



# WORLD ATHLETICS ROAD RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS SAN DIEGO 25

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2025

This Transportation Overview aims to educate members of the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership to ensure members feel confident that adequate parking and transportation options have been provided by the Event Organizer to the participating runners on Race Weekend. Our intention is to address the parking and traffic concerns of the Cultural District and to work in partnership to create a Transportation Plan that safeguards their own guest experience and ensures the day-to-day park operations remain uninterrupted. The below write-up outlines the high-level transportation capabilities and options for the event with proven success in the San Diego market. Working with the Partnership and all of the Park stakeholders, the Transportation and Parking Plan will be constantly adjusted and enhanced.

## TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW

### **1. Parking**

Downtown San Diego has a huge inventory of participant parking options which are fully accessible now through the popular app, SpotHero Parking. With that, SpotHero offers event partnerships where they create a landing page specific to your event, accessible online or via the SpotHero app - all of which is communicated in event information. They work closely with event organizers to pin drop the Start Line or Event Venue so that participants can see the closest parking lots available to them on race day. SpotHero also has the capability to work with local parking garages / lots they already have established relationships with, to open their locations earlier to ensure participants have early morning parking options. Additionally, as we get closer to the event and have a better assessment of the supply and our demand, we can and will work with ACE and other operators to rent out entire parking lots for our runners as we have for the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon VIP Program.

There will be no runner / participant / event spectator parking in the Balboa Park lots throughout Race Weekend. This will be communicated in all event information, and the Event Organizer will provide on-site security, signage, and lot closure for all Balboa Park lots consistent with the Partnership's wishes / directions.

### **2. Laurel Street / Cabrillo Bridge Closures**

The event organizers have both changed some of the proposed courses and time schedules so that now Laurel Street and the Cabrillo Bridge will only be closed until 11:00am on Saturday and 8:30am on Sunday (previously 2:30pm on Saturday and 12:45pm on Sunday), during which time there will be simple detours put in place to direct staff and guests into the Cultural District area on the east side of the Bridge.

### **3. Participant Shuttles**

The event weekend shuttle program will be a crucial piece of our participant experience since there are no parking options at the Balboa Park venue. The plan will consist of various pick-up locations around San Diego for participants to hop on once they've made it downtown using whatever race morning transportation they decide on. Locations may include, but are not limited to Petco Park, San Diego Convention Center, Fashion Valley Mall and Snapdragon Stadium. We will look to partner with local transportation services such as Old Town Trolley who are local and experienced in providing this type of event service in San Diego.

#### **4. Walking**

Walking to and from downtown hotels, parking lots, and transportation stops / hubs will be strongly encouraged as everything downtown is less than 1.75 miles from the competition venue on the west side of Balboa Park. Walking will serve as an excellent warm-up and cool-down for the runners as it always has for the Rock 'n' Roll Marathons & 1/2 Marathons. This is also consistent with the Championships' emphasis on sustainability and our desire to minimize the use of cars when possible.

#### **5. Park Boulevard**

Park Boulevard will remain open at all times during Race Weekend, even on Sunday from 6:30 - 8:45am during the early part of the Half Marathon when the race exits Balboa Park at President's Way and runs south on Park Blvd before turning east / left on Broadway. Using a "Traffic Valve" the two center lanes remain open for vehicular traffic (one for southbound traffic and one for northbound traffic) while the runners are moved back and forth between the right and left lanes.

#### **6. Ride Share**

Ride Share will always be recommended and accompanied by detailed drop off / pick up locations typically selected / approved by the San Diego Police Department. Historically the Balboa Park ride share drop-off locations have been on Sixth Ave south of Balboa Park. There are **also** other opportunities Uber Business offers event organizers to incentivize participants to use ride share with promotional discount codes only usable on race days.

#### **7. Coaster**

The Coaster offers event cross promotional opportunities for participants to park and ride utilizing the coaster down to San Diego / Santa Fe Depot. Tickets can be purchased in advance online or at the expo. Perks include the ability to utilize early morning Coaster service on each race day.

#### **8. Bike Valet**

In conjunction with organizations such as the San Diego Bike Coalition, the Bike Valet event movement continues to grow and thrive in rider-friendly communities like San Diego. Participants have the option to ride their bike to the event where it will be parked and secured until they are back. This service is free to participants and is provided by one of the many local bike organizations to raise money and promote environmentally friendly transportation.