



Welcome to Relay 101

DCFC | September 29, 2026 | 6:00 pm

Important Dates to Remember

October 7, 2026: Last day to defer your teams' 2026 entry to 2027.

October 9, 2026: Final deadline for online changes to Legs 2-5. After this date, all changes to Legs 2-5 must be made in person at the Health & Fitness Expo.

October 16 & 17, 2026: Health & Fitness Expo at Huntington Place. Friday, 1-7 pm & Saturday, 10-6 pm.

October 18, 2026: Race Day!



2026 Detroit Marathon Relay

Number of Teams for 2026: 287



Divisions:

- *Male (All Male)
- *Female (All Female)
- *Open (co-ed, at least one per gender)
- *Male Masters (ALL males over 40)
- *Female Masters (ALL females over 40)
- *Open Masters (co-ed, at least one per gender, ALL over 40)

Award Listings:

Overall Male/Female/Open

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will receive plaques

Masters Male/Female/Open

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will receive plaques

5 plaques will be mailed out. Non-participating team captains will not receive a plaque.

Awards will be given based on chip time not clock time. GPS data will not be accepted.

Marathon Relay Legs

Leg Number	Location	Mile Marker	Distance from Previous (miles)
Relay Start	W. Fort St. (between 3rd & John C. Lodge Service Dr.)	0	0
Leg 1	Washington & Lafayette	8.89	8.89
Leg 2	W. Warren Ave. (between Avery & Trumbull)	13.16	4.27
Leg 3	Russell St. (between Alfred & Division)	16.55	3.4
Leg 4	E. Lafayette St. & W. Mt. Elliott St.	19.54	2.99
Leg 5 Relay Finish	Woodward Ave. (between Larned St. & Congress St.)	26.2	6.66

Relay Exchange Locations

- R1** Washington Blvd. & W. Lafayette
- R2** W. Warren & Trumbull
- R3** Russell St. & Alfred St.
- R4** E. Lafayette / DCFC Fieldhouse

2026 MARATHON TEAM RELAY COURSE



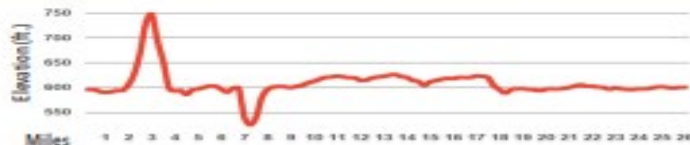
★ Detroit, Michigan, USA

START LINE
W. Fort St. & 2nd Ave.

FINISH LINE
Woodward & Congress

Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Detroit Marathon Elevation



Legend

- Mile Markers
- Fluid Stations
- Medical Stations
- Course Nutrition
- Health & Fitness Expo (Huntington Place)
- Conquered After Party
- msufcu
- Relay Exchange

USATF-certified. Subject to city approval.

Health & Fitness Expo



Packet Pickup: Friday 10/16 & Saturday 10/17



Location & Hours

- ★ Huntington Place
- ★ Friday, 1-7 pm & Saturday, 10-6 pm

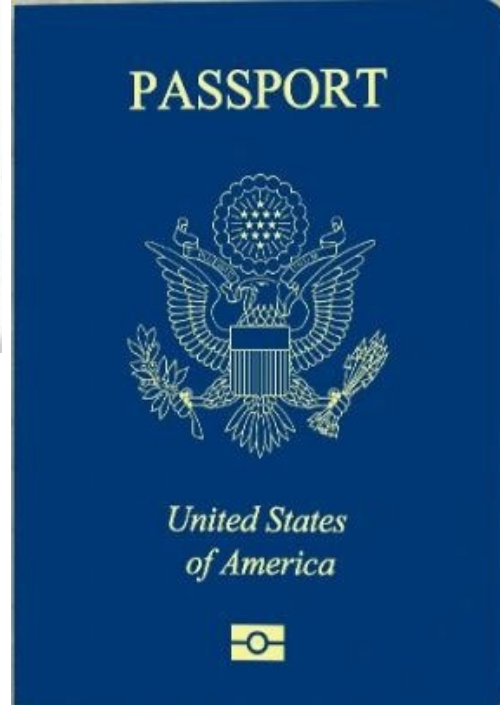
Items to bring

- ★ Photo ID
- ★ WHTI Compliant document (Leg 1)

Packet contents

- ★ Long-sleeved technical shirt
- ★ Distance sticker
- ★ Neck gaiter
- ★ Bib(s)
- ★ Safety pins
- ★ Clear bag for Gear Check

Relay Leg 1 Bib Pick-up: WHTI-Compliant Examples



Relay Leg Bibs



Relay leg bib colors

- ★ Leg 1 Gray
- (International)
- ★ Legs 2-4 White
- ★ Leg 5 Purple

Wearing your bib

- ★ Pin on front side
- ★ Ensure it is visible

Bib info.

- ★ QR code
- ★ Gear tag
- ★ Zone number
- ★ White box
- ★ Corral letter



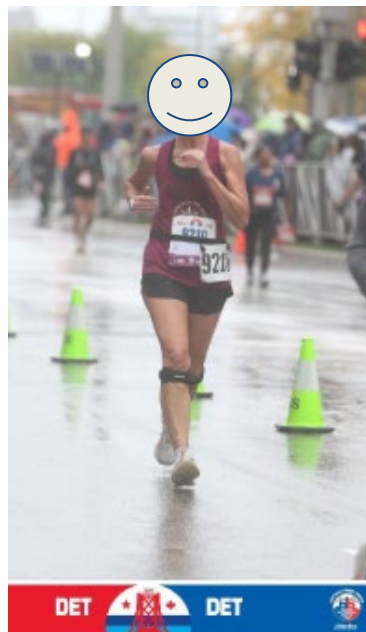
Relay Team Bib (sample)



Relay Bib Placement



Team Bib and Leg Bib
must be visible at all times



Multiple Legs=Multiple Bibs
Leg 1 bib and Leg 5 bib are the
most important to be visible at
all times if running multiple legs.

Crossing the Border



Entering Canada



International requirements

- ★ WHTI-compliant document
- ★ Leg 1 gray bib
 - Ensure it is visible

Here is the WHTI link for document examples:

<https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/travel-voyage/td-dv-eng.html>

Entering the United States



Requirements

- ★ WHTI-compliant document
- ★ Leg 1 gray bib
 - Ensure it is visible

Bus Information



TO: Bus staging to
Exchanges

FROM: Exchanges to Bus
Staging

Bus Staging to Relay
Reunion (walking distance)

- Be on time!
- No buses to Start Line or Exchange 1
- NO BACKPACKS
- NO GEAR CHECK at Exchanges

Relay Bus Timeline

Exchange 2 Midtown/Start of Leg 3

★ Bus Staging is located at Monroe St. between Randolph St. & Farmer St. 6:00 am - Start boarding, buses leave when full

7:00 am - The last bus leaves TO the start of Leg 3

★ Your only chance to board a bus for the start of Leg 3 is between 6:00 am-7:00 am. 11:30 am - The last bus available from Exchange 2 to Bus Staging

Exchange 3 Eastern Market/Start of Leg 4

★ Bus Staging is located at Randolph between E. Lafayette St. & Fc

★ Buses will run a loop between Bus Staging and Eastern Market

7:15 am - Start boarding, buses leave when full

12:00 pm - The last bus available from Exchange 3 to Bus Staging

Exchange 4 DCFC/Start of Leg 5

★ Bus Staging is located at Randolph between Monroe St & E. Lafayette St.

