

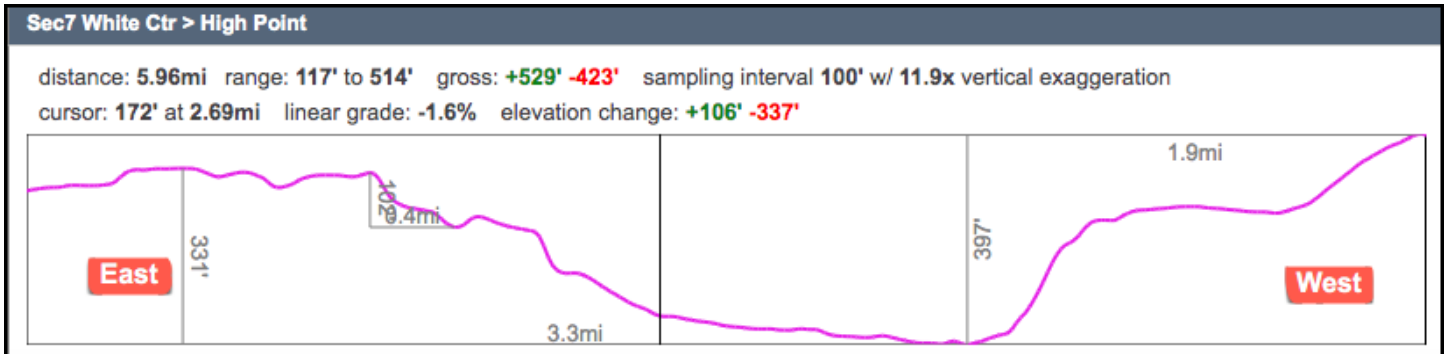
Seattle Olmsted 70 Trail – Section 7

S6 10.6km 234m	S7 9.6km 149m	S8 11.1km 44m	S9 8.6km 130m	S10 9.5km 104m	S11 9.6km 107m	S12 10.8km 237m
-------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------	-------------------	-------------------	--------------------

Greenbridge (White Center) to Myrtle Reservoir Park (Seattle’s High Point)

Walking distance: 9.6 km (6 miles)

Elevation gain: 149 m (492 ft)



Section 7 of the Seattle Olmsted 70 trail begins at Dubsea Coffee (9910 8th Ave SW) in Greenbridge Neighborhood. Bus #148

You can split Section 7 into two shorter walks. Section 7 East runs from Dubsea Coffee to SW Myrtle Street (delta) and Delridge Avenue SW 4.2 km, (2.6 mi) and Section 7 West finishes at Seattle’s High Point (520 ft) in Myrtle Reservoir Park (5.4 km, 3.4 mi). A Loop Option, White Center to White Center, is also available 7.2km (4.4 miles).

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

Section 7 East

Walking distance: 4.2 km (2.6 miles)
 Elevation gain: 32 m (106 ft).

Walkers are responsible for their own safety on Seattle Olmsted routes.

Note: The route is stroller friendly if two descending stairways are not an issue.

- Starting at Dubsea Coffee (Get it, “WC” for White Center?), corner SW 99th Street and 8th Avenue, walk north. Find public bathrooms and free parking at Greenbridge Neighborhood Center.

- At SW Cambridge Street turn right (east) to a signed left (north) on 6th Avenue SW, an access trail along **Westcrest Park**⁴.
- Yes, that’s the Seattle PD Mounted Patrol Unit (MPU) on your left plus a communication tower cluster.
- Continue north through the parking lot.

*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.*

- Bear left (west) at the off leash dog park to the view point, then sweep right (north) towards additional parking and public toilets at the park’s west edge.

Westcrest Reservoir (1932) went some distance to end West Seattle’s water rationing. The 68,000,000 (now 30MM) gal reservoir was built, capped and is now part of the park. Proposed (1910) was **Duwamish Hill Parkway**⁵ that would’ve passed through Highland Park and Westcrest Parks.

- At SW Cloverdale Street, turn left (west) to the **Highland Park** athletic field (18 steps up) just north of Highland Park Elementary School. Strollers may turn right (north) to avoid stairs, then west to

enter the playground. Bathrooms may be open.

- Head west, then north through the park to turn left (west) on SW Thistle Street.
- Down 42 steps at 14th Avenue SW (strollers?), then cross 16th Avenue SW and turn right (north) for one block, then left (west) on SW Elmgrove Street.
- Turn right (north) on 20th Ave SW to find a swell stairway (138 steps) at SW Holden Street winding left (west) down to a protected intersection with busy Delridge Way SW. You're now deep into the **Longfellow Creek** drainage.

Loop Option: *Before taking the stairs, return via the Loop Option to White Center. See directions after Section 7 West.*

- Cross Delridge Way SW and turn right (north) to soon pass by SW Precinct Seattle Police Department, Home Depot and the Vietnamese Cultural Center to SW Myrtle Street.

