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Protest to affect the Flats

By VOICE REPORTER

SEVERAL areas over the Cape Flats will be affected by the Total Shutdown movement's protests action today, organisers say.

They are Bishop Lavis, Hanover Park, Bonteheuwel, Elsies River, Beacon Valley, Tafelsig and Khayelitsha, with picketing also set to take place in Paarl.

Intersections at major arterial roads – such as the M7, Jakes Gerwel, the Stellenbosch Arterial and Valhalla Drive – will be targeted from 5am to 10am.

One of the Total Shutdown organisers, Abdul Karriem Matthews, said they would “not condone any violence whatsoever, even when faced with police brutality”, and all medical personnel would be allowed to enter and exit freely, reports the *Cape Times*.

Peaceful

“We will remain peaceful under all circumstances. Under no circumstances will we burn tyres, throw stones, damage property (private and/or public) and break down our own communities.”

Among their list of demands are:

An end to the deployment of the SANDF in our areas.

The immediate deployment of tactical response units in all the hot zones.

The reallocation of SAPS, from the rich suburbs to the hot zones.

A Mass Public Works Programme at a living wage as unemployment, poverty and inequality creates the breeding ground for organised crime.

The building of drug rehabilitation centres in our communities, especially for our youth from crippling substance abuse addiction.

Police protection for train commuters as well as police presence along taxi routes and reassuring safety measures at bus and taxi ranks.