

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



City of Duluth - Police Department

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DATE: 6/20/2025
SUBJECT: Grandmas Marathon Traffic Advisory
BY: Sergeant Jason Eikam

NATURE OF INCIDENT:
CASE NO.:
INCIDENT DATE:
INCIDENT TIME:
INCIDENT LOCATION:

Grandmas Marathon Traffic Advisory

PARKING LOT CLOSURE-

The Northwest Iron Lot will close at 6:00 a.m. for race setup and equipment deliveries and remain closed until after the race. A limited amount of public parking will be available Tuesday, June 17 through Thursday, June 19 only.

Wednesday, June 18

PARKING LOT CLOSURE-

The Lake City Lot will begin to have partial closures for race setup and equipment deliveries. Starting Thursday, June 19, the lot will be fully closed and remain closed until after the race.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY-

Crews will be installing a temporary pedestrian bridge over Canal Park Drive, just south of Buchanan Street, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The road will remain open, but motorists should expect short delays during this time. Bridge construction will be completed by mid-afternoon on Thursday, June 19.

Thursday, June 19

PARKING LOT CLOSURE-

The Lake City Lot will fully close for event set-up and remain closed until after the race.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY-

Bleachers will be installed in the parking spaces along Canal Park Drive early morning on Thursday, June 19. These parking spaces will be unavailable until after the race.

Friday, June 20

PARKING LOT CLOSURE-

The Lighthouse Lot will close for race setup and equipment deliveries and remain closed until after the race.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY-

At 4:00 a.m., Canal Park Drive between Railroad Street and Buchanan Street will close to most traffic to allow for Grandma's Marathon finish line set up. Hotel guests will have limited use of the road to access their hotels along Canal Park Drive on Friday, June 20. Traffic accessing locations south of Buchanan Street should use South Lake Avenue instead of Canal Park Drive.

The impacted sections of Canal Park Drive will remain closed to traffic until after the race, late on Saturday, June 21.

WILLIAM A. IRVIN 5K

The William A. Irvin 5K will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 20, and the race will have the following effects on traffic and parking in and around Canal Park:

- Harbor Drive — behind the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC) — will be closed to traffic on event weekend.
- Portions of Railroad Street will close at 12:30 p.m. for the duration of the race. Motorists should expect delays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. between Lake Avenue and 5th Avenue West.
- The Great Lakes Aquarium parking lot will not be accessible from 12:30 p.m. until approximately 2:15 p.m.
- The Pier B Resort and Bayfront Festival Park parking lots can be accessed ONLY from the west on Railroad Street between 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.
- Motorists should watch for "No Parking" signs, barricades, and officers directing traffic when driving in the area of this event. Most traffic should return to normal by 2:30 p.m.

ACCESS TO THE DULUTH ENTERTAINMENT CONVENTION CENTER (DECC)-

Motorists can access the DECC parking lot via the North Gate during the entire event and via the East Gate until 11:30 a.m. The East Gate will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the event and will then re-open.

Vehicles on I-35 North using the 5th Avenue West exit can either continue straight to Lake Avenue or turn right onto 5th Avenue West to access the DECC parking ramp.

EXITING THE DULUTH ENTERTAINMENT CONVENTION CENTER (DECC)-

Motorists can leave the DECC parking ramp during the entire event via the North & West Gates, as well as the parking ramp exit. After 2:00 p.m., motorists will also be able to exit via the East Gate.

Saturday, June 21

TRAFFIC ADVISORY-

Crews will be installing a temporary pedestrian bridge over Superior Street, just east of the Lake Avenue intersection, between 2:00 a.m. and 5:30 a.m., for pedestrian crossing during the event. Superior Street will close at 2:00 a.m. between Lake Avenue and 1st Avenue East.

ROAD CLOSURES-

The Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon will begin at 6:00 a.m. and Grandma's Marathon will begin at 7:45 a.m. on Saturday, June 21. Those races will have the following effects on traffic and parking in and around Duluth, including up the North Shore:

- Scenic Highway 61, between McQuade Road and Ryan Road, will close at 3:45 a.m. for half marathon start line setup.
- All of Scenic Highway 61, along Lake Superior between Duluth to Two Harbors, will close to traffic at 4:15 a.m.

Motorists should slow down and be alert to special signing and lane closures on the MN-61 Expressway just south of Two Harbors starting at 4:15 a.m.

