

Lives lost, property destroyed as flood sweeps Imo community



File photo for illustration.

By Chidi Nkwopara

OWERRI — With a life reportedly lost and properties destroyed, the Imo State House of Assembly has called on the state government, to immediately intervene and save residents of Works Layout, Owerri from the huge flood, ravaging the area.

Moving the motion during plenary, the Deputy Minority Leader, Clinton Amadi, explained that the action was “a show of concern and sympathy” for the residents of the flooded areas.

His words: “To avert further casualties and continued flooding of the affected streets, the burrow pit and tunnel, serving the Works Layout, should be evacuated of debris and sand.

“The call became necessary because of the lawmakers’ desire to ensure that residents of Kurume Uche Street and Standard Shoe area of Works Layout Estate, will not continue to suffer the devastating effects of flooding.

“I am deeply concerned and sympathetic for the residents of the flooded areas, as they have been facing hardship occasioned by the flood.

“Their lives and properties of the residents of the affected areas, are seriously endangered, each it rains in Owerri.

“It must be recalled that the Governor, Senator Hope Uzodinma, greatly mitigated the suffering in the people in Works Layout, by constructing the Balloon Technology Tunnel, which enabled easy flow and evacuation in flood, during the rainy season.

“This has not only been very useful to the residents but has also been working without problems until this year, due to lack of maintenance of the burrow pit.

“Investigation has shown that this burrow pit is filled, while the tunnel is blocked with sand debris, resulting in extremely slow flow of flood water, through the tunnel.”

The motion, which was seconded by the member representing Ehime Mbano state constituency, Engr Bernard Ozoemelum was co-sponsored by nine lawmakers.

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Satisfied with contributions from the members, the Speaker, Rt Hon Chike Olemgbe, put it to vote and it was unanimously adopted.

The Clerk was thereafter, directed to communicate the Resolution of the House to the Governor.