Longfellow Creek Natural Area² was proposed in a 1908 John Charles Olmsted supplemental report. It could have been a pleasure drive (zeitgeist at dawn of the motor car age) or linear park (as it turned out)

You have completed Section 7 East. Return by nearby Metro Rapid Ride H or #128 lines.

Section 7 West

Walking distance: 5.4 km (3.4 miles)

Elevation gain: 129 m (423 ft)

Note: *Section 7 West has generally easy grades if Camp Long is open (closed Mondays). Strollers not recommended.*

- Turn left (west) down SW Myrtle Street crossing underground Longfellow Creek.
- Turn right (north) down 24th Avenue SW to bear left at a "T" junction and find a signed trail along Longfellow Creek at SW Willow Street. You're now in what became Delridge Neighborhood (1940).
- Continue north along the creek, then slight right (northeast) – not left across

the creek -- on 24th Avenue SW a short distance past a driveway to bear left (northwest) onto the trail.

John Enoch Longfellow moved into *Humphrey's Settlement* (later Youngstown and West Seattle) in 1886 and started a logging company. The Seattle Steel Company (now Nucor Steel) opened in 1905. Much of the neighborhood filled with Greeks, Italians and Russians. Then common neighborhood names were "Garlic or Poverty Gulch."

- Wherever the trail turns right towards Delridge Way, stay left to find the Longfellow Creek Beaver Pond.
- Cross two creek bridges to (unsigned) SW Juneau Street.
- Turn left (west) to the electric sub-station, then north again behind some houses along the Longfellow Creek Trail.
- Cross the creek and stay right to find an ornate trail archway. Then cross SW Brandon Street into **Greg Davis Park⁴**. Turn left and follow west treeline to a signed path down to the creek. Make a left turn upstream, then re-cross Brandon Street.
- You'll find a maintained trail heading back across the bridge, then right (west) uphill. At 29th Avenue SW cross north into **Camp Long** through another gateway.



South gate Camp Long – Photo P Hendrickson

- A graveled trail leads northwest towards a Parade Ground and Schurman Rock.

Schurman Rock claims to be the oldest artificial climbing wall in the U.S., built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1938-39. Mountaineers, Boy Scouts and other outdoor groups have used the rock to learn basic climbing skills. Kids (of any age) are free to test their skills. Camp Long is a free city park open most days 10 to 6pm. A 2024 arson fire closed the 1941 Lodge for an indefinite period.

- Bear left twice to reach Parade Ground.
- Exit west from the fire circle staying left on access road, then right (north) via parking area, to find the Lodge (closed). Exit left up SW Dayton Street to 35th Avenue NW and turn left (south) along the sidewalk.

If Camp Long is closed follow this steeper alternate route to gain 35th Avenue SW:

- Follow SW Brandon St as it curves south onto steeper 30th Avenue SW.
- Your reward is (always open) High Point Pond and Viewpoint Parks.
- Turn right (west) up not so steep SW Juneau Street to 35th Avenue SW.
- Stroll south through residential Delridge to High Point neighborhood.

*John Charles Olmsted planned (1908) **South Bourne Parkway**⁵ to roughly run along the current 35th Avenue SW towards Lincoln Park.*

- Just across SW Raymond St you'll find the High Point Branch of Seattle Public Library (books and bathrooms).
- More retail is found at the corner of SW Graham St.
- Note the bus stops at SW Morgan St for Metro #128 back to Seadub Coffee.

Myrtle Reservoir Tanks (1919 -500,000 gal and 1946—1,000,000 gal) are a legacy of West Seattle's thirst in the early 1900s that led to annexation in 1907. World War II labor shortages delayed the construction of the second tank. The reservoir (1947) holds nearly 7,000,000 (now 5MM) gallons.

- Continue on the west sidewalk south up 35th Avenue SW to the playground at the corner of SW Willow St. You've reached

the Southwest Myrtle Street Reservoir and Myrtle Reservoir Park.

- **High Point** in Seattle is nestled between two, massive water towers (standpipes) on SW Myrtle Street SW.
- Explore the play area and find the elegant viewpoint looking over concrete blocks labeled with distant places at set headings.



Myrtle Reservoir Lookout-Photo P Hendrickson

Congratulations, you just completed Section 7 of the Seattle Olmsted 70!

Section 7 Loop Finish Option

>>Total Loop Data and Loop Finish Section<<
Distance: 7.2km (4.4miles)– 3.5km (2.2miles)
Elevation Gain: 96m (317 ft) – 35m (116 ft)

Note: The stroller friendly Loop Finish Option is steady uphill to gain over 100 feet on sidewalks and trails.

- Turn right to head east on SW Holden Street to turn right (south) on 14th Avenue SW. Regain most of the lost elevation.
- In one block turn left (east) on SW Kenyon Street.
- At 11th Avenue SW turn right (south) for one block to SW Elmgrove Street.
- Turn left (east) to reach 8th Avenue SW.
- Turn right (south) for one block to SW Thistle Street.