★ Buses will run a loop between Bus Staging and

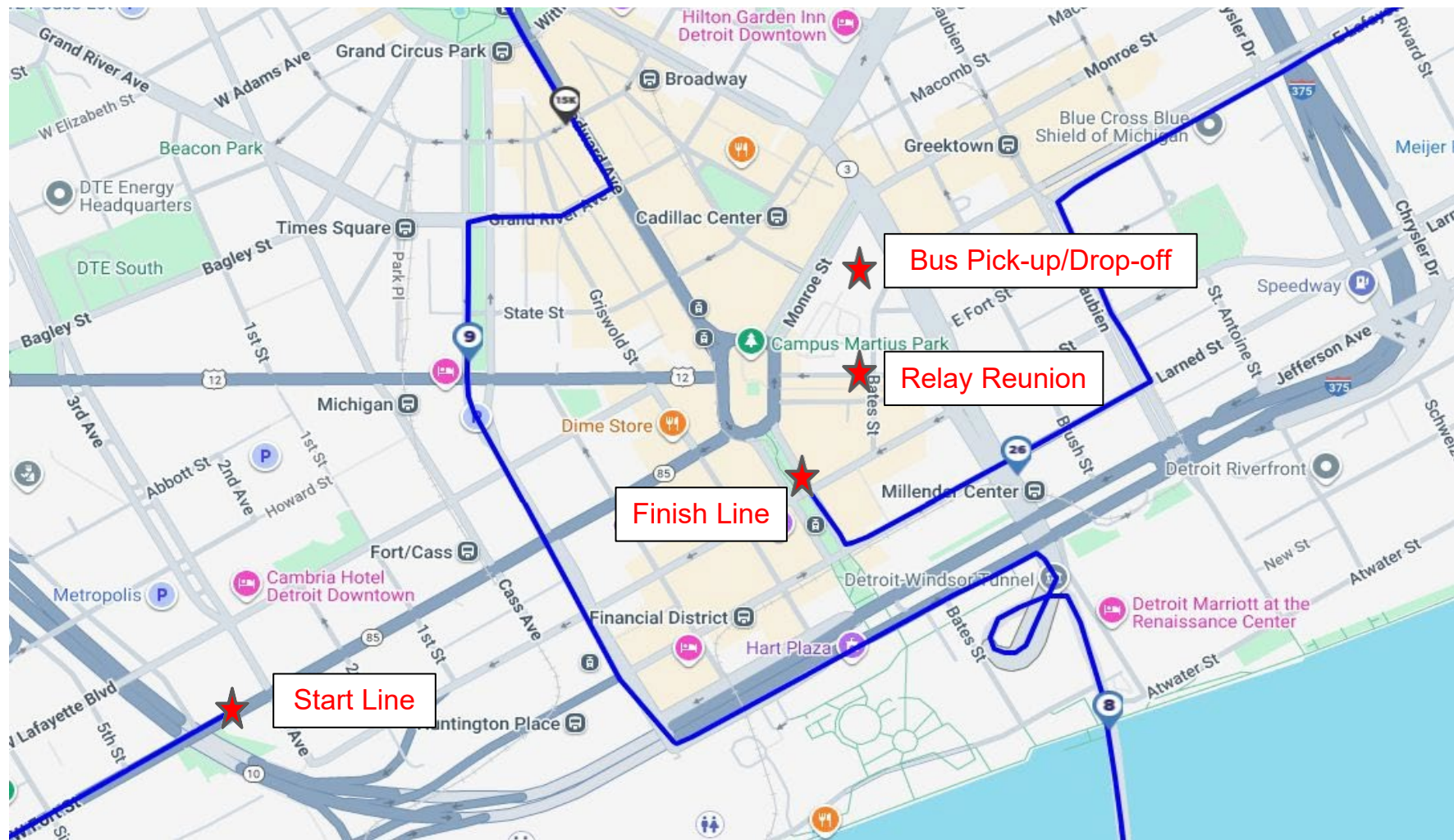
DCFC 8:00 am - Start boarding, buses leave when full

