

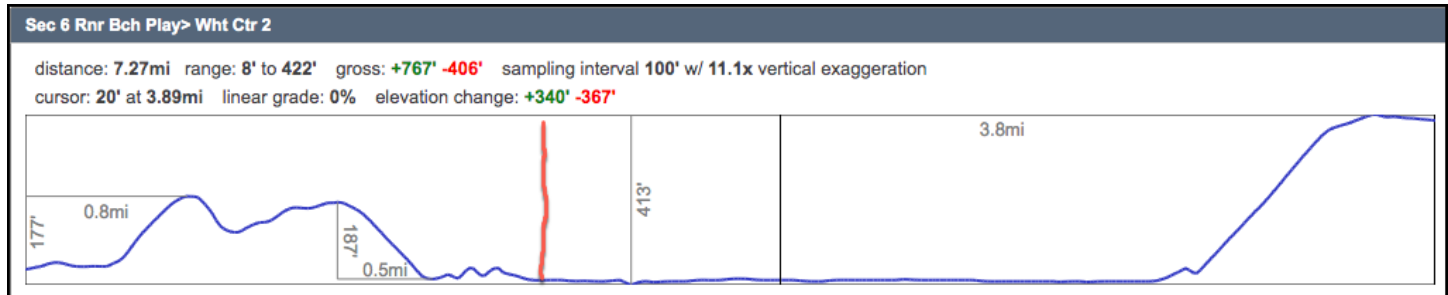
Seattle Olmsted 70 Trail – Section 6

S6 10.8km, 234m	S7 9.6km, 189m	S8 11.1km, 44m	S9 8.6km 130m	S10 9.5Km 104m	S11 9.6km 107m	S12 10.8km 237m
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Rainier Beach Community Center to Dubsea Coffee White Center

Walking distance: 10.8 km (6.7 miles--not counting brief bus ride)

Elevation gain: 234m (767 ft/CalTopo—some on the bus)



Section 6 of the Seattle Olmsted 70 trail begins at the Rainier Beach Community Center and finishes at Dubsea Coffee, W Seattle. Expect some **highway exposure** (3 unprotected off ramps and shoulders). Experienced urban leaders who have test walked the route are advised for small groups (<=8). A short bus ride handles the challenging SR 509 interchange.

You can split Section 6 into two shorter walks. Section 6 East, runs from Rainier Beach Community Center to the Duwamish River 4.4 km (2.7 mi) and Section 6 West finishes at Dubsea Coffee 6.4 km (4 mi).

For public transit options, public bathrooms and treats see directions, last page.

Section 6 East

Walking distance 4.4 km (2.7 miles)
Elevation gain: 104 m (340 ft/CalTopo).
Walkers are responsible for their own safety on Seattle Olmsted routes.

Note: The route is not stroller friendly—highway exposure.

- Starting at Rainier Beach Community Center, the terminus for the Seattle Olmsted 50, walk west through **Rainier Beach Playfield⁴** to Dunlap Elementary and turn left (south) on 46th Avenue S (sidewalk) to S Henderson Street.

- Some might first detour right around Dunlap to a stunning Artists in Residence (2005, Toland & Srtocker) mural.
- Turn right (west), then left (south) up Yukon Avenue S to **Chief Sealth Trail**.
- At S Barton Street turn left (east) to return to the power line right of way at the corner.

*Boeing's imprint on this section is profound. Boeing Field was Seattle's primary airport from 1928 to the late 1940s. During WW2, a 26-acre, fake neighborhood (burlap, canvas and chicken wire) camouflaged the field. A fine way to end Section 6 East would be to visit the **Museum of Flight** in the SW corner of the field -- 9404 E. Marginal Way South*



Chief Sealth Trail – Photo P Hendrickson

- Cross S Fletcher Street with care and shortly join Marcus Avenue S turning left (south).
- Turn left (east) onto S Roxbury Street before turning right (south) on 48th Avenue S onto the Chief Seattle Trail.
- Cross S Bond Street with caution to shortly join 51st Avenue S. Bus #107
- At S Ryan Way turn right (west) as it sweeps down towards Boeing buildings.
- Just before Martin Luther King Junior Way S (proposed route for **Dunlap Canyon Parkway**⁵), see the former Raisbeck Engineering aerospace center near the major interchange.
- We're briefly in Tukwila until reaching South Park in Section 6 West.

*We are on the traditional land of the **Coast Salish** peoples who live here and steward these lands and waters as they have for time immemorial.*

- Cross MLK Jr Way with care to the S Boeing Access Road. Stay right with caution over I-5 (esp. the off ramp). At light cross to left and continue over rail lines (and two more on ramps) to major "T" intersection.
- Cross Tukwila International and see a Chevron Food Mart to the left (south). Our route goes right (north) changing names to E Marginal Way S. You're *just south of historic **Boeing Field***.

You have completed Section 6 East. To return to Rainier Beach, take Bus #124 south to Tukwila International Blvd Station. Ride the Light Rail north one stop to Rainier Beach Station at S Henderson Street.

Section 6 West

*Walking distance: 6.43 km (4 miles)
Elevation gain: 139 m (457 ft/CalTopo)*

Note: Parts of Section 6 West roughly follow the unrealized **Dunlap Canyon Parkway**⁵.

- Walk north along a sidewalk between the muddy Duwamish River and E Marginal Way S to S 104th Street.

- Bear left (north, ignoring road closed sign)) to reach a left (west) turn onto the highway badge across the Duwamish (the nearby foot bridge is Boeing's and not accessible).
- At the west side, turn right (north) to follow a pedestrian/cycle path around a huge Amazon parking lot (~500 drivers).

