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Men are at work on Beyers Naude Drive and Handel Street in Standerton.

## Sanral to maintain Dr Nelson Mandela Drive following inclusion into the R23

South African National Road Agency Limited (Sanral) has taken over Nelson Mandela Drive in Standerton.

The executive mayor of Lekwa Municipality, Delani Thabethe said, "The call and several engagements that began early in 2022 by the Lekwa Municipality with Sanral, the national Department of Transport, the premier's office in Mpumalanga, the Department of Public Works and the Gert Sibande District Municipality has finally produced some positive results since Sanral has taken over Nelson Mandela Drive."

The official takeover and inclusion of this section of the road into the R23 national road was officially declared by the Minister of Transport, Sindisiwe Chikunga, in the government gazette number 49656.

Thabethe further added this was a result of extensive engagements with both the national and provincial governments that maintenance of the roads connecting provinces should be the responsibility of Sanral as roads play a vital role in the national economy through goods that are being transported using these roads.

"Sanral has officially taken over the maintenance of this road and begun fixing potholes on this very important road."

The Minister of Transport, Sindisiwe Chikunga, said in the government gazette that she declared the section of the road beginning



A workers is repairing the holes on Beyers Naude Drive and Handel Street in Standerton.

from the intersection known as Dr Nelson Mandela Drive and Leask Street at the time of declaration, continuing in a general northwest direction along the street known as Dr Nelson Mandela Drive and Handel Street continuing in the general northern direction along the street, Walter Sisulu Drive up to the junction at the national road the R23, also known as the intersection between the streets known as Walter Sisulu Drive and Krogh Street in Standerton, as a national road.

Thabethe said the engagement

between the municipality and the national Department of Transport and Sanral might lead to Sanral also taking over critical roads in the Lekwa municipal region, including the R50 next to Early Bird and Beyers Naudé Drive and other roads that previously belonged to the national and provincial governments.

"This will enable us to direct our limited financial resources to the internal streets in town and our residential areas," concluded Thabethe.