1:00 pm - The last bus available from Exchange 4 to Bus Staging

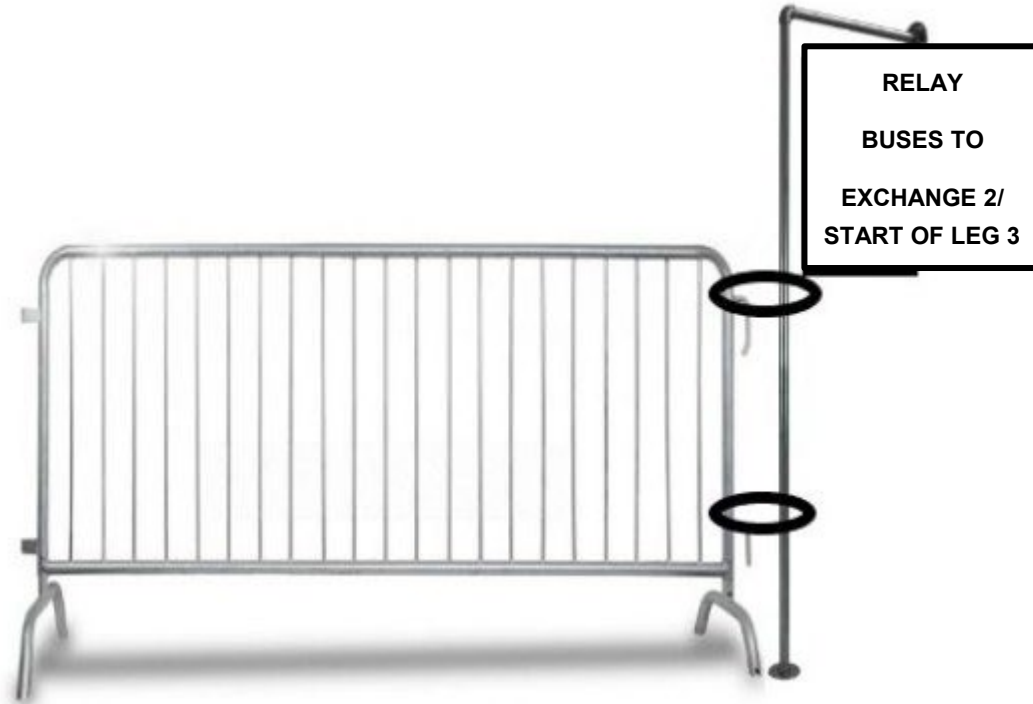


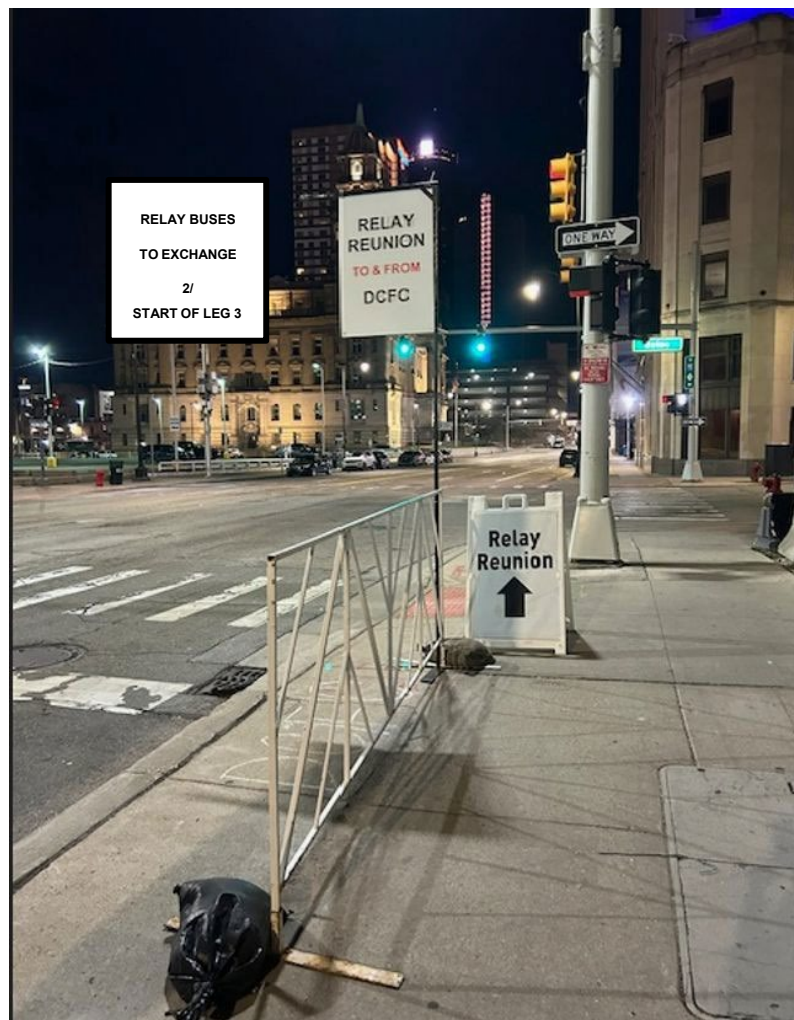
Map of downtown Detroit showing relay bus routes for the 2016 Paralympic Games. The map includes major streets like Grand River Ave, Woodward Ave, E. Lafayette, E. Fort, and E. Michigan. Key locations marked include Library Park, Farmer St, and the Cadillac Center. Four relay bus routes are highlighted:

- Relay Buses TO Exchange 2/ Start of LEG 3
- Relay Buses TO Exchange 4/ Start of LEG 5
- Relay Buses TO Exchange 3/ Start of LEG 4
- Relay Reunion



Bus Staging Signage





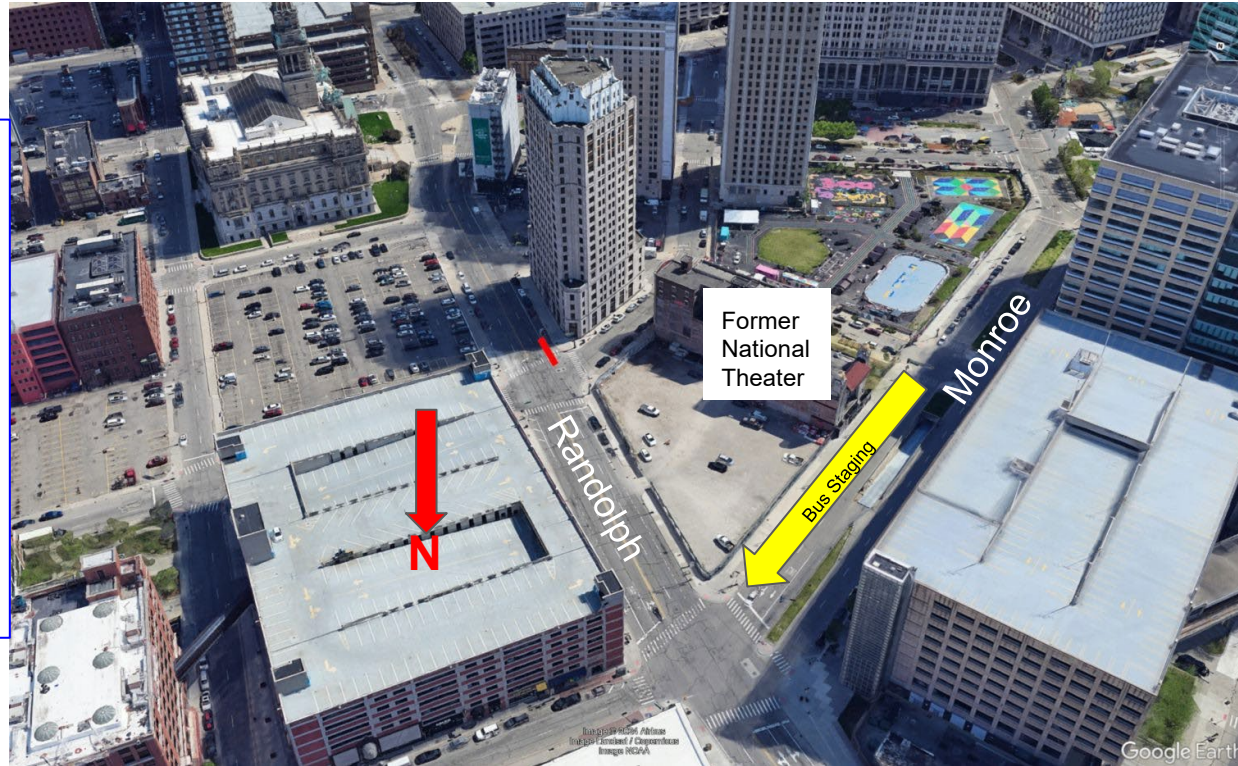
Bus Staging to Start of Leg 2

Bus Staging To Exchange 2 Start of Leg 3

Address:
156 Monroe
(Near Buffalo Wild Wings)

