

The West Seattle Trails Alliance (WSTA)

When people think of West Seattle, they think of great neighborhoods, greenspace, parks, and business districts.

These destinations are linked together by a network of walking trails. The West Seattle Trails Alliance (WSTA), with community partners and members, is working

to promote and improve this trail network.

All residents of West Seattle should be able to access a well maintained trail for recreation and to go about their daily life. ‘Wayfinding’ devices -- things like kiosks, maps, and signs -- help people to use the trails frequently and easily.

The West Seattle Trails Alliance has three main goals:

- 1) to seek funding for the capital cost of the Wayfinding system
- 2) to continually improve pedestrian infrastructure in the trail network
- 3) to link neighborhood groups and neighbors so that may also be advocates for the trail network

We hope you can join us!



PRIORITY TRAILS

Though West Seattle has an extensive network of trails, the trails listed below are all priorities for infrastructure improvement.

These “trails” are a combination of established park trails, favorite stretches of sidewalk along a road, calm streets without sidewalks, or primitive dirt and gravel trails. They can be enjoyed in part or in full. Use the map on the other side to gage distance and time.

Barton/Henderson Street Park Boulevard

Although it is busier than Kenyon Street, Barton Street connects many green spaces and contains only one staircase. This route connects Westcrest Park, Westwood Shopping Center, the Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail, Roxhill Park, and Fauntleroy Park.

River to Sound Pathway

This trans-peninsular trail is the easiest walking link from east to west, and passes over three ridges and three watersheds. Users traveling these routes experience some of West Seattle's greatest treasures including: Puget Sound, the Longfellow Legacy Creek Trail, the High Point Community, the Graham Street Greenway, Lincoln Park, Riverview Trail, the Green Crescent Trail, and the Duwamish River & Bike Trail. WARNING: The staircases are very steep, so this trail is not recommended for strollers or the elderly.

Duwamish to Spokane

This trail is a needed connection to Alki and from Longfellow Creek.

Morgan Junction Loop Trail

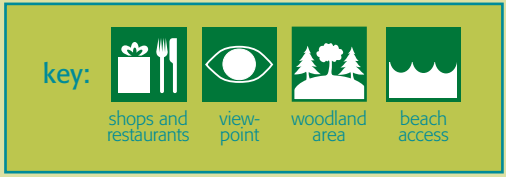
A loop trail connecting Morgan Junction, Orchard Street Ravine, Solstice Park, Lincoln Park, and Lowman Beach Park, the Morgan Junction Loop covers approximately 2.5 miles.

Schmitz Park to Alki Beach

A short trail, this trail feels even shorter, since it's packed with views, woodland walks, shops and restaurants, and (of course), beach access.

Thistle Street Park Boulevard

This route is a good south east-west connector, offering amazing views especially on the west-end. It connects two of West Seattle's largest parks – Westcrest and Lincoln, and also connects the Highland Park neighborhood, Westwood Village, the Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail, Sealth High School, Denny Middle School, and the Southwest Community Center.



West Seattleites can already celebrate improvements to the trail network on this map:

“Snake Hill”, a segment of trail that connects High Point, Camp Long, and Delridge, was chosen to receive funding for sidewalks through the City of Seattle's 2007 Neighborhood Street Fund.

The same 2007 Neighborhood Street Fund program has provided funding for more Alki sidewalks - a much-needed addition to enhance the beachfront. This resource serves not just residents but visitors drawn to Alki from all over Seattle and beyond, contributing to the economic vitality of this area of Seattle.

Another important route receiving funds, this time through 2008 Pedestrian Safety funding (provided for by the Seattle City Council), is the Sanislo Staircase. This staircase connects Delridge Avenue SW and Myrtle Street near Sanislo Elementary. The Sanislo Staircase will be made safer and will receive a facelift.

The Neighborhoods of West Seattle

West Seattle is composed of many neighborhoods, each with their unique style and charm. Some offer the bustle of many small shops, beautiful gardens and a boulder to rockclimb, or maybe quiet beaches and scenic viewpoints. Below are short descriptions of the neighborhoods, but words cannot do them justice. Give them a wander and experience what they have to offer.

Admiral The Admiral neighborhood is located at the north end on a promontory of the West Seattle peninsula. The neighborhood boasts a vital commercial center that provides a focal point for the community at the intersection of Admiral Way and SW California Avenue. Amenities in the neighborhood include The Hiawatha Community Center and Playground, the West Seattle Library, Schmitz Park (53 acres of primary forest donated by an early Admiral landowner), and several outstanding viewpoints providing unique and magnificent views of Elliott Bay and Seattle's downtown.

