

Seattle Olmsted 50/70 Leaders-- Olmsted History Support

Urban Walk Leaders preparing to lead sections of the Seattle Olmsted 50/70 are encouraged to refresh their Olmsted parks knowledge. Many urban walkers are keen to earn the Seattle Olmsted 50 or 70 Badge and look forward to your pattern and revelations about the Olmsted Plan during their walks.

Trail developers relied extensively on both the Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks website and FSOP veterans. Find the website here:

<https://seattleolmsted.org/>. Suggested approach:

- Read the Brief History first, about 10 minutes. See the link to David Williams' History essay recently quoted in a *Seattle Times* feature.
- The About Us section reminds us that we've fine partners for this work. Former FSOP Board Member Stuart Johnston is a Mountaineer deeply involved in ongoing trail development.
- Under Parks, click on the map and you can see how the route touched many, many Olmsted parks and boulevards. It also guided the Seattle Olmsted 70 – the additional 70 kilometers needed to sweep up West Seattle, Downtown and Magnolia/Discovery Park to link with the Ballard Locks start to complete the 120 km loop.
- Read the November *Seattle Times* feature on the launch of the Seattle Olmsted 50. <https://www.seattletimes.com/life/outdoors/visit-dozens-of-seattles-best-parks-on-this-olmsted-walking-route/>
- Book -- much deeper knowledge, Jennifer Ott (2019), *Olmsted in Seattle*

If you're curious about the approach taken to long urban walks in other cities, check out these websites:

- San Francisco Crosstown Trail (17 miles) <https://crosstowntrail.org/>
- Boston Walking City Trail (27 miles) <https://www.bostontrails.org/>
- Walk Around Philadelphia (100 miles) <https://www.jjtiziou.net/project/walk-around-philadelphia/>

(Peter Hendrickson (Lead) Rev /20Jun/23May/Feb 2024/ph)