GOOGLE MAPS COORDINATES

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/9mHEVF7887ihFwK68>



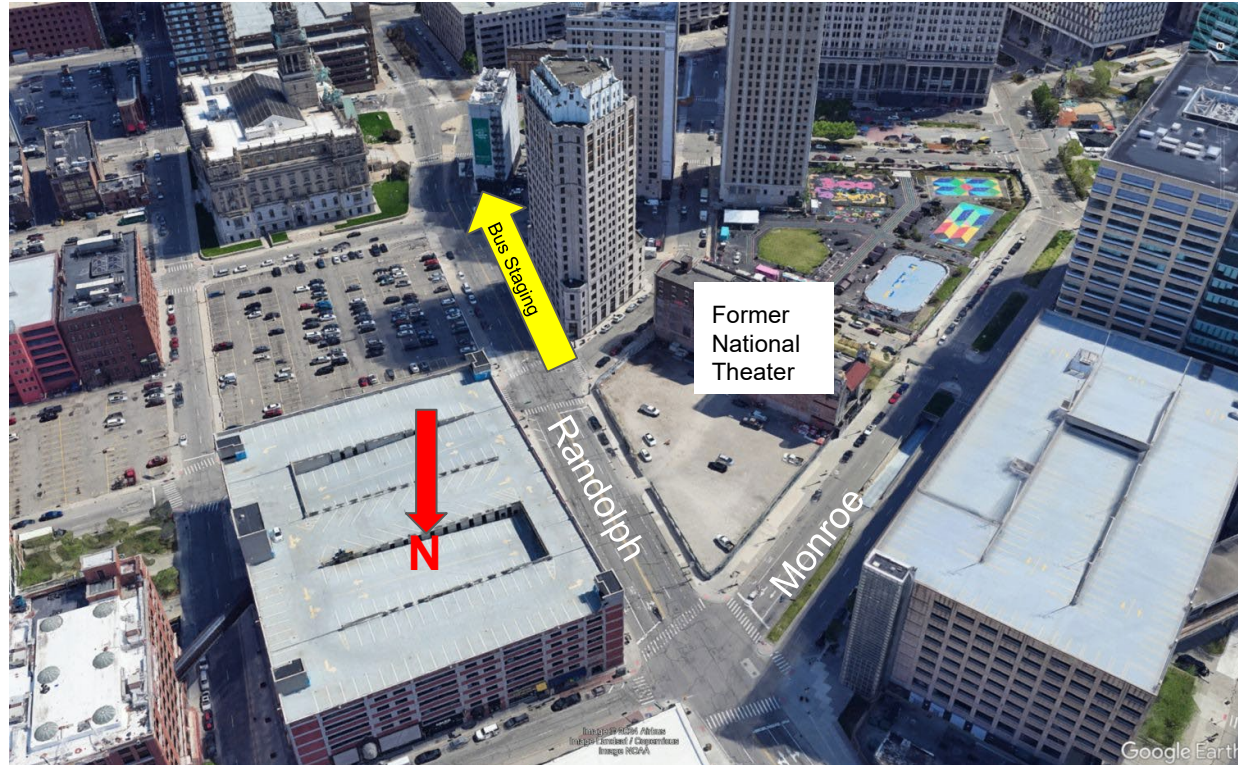
Buffalo Wild
Wings

Bus Staging to Start of Leg 3

Bus Staging To Exchange 3 Start of Leg 4

Address:
735 Randolph
(South of Buffalo Wild Wings)

GOOGLE MAPS COORDINATES
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/j5hrXgyTHwcEJUDh8>



Buffalo Wild
Wings

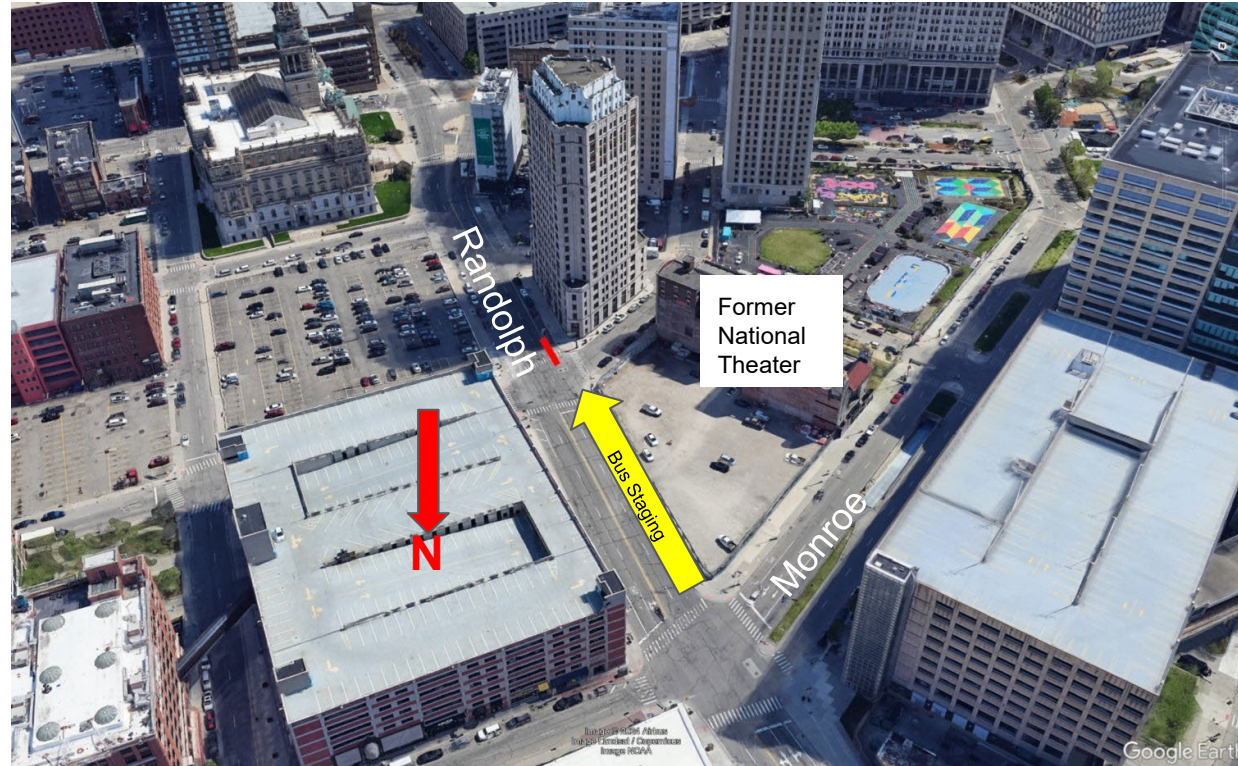
Bus Staging to Start of Leg 4

Bus Staging To Exchange 4 Start of Leg 5

Address:
1001 Randolph
(Near Buffalo Wild Wings)

GOOGLE MAPS COORDINATES

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/gmM4bb27FPuAxyin9>



Buffalo Wild
Wings

Relay Exchanges



Relay Information & Recommendations

DO:

- ✓ **Wear your individual bib at all times.** This identifies your race and leg to the event and will grant you access to necessary areas.
- ✓ **While on the course, make sure your team timing bib belt is visible at all times.**
- ✓ **Communicate with your team prior to the race.** A group text is recommended.
- ✓ **Know who is running what leg and their expected pace.**
- ✓ **Know what your teammates are wearing to easily identify them at the exchanges.**
- ✓ **Stick around and cheer on the final runner.** Enjoy Relay Reunion with your whole team afterwards.