- All access roads between the MN-61 Expressway and Scenic Highway 61 — including Isackson Road, Salakka Road, Central Avenue, Alseth Road, Lakewood Road, Homestead Road, Ryan Road, and McQuade Road — will close at 4:15 a.m.
- Harbor Drive, from the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC) East Gate to the Great Lakes Aquarium, will be closed to traffic for the event.

- Most avenues leading to London Road in Duluth will close at 4:30 a.m.
- Starting at 2:00 a.m., Superior Street between Lake Avenue and 1st Avenue East will close for the bridge installation above.
- Starting at 5:30 a.m., the following roads will close to traffic and will remain closed until the end of the races.

~All of London Road

~Superior Street between 12th Avenue East and 5th Avenue West

~Michigan Street between 4th Avenue East and 5th Avenue West

~Commerce Street, Railroad Street, Lake Place Drive, and Canal Park Drive

- The southbound lanes of I-35 between 21st Avenue East and Lake Avenue will close at 4:30 a.m.
- The northbound lanes of I-35 between 26th Avenue East and Mesaba Avenue will close at 5:30 a.m.
- Northbound traffic on I-35 will be diverted up Mesaba Avenue to 2nd Street beginning at 5:30 a.m.
- Westbound traffic on 1st Street will not be able to access Mesaba Avenue and will instead be diverted to Superior Street and I-35 at 6th Avenue West beginning at 5:30 a.m.

I-35 and most other roadways closed for Grandma's Marathon will reopen by approximately 3:30 p.m.

DETOURS-

The following detours will all be in place beginning at 5:30 a.m.:

- **EASTBOUND** — Traffic will be directed to use 2nd Street from Mesaba Avenue to 21st Avenue East. Traffic will then use 21st Avenue Avenue East to access Superior Street and then continue east on Superior Street. Additionally, drivers traveling eastbound can also use 1st or 4th Streets.
- **WESTBOUND** — Traffic will be directed to use Superior Street from the MN-61 Expressway to 21st Avenue East. Traffic will then use 21st Avenue East to access 3rd Street and then continue west to Mesaba Avenue. Additionally, drivers traveling westbound can also use 1st or 4th Streets.

ACCESS

PARK POINT & CANAL PARK-

Motorists wanting to access Park Point or the Canal Park area during Grandma's Marathon on Saturday should use 5th Avenue West and follow signs and officer directions. There will be no motorist access to Park Point or Canal Park via the Lake Avenue-Superior Street intersection during the race.

DULUTH ENTERTAINMENT CONVENTION CENTER (DECC)-

Motorists wanting to access the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC) or the Bayfront Festival Park area during Grandma's Marathon should use 5th Avenue West and follow signs and officer directions. Motorists can also use Garfield Avenue from the west to access Railroad Street. There will be no motorist access to the DECC or Bayfront Festival Park via Lake Avenue during the race.

LONDON ROAD-

All of London Road will be closed to traffic from 5:30 a.m. until approximately 3:00 p.m. Local residents along London Road can use Superior Street and Jefferson Street to access the avenues above London Road during the race. Spectators may park on these open avenues and side streets and are encouraged to continue using the sides of London Road for watching the race.

DULUTH DEPOT, DULUTH LIBRARY, & GATEWAY TOWERS-

Motorists wanting to access the Duluth Depot, the Duluth Library, or Gateway Towers during Grandma's Marathon should use Superior Street and 6th Avenue West.

PARKING

PARKING IS NOT ALLOWED ON ANY PART OF THE RACECOURSE. Please observe the posted "No Parking" signs. Violators will be ticketed and

towed.

CANAL PARK AREA-

Motorists wanting to park near Canal Park are encouraged to use the lots at Bayfront Festival Park, the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC), the Great Lakes Aquarium, or in downtown Duluth. Downtown parking ramps will have the easiest access on race day, due to the congestion near the DECC and in Canal Park, and are in walking distance to the finish area.

Motorists wanting to access the DECC or the Bayfront Festival Park area during Grandma's Marathon should use 5th Avenue West and follow signs and officer directions. Motorists can also use Garfield Avenue from the west to access Railroad Street. There will be no motorist access to the DECC or Bayfront Festival Park via Lake Avenue during the race.

DOWNTOWN DULUTH

On-street and public ramp parking will be available along Superior Street and 1st Street between 6th Avenue East and Lake Avenue.

Michigan Street, between 4th Avenue East and 5th Avenue West, will close to traffic during Grandma's Marathon. No on-street parking will be allowed on Michigan Street. Motorists will NOT BE ABLE TO EXIT parking ramps along this stretch until the race ends Saturday afternoon.

Please remember to follow officer signals and signage to ensure this is a safe event for all.

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