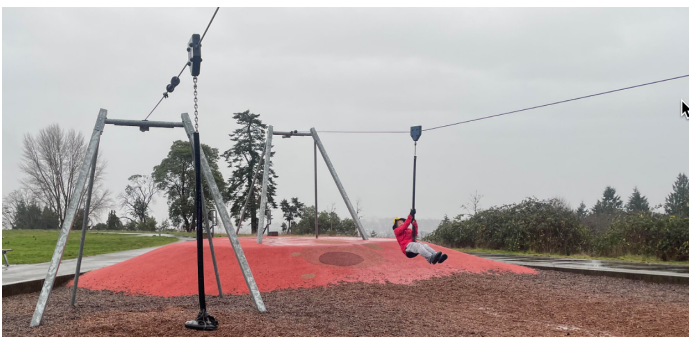
"Pleasure Drives". You're roughly above and parallel to the unrealized Duwamish Hill Parkway⁵ intended to link the (also unrealized) Dunlap Canyon Parkway⁵ to Pigeon Point in the (now) West Duwamish Greenbelt. In 1908 John Charles Olmsted had carriages top of mind for these treks, not we urban walkers.

- Turn right (south) down then up onto quiet 7th Avenue SW which leads you across Cloverdale Avenue SW back into **Westcrest Park⁴**.
- Yes, those four communication towers are federal and a sign on the chainlink fence promises prosecution if you mess with air traffic control. Pass to their left (east).



Wind vane sculptures signal closeness to SeaTac International and Boeing Field. – Photo P Hendrickson

- Follow a park path roughly southwest to the elegant playfield with the wonderful views.



Two zip lines invite children of all ages – Photo P Hendrickson

- Head southwest across the grassy field past the picnic benches south of the reservoir.
- Bear right to exit the park / reservoir to the corner of SW Henderson Street and 8th Avenue SW.
- Head left (south) down 8th Avenue SW about five blocks to Dubsea Coffee.

You've Finished Section 7 Loop Option

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 winds 120km (75 miles) via more easterly Seattle Olmsted 50 parks and boulevards (5 Sections, October 2023) connecting with more westerly Seattle Olmsted 70 (7 Sections, June 2024). Shorter Loop Options share 50/75 start points but loop back to starts (12 Loops, January 2025).

Contact: Seattle Olmsted 50/70 lead:
Peter Hendrickson
p.hendrickson43@gmail.com
Seattle Urban Walk Committee
The Mountaineers, Founded 1906

(Rev5 11 Feb 2025/PH)

Navigation Tip: Staple, then fold these 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 5 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](#)

- **Dubsea Coffee Bus # 128, 131**
- **Delridge Way SW # 128, H Line**
- **35th Ave SW #21, 128**

Suggested Bathroom Stops

Free public bathroom access is good on Section 7 during park and business hours. Stops are listed in order of travel from DubSea Coffee

- Greenbridge Neighborhood Center
- Westcrest Park
- Highland Park
- 7-11 Convenience Store, SW Holden Street
- Home Depot
- Delridge Avenue SW ARCO and Chevron Stations?
- Camp Long (Lodge closed after 2024 fire)
- High Point Branch Seattle Public Library

Where to Buy Provisions

Section 7 and nearby have a modest mix of residential, parks and local cafes, bakeries, ice cream parlors, and pubs.

- Seasonal playfield bars
- Greenbridge Neighborhood
- White Center
- Delridge Avenue SW
- Lower 35th Avenue SW

Other Items of Interest

- **Stewards** for Section 7 are to be named.
- **Camp Long** was a training ground for 1000's of climbers including Fred Beckey and the Whitaker twins Jim and Lou. Newer climbing walls at UW, private climbing gyms and the Sand Point Mountaineers Program Center shifted **instruction** elsewhere. See Jeff Smoot's 2018 Schurman Rock: A History and Guide. Some rent the overnight cabins.
- **Seattle Police Mounted Patrol Unit** horses are supported in part by [Mounted Patrol](#)
- **Duwamish People** live along these shores and waterways. See [Duwamish](#)
- **High Point at 520ft (158m) + xxxft (xxxm)** Water Tower tops other Seattle high points:
 - >>Maple Leaf, 466ft
 - >>Queen Anne Hill, 456ft
 - >>Volunteer Park, 444ft +75ft Water Tower
 - >>White Center, 400ft
 - >>Magnolia Hill 392ft
 - >>Mt Baker Ridge, 348ft
 - >>Phinney Ridge, 365ft
 - >>Crown Hill, 354ft
 - >>Seattle Center, 115ft +605 ft Space Needle
- **Neighborhoods** near or on this route are Greenbridge, White Center. Highland Park, Delridge, Riverview, High Point, Greg Davis Park, Puget Park
- **Olmsted Parks** on route and nearby: Westcrest Park, Duwamish Hill Parkway (unrealized), Longfellow Natural Creek Area, South Bourne Parkway (unrealized), Fautleroy and Lincoln Parks
- 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](#)