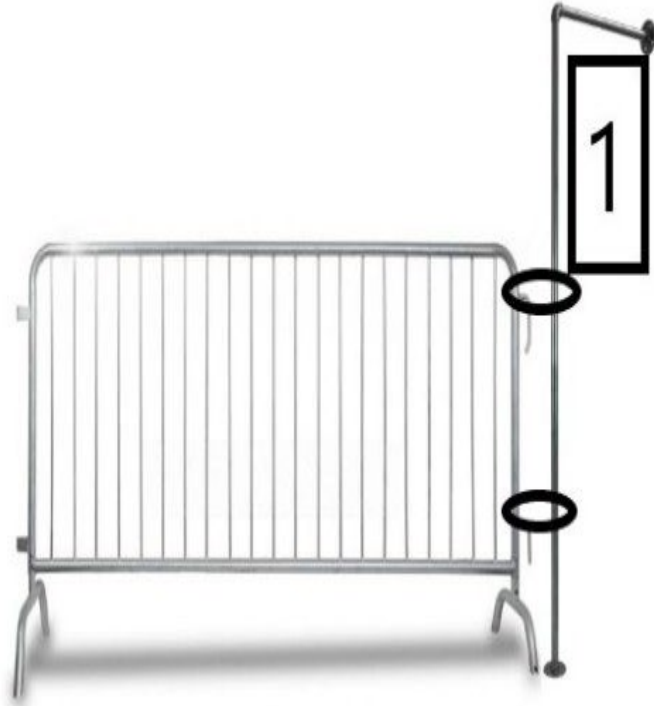
DO NOT:

- ❑ Bring backpacks on the bus, as they are not permitted.
- ❑ Bring anything to bus staging or the exchanges that you will not be running with.
- ❑ Be late if you need a bus. Buses run on strict schedules and cannot wait. Plan your morning commute and allow plenty of time to avoid race day issues.
- ❑ Forget your passport or Enhanced ID if you are running internationally.

Important Exchange Information

- Each relay team will have a zone number at each relay exchange. This will be printed on your bib as number 1, 2, or 3.
- You will wear your individual leg bib and the team timing bib belt. Once you arrive at the exchange, you will hand off the team bib belt to the next runner on your team after you have crossed the timing area.
- If you are running more than one leg **consecutively**, you must still run through the exchange timing area as you continue on the course.
- Pay close attention to the signage and your distance on the course as you approach the upcoming exchange point.
- Water, bananas, and a heat sheet will be provided at each exchange.
- After you have completed your leg, you will get on a bus that will take you back to Relay Bus Staging, where you will then walk to Relay Reunion.
- Relay Reunion (located at Cadillac Square near Randolph) will be where you will collect your food bag, meet up with your team, and receive your medal from the Leg 5 team member.

Relay Exchange Zones



Relay Start/ Leg 1 (8.89 miles)

- 7:00 am start at W. Fort St and 3rd
- Line up in the wave corral corresponding to the letter in the lower right corner of your bib.
- **Relay Corrals are A-F ONLY**
- You may move back a corral (**not forward**) only through F
- Since you are running internationally you must carry your WHTI compliant document.
- You will finish at the start of Leg 2.
- Once you've completed your leg, go to Relay Reunion (Cadillac Square near Randolph Street), the official post-race area to collect your food, meet up with your team, and collect your medal from the Leg 5 team member.

Relay Start/ Start of Leg 1: W. Fort St. and 3rd



Exchange 1, Start of Leg 2 (4.27 miles)

- This leg starts at Washington & Lafayette.
- There will be no bus going to the start of this leg as it is within walking distance in the downtown area. The finish line is just a few blocks east at Campus Martius and Cadillac Square.
- You will finish at the start of Leg 3.
- Once you've completed your leg, board the designated bus to Bus Staging, then you will walk to Relay Reunion (Cadillac Square near Randolph Street), the official post-race area to collect your food, meet up with your team, and collect your medal from the Leg 5 team member.

Exchange 1, Start of Leg 2: Washington & Lafayette



Exchange 2, Start of Leg 3 (3.4 miles)

- Buses will be located on Monroe St. between Farmer St. and Randolph St., your bib is your ticket to enter the bus.
- Buses will begin boarding at 6 a.m. The last bus departs promptly at 7:00 a.m. There will be no further transportation to the Midtown Exchange. Do not be late. Once runners are dropped off, these buses will wait to be filled with Leg 2 finishers before departing back to Bus Staging. Once these buses leave Midtown, they do NOT return to pick up more Leg 2 finishers.
- The bus will take you to the bus pick-up/ drop-off located at Midtown (W. Hancock St. and Trumbull).
- You will finish at the start of Leg 4.
- Once you've completed your leg, board the designated bus back to Bus Staging then you will walk to Relay Reunion (Cadillac Square near Randolph Street), the official post-race area to collect your food, meet up with your team, and collect your medal from the Leg 5 team member.

