



# Chance to go on a long walk in city to honour Madiba

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A WALK to remember takes place this weekend, as the City of Tshwane prepares to host its second Mandela Remembrance Walk on Sunday.

The walk has been organised by the Gauteng Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation to commemorate the death of former statesman Nelson Mandela, and at the head of the walk will be Premier David Makhura, Sports MEC Faith Mazibuko, Tshwane mayor Solly Msimanga and the chief executive of the Nelson Mandela Foundation Sello Hatang.

The walk marks the third year since the passing of Mandela, and like the long walk he took to freedom, participants will take a 5.3km walk in his memory.

Participants from across the province walked from the Kgosi Mampuru II Correctional Facility, through the streets of the city to the Union Buildings last year.

“This time around we will move from the Union Buildings to Kgosi Mampuru, and we will pass through the city centre taking the same route used to transport his body between 1 Military Hospital and the Union Buildings,” the department said.

Every morning for three days

after he died, the cortege accompanying his body left the hospital and drove to the Union Buildings, retracing the same route in reverse every evening.

The department said this year’s route would pass through some of the iconic heritage sites in the story of South Africa’s liberation, including the Palace of Justice on Church Square, and the Women’s Living Monument.

City dwellers and travellers have been warned about temporary road closures that will take place for the march.

There will be marshals, private security and SAPS to ensure their safety throughout the walk, which

will start with a wreath laying ceremony at the Union Buildings at 8am, from where walkers will go onto Madiba Street.

The Pretoria News and City Property will host one of three water points along the route, and yesterday Pretoria News editor Val Boje said the Pretoria News remembered well the public guard of honour over this period three years ago.

“Thousands of people lined Madiba Street as the cortege made its way to the Union Buildings in December 2013, and we hosted a live broadcast by Radio 702 and international media who used the vantage point our windows gave,”

she said.

The publication was honoured to have been approached for a memory point by the organisers, she said.

City Property marketing specialist Lize Nel said they were delighted to be part of the commemoration too. “Madiba’s legacy was one of togetherness, of all South Africans joining in unity to celebrate our great nation.”

Registration forms are available at local Tshwane Municipal offices, Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation offices at 35 Rissik Street Johannesburg. They can also be accessed on [www.sacr.gauteng.gov.za](http://www.sacr.gauteng.gov.za), the department said.