. An example is the concession of the Akanu Ibiam International Airport, which would clearly re-

Rulers, Igwe Samuel Asadu; Chairman, Ogige Market Traders Association, Hon. Onyema Idoko; President, Nsukka General Assembly, Clinton Ogbonna; Chairman, Enugu East LGA, Beloved Dan-Anike; Traditional Ruler of Nike, Igwe Julius Nnaji; Chairman, Enugu South LGA, Hon. Caleb Ani and the Chairman, Enugu South Traditional Rulers Council, Igwe Mike Nna Ukwu, expressed the people's joy over the projects and buses, describing them as economic catalysts. It can be recalled that Mbah had in July launched Enugu Air, a state-owned, with fleet of three aircraft. There is no doubt that the Executive Governor of Enugu State Dr. Peter Mbah has sufficiently acquitted himself as one of the best Governor that will rule the state considering the numerous state of the art people oriented projects that littered across every nook and cranny of the state.

Unveils Reconstructed Iconic Hotel Presidential

In a latest development Governor of Enugu State, Dr. Peter Mbah, has unveiled the reconstructed iconic Hotel Presidential established by the administration of former Premier of the defunct Eastern Region, the now-late Dr. Michael Okpara, describing the revival of the 62-year old edifice as "a homecoming for history." Mbah, who

performed the unveiling in Enugu on Thursday, August 21, extolled the foresightedness of the former Premier, but regretted that the monument of pride had rotted away for the past 15 years. The governor explained that Hotel Presidential's revival was in line with his campaign promise to recover Enugu's moribund assets and also grow the state's economy sevenfold. Gov. Mbah said: "Sixty-two years ago, our forebears under the visionary leadership of Dr. Michael Okpara built this landmark as a symbol of Eastern Region's resilience, elegance and enterprise. "Over the decades, time and neglect dimmed that light. For about 15 years, this glorious edifice stood as an affront to our pride, as something contrary to what we represent. "We came into office with a strong pledge: to recover what belongs to our people, convert dormant assets into productive assets; turn liabilities into engines of growth. "That is why this unveiling is more than opening the doors of a hotel; it is the reopening of Enugu's confidence. It is a tangible sign that when we say Enugu is open for business, we mean business. "This hotel is a strategic enabler of our growth plan, comprising the ambitious target to grow Enugu's economy seven-fold to at least \$30 billion and to achieve a zero percent poverty headcount rate," he said. He assured that the standards for the hotel's revamp were truly world-class, because the administration "insisted on this so that when Enugu says 'welcome' to its investors, our hospitality infrastructure speaks with the same credibility as our policies."

Gov. Mbah added: "Our hospitality ecosystem today is simply inspiring: the 5,000-seat International Conference Centre (ICC) now anchors Enugu's conferencing ambitions; the adjacent 5-star, 345-room ICC Hotel under construction will deliver premium "keys" for large events; Enugu Air, which has given wings to our dreams and announced the scale of our vision to the world; And now, the renewed Hotel Presidential adds a full-service icon back into the mix. "None of this is a whimsical project; they are connecting dots on a large canvas. These assets are crucial to our aim to welcome up to three million annual tourist visits and to make Enugu the Conferencing Capital of Africa.

The economic value is already visible. This hotel alone supports hundreds of direct jobs, culinary and events teams, engineering, landscaping, suppliers, and several other opportunities. "Every conference day books our taxis and CNG buses; every visiting family discovers our art, our music, our cuisine, and our warmth. "And the signal to investors is even bigger: when government shows it can recover assets, fix the fundamentals, and protect investments, private capital follows. That is why you see momentum across other moribund assets like UPPL, Sunrise Flour Mill, Nigergas; International Conference Centre, and a host of others." He thanked the managers and concessionaire of the reconstructed hotel, Amber Hospitality, for believing in Enugu's potential, noting that "they bring on board an enviable pedigree, earned through the efficient management

of about 12 successful brands in the hospitality sector." The governor equally commended the contractors – Dilworth – for their attention to detail as well as the successive Commissioners of Works and Infrastructure and their Culture and Tourism counterpart for working to realize the project. In her address, the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Dame Ugochi Madueke, while extolling Mbah's leadership, said that "the silence has been broken; the lights are on — never to dim again; the doors are open — never to shut again; and the spirit of Enugu is back, stronger and brighter than ever." Former Deputy Governor of Enugu State, Dr. Sunday Onyebuchi, commended the governor for his speed in not only building new things, but also in reviving dead assets. "Your mantra says that tomorrow is here, but you have resurrected yesterday today," he said. Chairman, Enugu State Traditional Rulers Council, HRH Igwe Samuel Asadu, praised the governor's work rate, having commissioned Enugu Air, five transport terminals, 100 CNG buses, the reconstructed Hotel Presidential in succession under one month. "If you are not tired of commissioning projects, we will not be tired of coming out. We have never seen it this way. Your leadership in Enugu State is legendary and monumental. There is no vacancy in Lion Building in 2027," he assured. The Chairman of Enugu North LGA, Dr. Ibenaku Onoh, proclaimed the governor's transformative leadership,