2026 Detroit Free Press Marathon | Sunday, October 18, 2026
Exchange 2 Midtown - Bus drop-off, pick-up



Exchange 2, Start of Leg 3: W. Warren Ave. between Avery & Trumbull



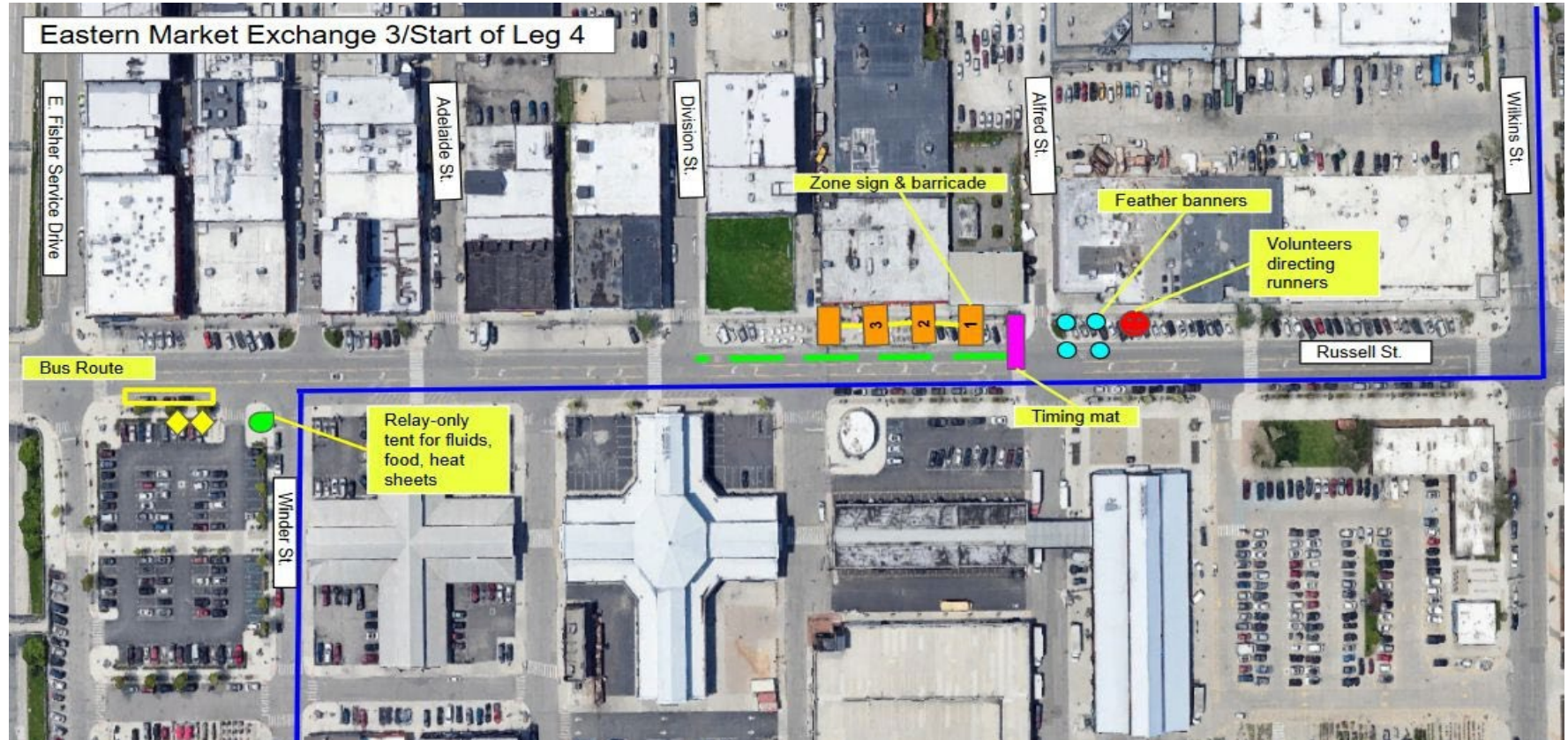
Exchange 3, Start of Leg 4 (2.99 miles)

- Buses will be located on Randolph between E. Lafayette St and E. Fort St, your bib is your ticket to enter the bus.
- Buses will begin boarding at 7:15 a.m. and will depart as soon as they are full. Buses will run a loop between Bus Staging and Eastern Market, departing Eastern Market roughly every 10 minutes, until 12:00 pm.
- The bus will take you to the exchange located at Eastern Market (Russell Street between Alfred and Division).
- You will finish at the start of Leg 5.
- Once you've completed your leg, board the designated bus to Bus Staging, then you will walk to Relay Reunion (Cadillac Square near Randolph Street), the official post-race area to collect your food, meet up with your team, and collect your medal from the Leg 5 team member.

2026 Detroit Free Press Marathon | Sunday, October 18, 2026
Exchange 3 Eastern Market - Bus drop-off, pick-up



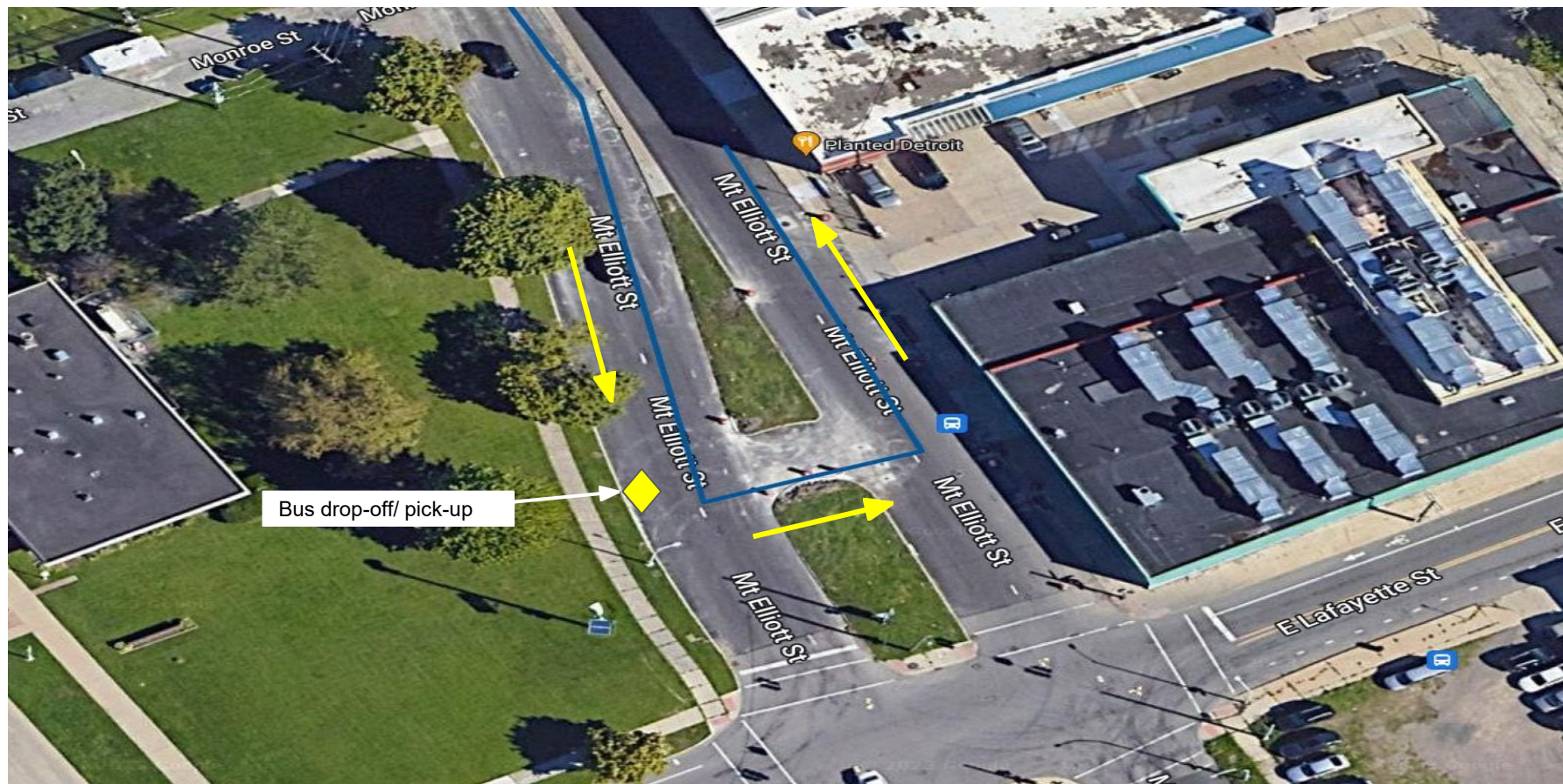
Exchange 3, Start of Leg 4: Russell St. between Alfred & Division