Alki When West Seattle was annexed to Seattle in 1907, Alki and Alki Beach were still remote areas from the rest of the city, and a favorite summer haunt for Seattleites because of its bungalows and extensive beach areas. Today Alki and Alki Beach are home to both single-family and apartment/condo dwellers who relish the short walks to the beach and the extensive parks and open space which are an integral element of this north slope and beach area of West Seattle. Alki Avenue is lined with local businesses and restaurants, coffee shops and pubs.

Arbor Heights Arbor Heights sits atop the southern ridge point on West Seattle's west side just south of Fauntleroy. The area is high in elevation and offers outstanding views west and south of Puget Sound, Vashon and Blake Islands, and shipping traffic headed for the Port of Tacoma. The south end of Arbor Heights has many arroyos and natural areas including Seola Park, which sits in a secluded and natural area at the south end and includes beach access.

Delridge Delridge sits between the Longfellow Creek valley to the west and Puget Ridge to the east. The north end is known as Youngstown after an old steel mill town in Ohio. The area was historically a working class enclave for Boeing and steel plant workers and is experiencing a renaissance with new cultural and park facilities and dining. The Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail ends in this neighborhood. On its way to Elliott Bay, the creek flows openly through several magnificent little parks adjacent to the Delridge Community Center.

Fairmont The Fairmont (and Fairmont Springs) neighborhoods are located on the east and west sides of Fauntleroy Way SW in one of West Seattle's many valleys. The neighborhood is completely tree-lined and consists of mostly single-family housing with apartments and condos lining Fauntleroy Way. A prominent feature of the area is Fairmont Playground, which is sited in the lowlands adjacent to one of the ridges that defines this valley area. A short walk to the west is California Avenue SW, West Seattle's "Main Street," and a short climb east is 35th Avenue near Camp Long, High Point Community Center and Playground.

Fauntleroy Fauntleroy sits astride both Lincoln Park and Fauntleroy Cove, into which runs Fauntleroy Creek, one of many restored salmon creeks in West Seattle. The neighborhood is one of beaches on the western side with the Vashon and Kitsap Peninsula (Southworth) ferry dock, rising quickly up steep hills to the east. Originally an "end-o-line" for a streetcar, the area has many parks and pleasant, tree-lined streets with great views of the Sound and Olympic Mountains.

Genesee The Genesee neighborhood lies immediately west of Alaska Junction and consists of both Genesee Valley and Genesee Hill. Both these areas offer territorial views of the West Seattle Peninsula and are single-family neighborhoods on tree-lined and very low traffic streets. Genesee Hill area also offers expansive views of Puget Sound including views up the Bainbridge Island coast as well as a complete panoramic view of the Olympic Mountains. There are a number of viewpoint areas located in cul-de-sacs which allow visitors to track Puget Sound boat traffic.

High Point So named because of its location on Seattle's highest hill, High Point is being redeveloped into a sustainable and green neighborhood by a consortium of public and private developers. The area offers a rich array of parks, open spaces, recreation, and education facilities. Streets are tree-lined and, because of the elevation, offer outstanding views of the harbor and downtown Seattle, both set against a stunning backdrop featuring the Cascade mountain range, including Mt. Baker.

Highland Park Highland Park sits astride West Seattle's eastern-most ridge with tree-lined streets offering territorial views of West Seattle and the Duwamish Waterway. The neighborhood features South Seattle Community College, with its arboretum and Chinese Gardens (under development) at the north end and the commercial and dining district of White Center at the south end. In between these are multiple access areas which lead to a collection of area parks and the largest greenbelt in the city – the West Duwamish Greenbelt.

Junction Neighborhood The Alaska Junction is West Seattle's "downtown" and California Avenue SW is the area's "Main Street." In addition to the many amenities and shops along California, the area is home to several thousand residents, who enjoy "walk anywhere" convenience. The residents work with businesses to host events and maintain the area with clean-up crews, and continue to add new street amenities such as benches, small parks and landscaping.

Morgan Junction Morgan Junction is an attractive community located at the intersection of Fauntleroy Way SW, California Avenue SW and SW Morgan Street. The neighborhood contains more than 10,000 residents and 140 businesses, with expansive views toward Puget Sound or downtown Seattle.

Pigeon Point Pigeon Point (formerly Pigeon Hill) is the northern promontory of Puget Ridge, the eastern-most ridgeline of the West Seattle Peninsula. This neighborhood, a collection of early Craftsman and Bungalow homes, is a compact, completely tree-covered enclave with views of West Seattle, Downtown, the Duwamish Waterway and both Olympic and Cascade mountain ranges. Its proximity to the Spokane Low Bridge, Longfellow Creek, and West Marginal-Green River Trails makes it a natural crossroads. Just down the hill is the Delridge neighborhood with restaurants, clubs, shops and cafes.

