

Road running made welcome return to Sasolburg



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excitement was tangible when Mohau Masoenyane from Top Runners AC-AVT in Vanderbijlpark crossed the finish line as winner of the 27th Sasol Marathon in Sasolburg in an excellent time of 02:24:43. This is a vast improvement on his third place in 2020

when he ran 02:32:05. As Comrades and Two Oceans qualifier the Sasol Marathon has over the years been very popular with athletes who wish to participate in these two prestigious ultramarathons. As such, the 2018 Comrades winner,

Ann Ashworth from Hollywoodbets AC in Durban won the ladies' event in 02:52:21. She has already completed eight Comrades marathons and will take on this gruelling event again on 28 August this year. The runner up in the men's race

was Zwene Moreng from Eskom AC FS who completed the marathon in 02:31:08, with Paul Kasu from Boksburg AC crossing the finish line third in 02:32:47.

Adel Broodryk from Murray & Roberts was the second lady in 02:58:28, followed by Katy van Meter from Phantane AC who did 03:12:39.

We therefore thank our implementation partner, the Sasolburg Athletics Club and the community of Metsimaholo

Compliance to COVID-19 regulations required that athletes could only enter on-line, primarily to avoid crowding before the race. The regulations also required that only 2 000 runners could participate in this year's event braving either the 42,2km full marathon, 21,1km half marathon, 10km race or 5km fun run. The 1 700 spots for the longer distances were sold out via on-line entries, while only a few of the 300 places were left for entry into the 5km fun run at the event.

"We were thrilled to first of all be able to sponsor the 27th Sasol Sasolburg Marathon after the COVID-19 pandemic prohibited it from taking place last year, but also with the response to this year's event. Having a positive impact in the community and the economy of Sasolburg is of great importance to us. We therefore thank our implementation partner, the Sasolburg Athletics Club and the community of Metsimaholo, including support we received from the Metsimaholo Local Municipality for making the Sasol Marathon such a successful event," said Rightwell Laxa, Senior Vice President at Sasol's Sasolburg and Ekandustria Operations.

Mangaung, Enoch Mgijima Municipalities placed under mandatory intervention

The Mangaung Metropolitan and Enoch Mgijima Local Municipalities have been placed under mandatory intervention, after experiencing significant financial and service delivery failures for a long period. In a statement last Thursday, Cabinet said the Free State Provincial Executive placed Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality under

a mandatory intervention in terms of Section 139(5) (a) and (c) of the Constitution in December 2019. A mandatory financial recovery plan was subsequently imposed on the municipality in 2020.

"After failing for more than two years to implement the financial recovery plan during the provincial intervention, the Metro has now been placed under a national intervention in terms of Section 139(7) of the Constitution. "The Enoch Mgijima

Local Municipality was also placed under mandatory intervention by the Eastern Cape Provincial Executive in terms of Section 139(5) (a) of the Constitution in 2018. However, after the municipality failed to make progress in improving its financial and service delivery performance, Cabinet decided to place it under a national intervention," Cabinet said.

The invocation of a national intervention in terms of Section 139(7) of the Constitution implies that in

both municipalities, national government will now act instead of the Provincial Executive. This type of intervention is mandatory and follows the same procedure, as Section 139(5) of the Constitution, except that national government will now directly assume responsibility for these interventions.

delegate powers to the NCR and will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team of experts," Cabinet explained. Cabinet added that no decision has yet been taken to dissolve the municipal council in terms of Section 139(5)(b) of the Constitution.

"The national intervention will take effect upon formal gazetting in the Government Gazette, however, the current Section 139(5) intervention will remain in effect until this date. The Section 139(1) intervention into the Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality will also be replaced by a Section 139 (5) (a) and (c) intervention, which will also cover the failure of the municipality to fulfil its executive obligations," Cabinet said.



"To give effect to the assumption of responsibility, National Cabinet Representatives (NCR) will shortly be deployed to both municipalities. The Minister of Finance will

Minister in The Presidency Mondli Gungubele, together with Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Minister, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, is expected to hold a media briefing next week to outline the national intervention. – SAnews.gov.za

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