RESPONSE TO THE PETITION PRESENTED TO THE MUNICIPAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE BY THE CONCERNED CITIZENS/RESIDENTS OF HO AFTER THEIR PROTEST ON THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2023 AT THE FORECOURT OF HO MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I welcome you all to the Ho Municipal Assembly this morning.

I believe governance is a shared responsibility and for that matter, the development of Ho municipality is a shared one as well. The more reason to appreciate that you decided not to be spectators but concerned citizens as your name connotes.

If you may recall, I met your leaders about two weeks ago in this assembly concerning the Alale Bridge portion of the OLA – market road which became a bit damaged as a result of an emergency intervention to reconstruct the bridge which hitherto was becoming a death trap to both motorists and pedestrians.

At the said meeting, I acknowledged the fact that it is rather unfortunate that the restoration of that section of the road has been delayed a bit due to circumstances beyond the control of the assembly. I also made you understand that, the contract though not awarded by the assembly, I as the Municipal Chief Executive in consultation with my Assembly members and my management have decided to include the restoration of that portion of the road in our soon-to-be-awarded road contracts which would see the reconstruction of the undermentioned roads;

- 1. OLA Bypass (Scrap road).
- 2. Market Goil CK road.
- 3. The newly opened Blisam Road From Rabazey Road to Zion Junction.

Ladies and gentlemen, as we stand here now, the Assembly's tender board has completed an evaluation of the contract bids, and the report forwarded

to the Volta Regional Coordinating Council for a **Tender Review Report**, a pre-approval, and subsequent award of contracts for work to begin on these roads within the Ho township.

Fellow concerned citizens, ladies and gentlemen;

I would like to put on record that, the Municipality has benefited from road infrastructure during the tenure of the President His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akuffo Addo-led government especially during my tenure of office as MCE. Ranging from the opening of new roads, grading and reshaping as well as reconstruction of existing roads.

Permit me to mention just a few;

- 1. The completion of the 10.5 km Sokode Ho Dual carriage road.
- 2. The reconstruction of the following roads;
 - i. Residency, Civic Center, Poly Junction to Adaklu, OLA Top, and even the road just behind you to the assembly junction.

Ladies and gentlemen;

To ensure the safety of our pedestrians we also undertook the construction of **speed humps** on the following roads.

- 1. Nfodjo road around the SDA School.
- 2. C.K. Road.
- 3. Ho Aflao road.

As we speak now, contractors are on site to restore one of the roads that were destroyed by the recent floods around the children's park, after which they would move to other areas such as Adzimah Korpe, and Mawuli Gate ARS road.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, fellow concerned citizens;

I hereby seize this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to you all for staging a peaceful protest and I urge you not to relent in your efforts to see the Ho municipality develop in terms of infrastructure. I would like

to inform you that I **Divine R.K. Boss**on is in a hurry to see the Municipality develop into a beautiful city just like you all gathered here. Most especially because it is my dream that, I lead the municipality into a metropolitan status before my tenure of office. But let's not also lose sight of the fact that utilizing public funds requires due diligence and the observation of strict protocols in order not to fall short of the Public Financial Management Act.

I always say that I wish the Assembly is my personal business where I could just wake up, go to the market purchase any material I need, and instruct my Engineers to move to the site to start developmental projects.

However, we operate with strict regulations making it sometimes difficult to speed up developmental processes.

But once again as I promised you in our earlier meeting, be rest assured, that you will see action on the said portion of the road and even more road infrastructure in the days to come.

That notwithstanding, I have received your petition in good faith, I will peruse it and get back to you as soon as possible.

My special appreciation goes to the Police for ensuring your safety throughout the protest.

Thank you all for your attention.

And may the almighty God Bless Us All.....!!!!!!!