*The **Duwamish River** begins as the Green River in the Cascade Mountains and becomes the Duwamish at the former confluence with the Black (dried up in 1916 with lowering of Lake Washington) and White (changed course in 1906 to flow into the Puyallup) Rivers. The industrialized Lower Duwamish River estuary is a Superfund site.*

- At W Marginal Place S turn right (north) to border **Salmon Cove Park and Shoreline Habitat**. You've reached the great tidal turning basin for ships that plied the Duwamish. You could follow an extension of the Green River Trail to get closer to the riverbank (and see more birds).



Duwamish Turning Basin#3-Photo P Hendrickson

- Keep Highway 99 (West Marginal Way S) on your left shoulder as you pass through this industrial landscape to Hamm Creek Estuary after the electrical substation.
- FYI, Seattle's (private) **Duwamish Yacht Club** is off our route, found by turning right (east) down S 93rd Street.
- At the Des Moines West Marginal Way S interchange, merge right (north) to 14th Avenue S several blocks to S Cloverdale Street.

- You're now in Seattle's **South Park**, one of the most industrial neighborhoods. Air quality is often low with the continuous stream of short haul trucks moving containers.
- Some take refuge in **Loretta's Southwesterner** or **Uncle Eddies South Park**.
- Turn left (west) on S Cloverdale Street to find South Park Library, and fresher air at 8th Avenue S.



IAM Union Hall sculpture (Ken Lonni)
- Photo P Hendrickson

- Two blocks north up 8th Avenue S brings you to **South Park Playground**³, further refuge for working folks. Threatened by 1950's freeway construction, it was saved through community efforts.
- Continue west on S Cloverdale Street to cross under Highway 99, to tiny **Cesar Chavez Park**.
- Catch frequent Bus #60 from S Cloverdale St to Olson/Myers Park & Ride to avoid the Highway 509 interchange.

That's **three major highway** and one river crossings in 6 km (3.7 mi) – not for the faint of heart or inexperienced urban walk leader. That's why the bus is a good choice.

- Did you spot the retirement center and Seattle Joint Fire Training Facility?

- Exit the bus facing the orange Public Storage and follow the sidewalk right (north), then left (west) at Olson Place SW through the West Duwamish Greenbelt.
- Turn right (west) onto SW Roxbury Street. South of Roxbury at SW 97th Place is White Center in unincorporated King County. When the Greenbridge mixed income community is completed, a shortcut may be possible.
- At 8th Avenue S turn left (south) into Greenbridge neighborhood past combined Greenbridge Library, YWCA and branch of Highline Community College.
- **Dubsea Coffee** is found at SW 99th Street. "Dubsea" brings **White Center** (WC) to mind—the older, nearby neighborhood.

Congratulations, you just completed Section 6 of the Seattle Olmsted 70!

Return to Rainier Beach Community Center by Bus #128 to Tukwila International Blvd Light Rail Station. One stop north to Rainier Beach Station at MLK Jr Way S and S Henderson St. Short walk east to the Community Center.

Note: The Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks map display gives five park categories. Our superscripts show: **1)**Pre-1903, **2)**1903-09, **3)**1909-13, **4)**Post 1913, and **5)**Unrealized

Seattle Olmsted Circuit loops 120km (75 miles) via more easterly parks and boulevards (5 Sections, October 2023) connecting with more westerly Seattle Olmsted 70 (7 Sections, June 2024).

Contact: Seattle Olmsted 50/70 lead:
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Seattle Urban Walk Committee
The Mountaineers, Founded 1906

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Navigation Tip: Staple, then fold these two sheets the long way. You can then easily hold them in one hand to follow the turn-by-turn. Some walkers keep their thumb on the bulleted text for their current position.

TRANSIT, TOILETS and TREATS

King County Metro Transit Service Points

Public transport is available at several locations on Section 6 but these points offer the most options.

Light Rail schedule [Light Rail](#)

State Ferry Schedule [State Ferries](#)

Metro Water Taxi [Foot Ferry](#)

Bus Routes [Metro Bus Routes](#)

- **Rainier Beach Community Center Bus # 7, 9, 106, 107**
- **Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Rainier Beach Station**
- **East Marginal Way S Bus # 124**
- **S Cloverdale St Bus # 60, 132**
- **Olson Myers Way P&R Bus # 60, 113**
- **SW Roxbury St Bus #60, 113**
- **Dubsea Coffee Bus # 128**

Suggested Bathroom Stops

Free public bathroom access is scant on Section 6 during park and business hours. Stops are listed in order of travel Rainier Beach Community Center.

- Rainier Beach Community Center and Playfield
- Chevron Station Tukwila International Blvd
- South Park Library
- Greenbridge Community Center

Where to Buy Provisions

Section 6 and nearby have a modest mix of residential, parks and local cafes, bakeries, ice cream parlors, and pubs.

- Seasonal parks, playfields, bars
- Rite Aid, Safeway near South Shore PreK-8
- South Park
- Olson/Myers Park and Ride village
- Greenbridge Neighborhood

Other Items of Interest

- **Stewards** for Section 6 are to be named.
- **Duwamish People** live along these shores and waterways. See [Duwamish](#)
- **Neighborhoods** near or on this route are Rainier Beach, Duwamish, South Park, Georgetown, Highland Park, Greenbridge, Boulevard Park, White Center
- **Olmsted Parks** on and near route Beer Sheva, Rainier Beach Playfield, Dunlap Canyon Parkway (unrealized), South Park Playground, Westcrest Park
- **Seattle Walks** (2025, 2nd Ed) by David Williams and Seattle Stairways Walks (2013, Jaramillos) are fine sources of historical, cultural and natural information.
- For more complete Olmsted Parks information, consult **Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks**, partners in development of this trail. Local link is [FSOP](#). The national Olmsted Network is [National](#)
- **Seattle ranks** among the top 10 park systems in the country [Top Ten](#)