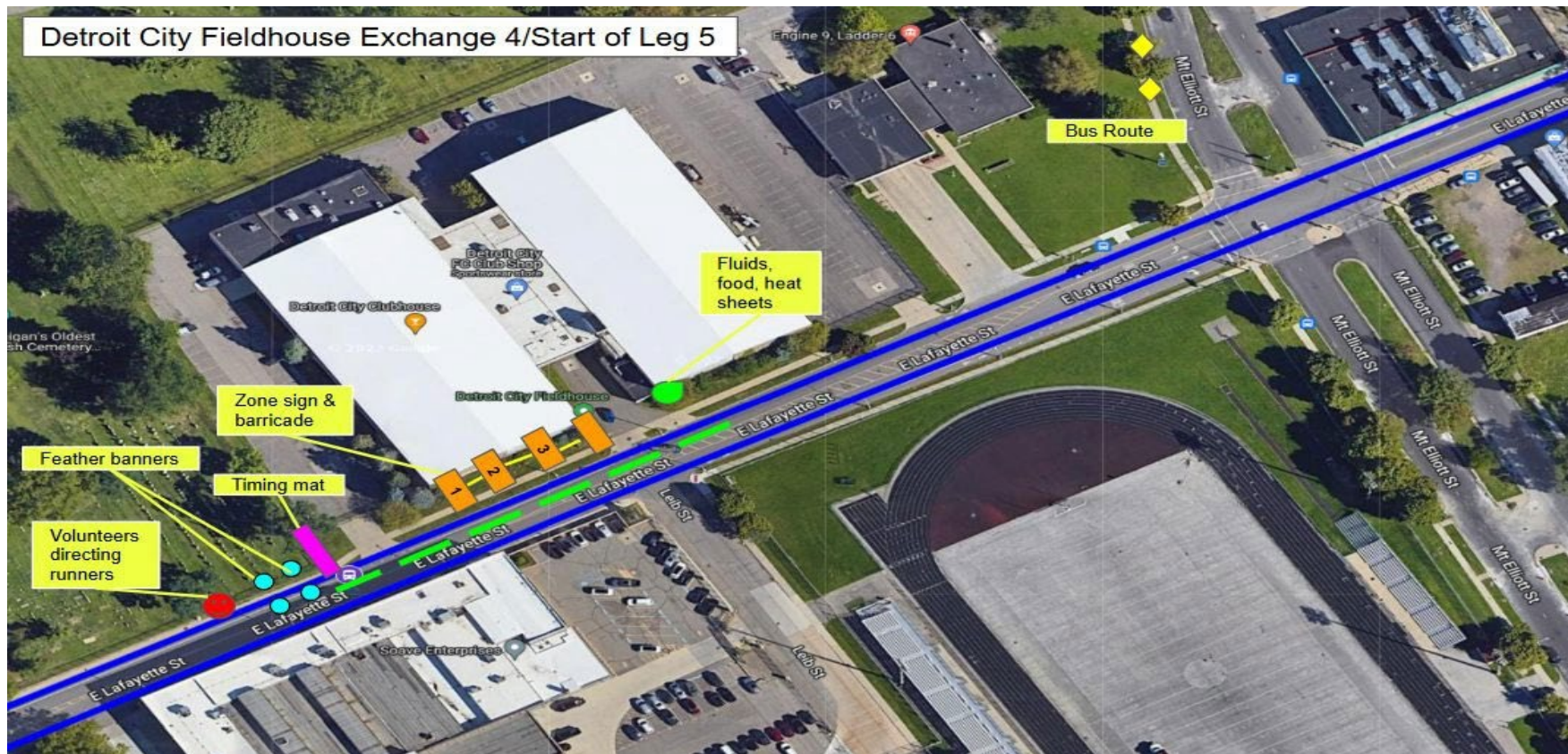
Exchange 4, Start of Leg 5 (6.66 miles)

