



Publication: Witness - Main

Title: ANC MOURNS DEATH OF FORMER KZN MEC MAHLABA

Publish date: 06 Jul 2026

Page: 1

Reach: 6180

AVE: R 8463.51

Author: CHRIS NDALISO



ANC MOURNS DEATH OF FORMER KZN MEC MAHLABA

CHRIS NDALISO

The ANC in KwaZulu-Natal is mourning the death of former KwaZulu-Natal Public Works and Human Settlements MEC and ANC Provincial Task Team (PTT) member Dr Ntuthuko Mahlaba (**pictured**). Mahlaba died after being struck by a vehicle while out on his morning jog on Saturday. He was taken to hospital, where he later succumbed to his injuries.

At the time of his death, Mahlaba was serving as a PTT member, a Member of the Provincial Legislature (MPL) and chairperson of committees in the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature. He previously served as mayor of Newcastle Local Municipality and as MEC for Sports, Arts and Culture, before later serving as MEC for Public Works and Human Settlements.

In a statement, the ANC in KwaZulu-Natal said it was shocked by Mahlaba's sudden death and conveyed its condolences to his family, friends and comrades.

"The news of his sudden departure has cast a dark, painful and impenetrable cloud over the entire province and the broader liberation movement. We are frozen in disbelief that a life so full of vigour, promise and revolutionary commitment could be extinguished so abruptly at the dawn of the morning," the party said.

The ANC described Mahlaba as a foundational pillar of provincial leadership, the long-serving chairperson of the ANC in the Mbuso Kubheka Region (formerly Emalahleni), and a former chairperson of the ANC Youth League.

"Death has robbed us of a revolutionary doctor and a disciplined cadre who commanded the respect of friends and political foes alike. As a medical doctor by profession, he chose to heal both the physical bodies of our people in public hospitals and the socioeconomic wounds of his community through the radical programmes of the ANC," the statement read.

DA Amajuba constituency head Dr Imran Keeka said his engagements with Mahlaba, both during Mahlaba's time as Newcastle mayor and, more recently, as committee chairperson in the KZN Legislature, were always professional. "Our engagements with him, even when we did not always share the same views, were always conducted with mutual respect, cordiality and professionalism," Keeka said.

Transport and Human Settlements MEC Siboniso Duma said his department would allow police to handle the matter through normal procedure, adding that the Road Traffic Inspectorate had informed him Mahlaba was struck by a car in Allen Street, Newcastle.