Puget Ridge This long established community sits on the easternmost ridge (Puget Ridge) of West Seattle and includes tree-lined 16th and 8th Avenues, both of which offer outstanding views of the Duwamish River and Seattle Harbor and Downtown. The neighborhood includes the South Seattle Community College. The southern edge of the neighborhood features Riverview Park, an expansive playground and natural area with trails leading down to the Duwamish River.

Riverview Riverview neighborhood sits atop Puget Ridge, between South Seattle Community College to the north and the Riverview Playfield to the south. A trail connects the playfield through the West Duwamish Greenbelt to West Marginal Way and the river valley below. The area is a tree-lined single-family neighborhood with parks and schools interspersed. Many of the roads in this area offer outstanding territorial views. The neighborhood is among the city's most wooded areas.

South Park Originally it's own town alongside the Duwamish River, South Park is a riverside community with a small but growing downtown and several recently added features such as a new library and community center. The area is very much a river-oriented community with tree-lined streets dead-ending right at the river's edge, offering many pleasant and unique walks in a small area.

Westwood Westwood sits on either side of the Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail. Many of the area's recreational facilities are within an easy walk, including the Southwest Athletic Complex, Denny Middle School and Sealth High School. The area also features West Seattle's only shopping center – Westwood Village. Directly across from the shopping center lies Roxhill Park, a restored peat bog where Longfellow Creek begins its flow north.

White Center White Center (Seattle and unincorporated King County) is one of Puget Sound's most culturally and ethnically diverse areas. Parks surround this multi-national urban village and include some of the area's most pristine open spaces – Westcrest Park and White Center Park. In the summer months, the area hosts a multiple-venue music festival the second Friday of each month.

ADOPT-A-KIOSK PROGRAM

The adopt-a-kiosk program is an opportunity for residents, businesses owners, community groups, or others to adopt one of the future wayfinding kiosks. The idea behind the Adopt-a-Kiosk program is for the neighborhood to take ownership of the kiosk. When this happens, the wayfinding system will

be more successful and less susceptible to damage that other public amenities sometimes incur, like disrepair or graffiti. To hear more about the Adopt-a-Kiosk program, contact Charles Redmond of the West Seattle Trails Alliance Steering Committee at credmond@mac.com.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

West Seattle Farmers Market
www.seattlefarmersmarkets.org
West Seattle's best opportunity to buy fresh and local from Washington State's small family farmers. It's open year-round, every Sunday, from 10 am to 2 pm at 44th Avenue SW and Alaska Street.

Southwest Youth & Family Services
www.swyfs.org
SYFS offers counseling, education, and family support programs for people in West Seattle, White Center, and South Park.

Sustainable West Seattle
www.sws.brizone.com
SWS is "a community of empowered citizens actively leading West Seattle toward greater self-reliance, local democracy, social justice, and existence in harmony with life on earth."

Morgan Community Association
www.morganjunction.org
(MoCA) is a grassroots association of people who have a stake in the future of the Morgan Junction neighborhood.

The Log House Museum
www.loghousemuseum.org
This museum focuses on the Duwamish Peninsula from 1851 to today. Surrounded by a Pacific Northwest native plant garden, this community treasure is open year-

round to the public and is located at 3003 61st Avenue SW.

King County Food and Fitness Initiative (KCCFI)
<http://king.wsu.edu/foodandfarms/KCCFI.html>
The KCCFI is a community coalition formed in 2006 to begin planning for a ten year initiative. The vision for the KCCFI is "Creating vibrant communities that support access to locally grown, healthy, affordable food and safe and inviting places for physical activity and play—for everyone." Its focus communities are Delridge and White Center.

The Nature Consortium
www.naturec.org
TNC is a West Seattle-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to teach environmental lessons through the creative arts and hands-on conservation work. On-going volunteer work parties are open to the public and include forest ecology talks and performing artists coming out to the woods to play while volunteers work.

White Center Community Development Association (WCCDA)
www.wccda.org
The WCCDA is a community-led organization that seeks to improve the quality of life for White Center residents.