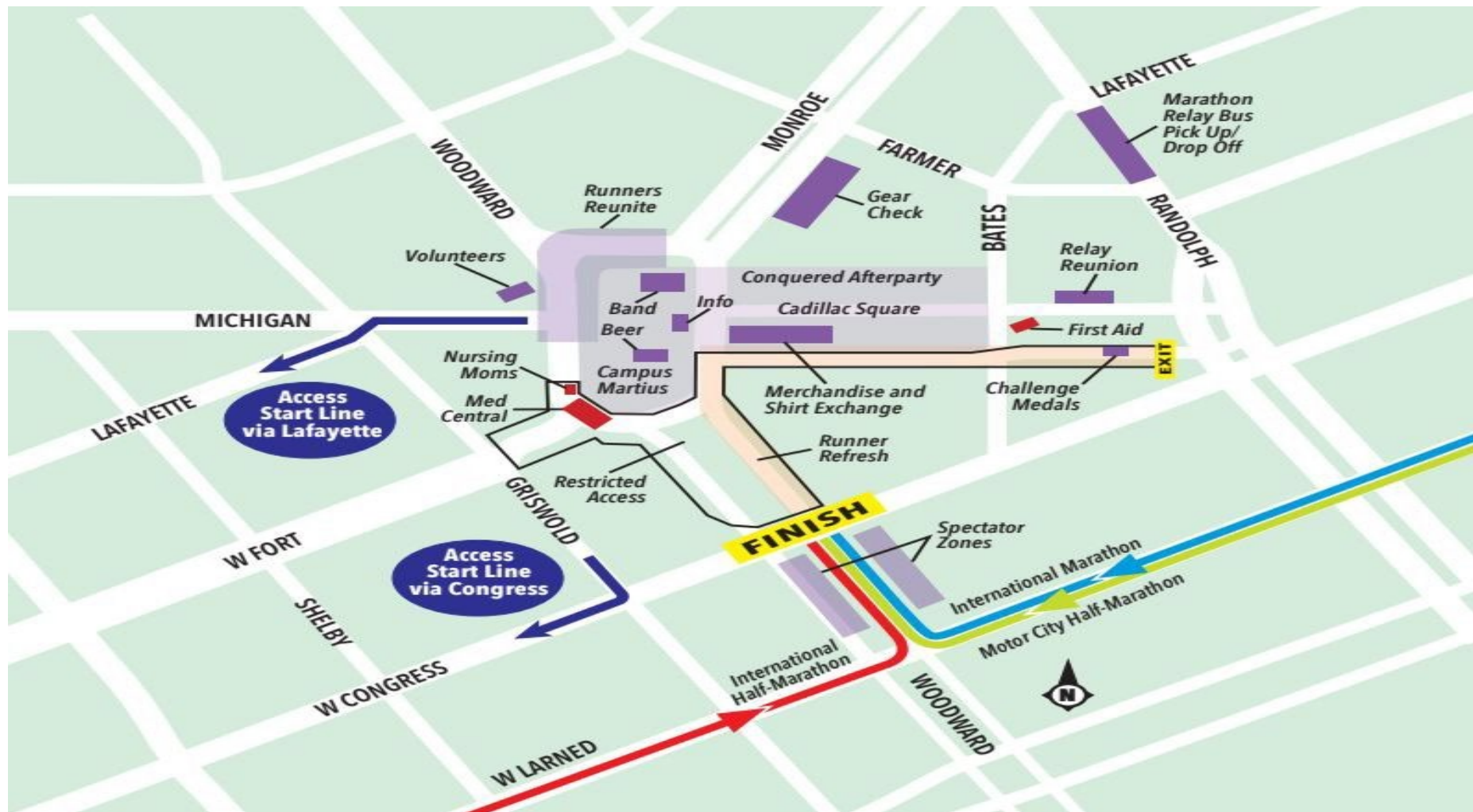
- Buses will be located on Randolph St between E. Lafayette St and Monroe St, your bib is your ticket to enter the bus.
- Buses will begin boarding at 8:00 am. And will depart as soon as they are full. Buses will run a loop between Bus Staging and DCFC, departing DCFC roughly every 10 minutes, until 1:00pm.
- The bus will take you to the exchange located at DCFC (E. Lafayette St. & W. Mt. Elliott St.).
- Pay attention to the signage on the route and your distance as you approach the upcoming finish line!
- Water, snacks, and a heat sheet will be provided at Relay Reunion.
- You will finish at the finish line and receive all five relay medals.
- Once you've completed your leg, proceed to Relay Reunion (Cadillac Square near Randolph Street) in Conquered, the official post-race area, for your food and meet up with your team and hand them their medals.

2026 Detroit Free Press Marathon | Sunday, October 18, 2026
Exchange 4 Detroit City Fieldhouse - Bus drop-off, pick-up



Exchange 4, Start of Leg 5: E. Lafayette St. & W. Mt. Elliott St.





Relay Reunion

- Relay Reunion is located between Bates and Randolph at the Conquered Afterparty.
- Exclusive Relay Reunion tent for relay participants to relax, grab a food bag, meet their team, and distribute medals post-race.
- Only relay participants wearing their bib will be allowed to enter this area.



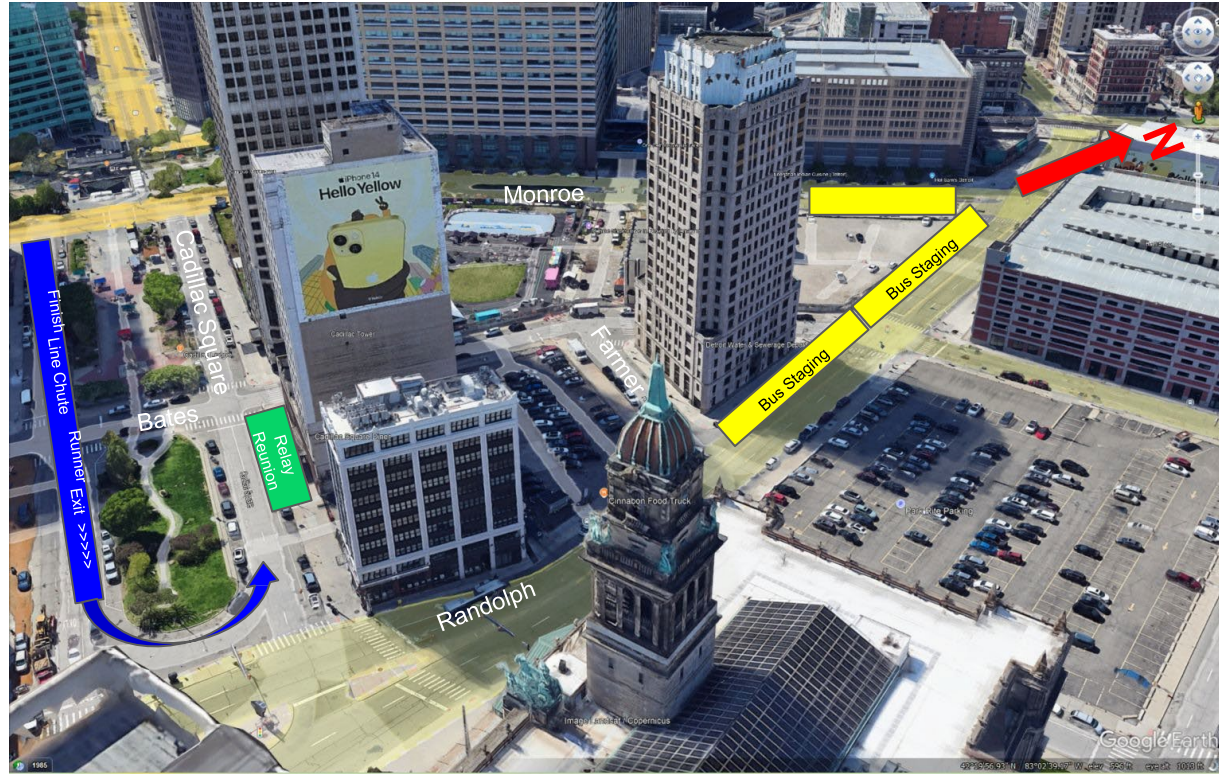
Relay Reunion

Relay Reunion

Address:
101 Cadillac Square
In front of Cadillac Square Diner

GOOGLE MAPS COORDINATES

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/GrMik3zw7maGd6797>



Celebrate at the Kia Conquered After Party!



Start: 8 a.m.

Location: Campus Martius and Cadillac Square

- Food Trucks
- Music
- On stage awards (Individual Awards)
- Photo Ops
- Drinks
- Merch tents

DFP Marathon App

- iPhone and Android compatible.
- Track participants in real-time; however, a slight delay is possible, so we recommend looking for your runner a few minutes before their anticipated arrival.
- Interactive course maps with aid station and medical tent locations.
- Push notifications for runner milestones and finish times.





Thank you for joining the 2026 Detroit Free Press Relay!