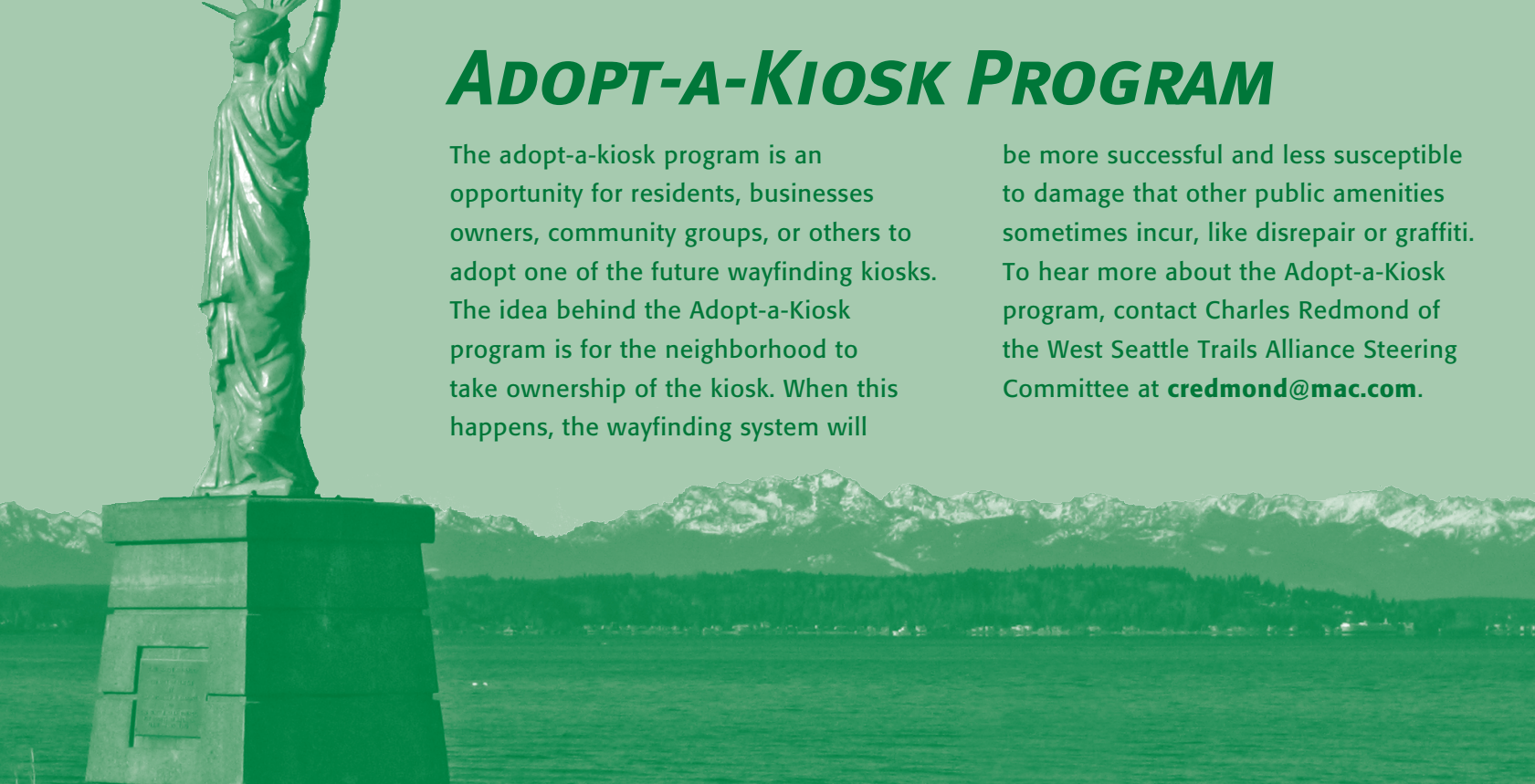
Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association (DNDA)
www.dnda.org

A non-profit organization committed to improving West Seattle, particularly in the Delridge area. They work with surrounding businesses, organizations and local government to help fund neighborhood projects, provide affordable housing, and build a thriving community.

West Seattle Chamber of Commerce
www.wschamber.com
The Chamber addresses the concerns of local business owners and works for the overall well-being of West Seattle.

Alaska Junction - West Seattle Junction Association
Promoting the local businesses of Alaska Junction. New to the Junction is Art Walk on the second Thursday of each month, 6-9pm. Wander your way through Junction businesses that host different local Artists' work.

Community Councils:
Southwest District Council
Admiral Neighborhood Association
Alki Community Council
Fairmount Community Association
Fauntleroy Community Association
Junction Neighborhood Organization
Morgan Community Association
Delridge District Council



Funding and support for this map, and the Dells and Ridges Project was provided for by the following contributors:

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods

National Park Service (NPS)
The NPS's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program supports community-based conservation programs by providing technical assistance.

Feet First
Feet First is an advocacy organization building walkable communities. We help people take simple steps to create better places to live, learn, shop, work, and play - a world that cares about health, community, and design.

Our "Neighborhoods on Foot" Map Series
Our walking maps engage community members, make it easier for people to walk, and educate neighbors about local issues.

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NEIGHBORHOODS ON FOOT
Map Series

West Seattle Trails
2008

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BUILDING WALKABLE COMMUNITIES