Case Study

Walkable Washington

The Walkable Washington program grew out of the Feet First Cities Program. It showcases exceptional pedestrian-oriented improvements, community groups and outreach programs; maintains a statewide network for key contacts and stakeholders including an annual symposium; and provides assistance with Safe Routes to School, walking audits and other educational activities and programs.

for more information
Please contact Scott Beckstrom, Walkable Washington Program Coordinator, at scott@feetfirst.org

Vancouver Land Bridge
Vancouver, WA

Description and purpose
The Vancouver Land Bridge is a 40-foot-wide, 3,800-foot long paved trail that arcs across State Route 14. This bridge provides a vital pathway to pedestrians between the Renaissance Waterfront Trail along the shores of the Columbia River in downtown Vancouver and Fort Vancouver. The bridge provides a great view of the Fort Vancouver, the Columbia River and Mount Hood. Educational components and interpretive landscape elements such as the Language Walk, history timeline path and photographic murals can be found along the walkway to showcase the rich history of this area.

The pedestrian bridge is part of the Confluence Project, a group of seven sites along the Columbia River with designs by artist Maya Lin (designer of the Vietnam War Memorial) that aim to create a “confluence” between the history of the region, its environment, and the peoples of the area.
Costs and funding
The Bridge cost more than $12 million to construct and was financed by federal, state, and private funds.

Implementation time-frame
The project was started in 2006 and was dedicated on August 23rd, 2008.

Community involvement
The project was carried out by a partnership of the National Park Service, the City of Vancouver, the Washington State Department of Commerce, and the Washington State Department of Transportation. The people of Vancouver were very supportive of this program.

Benefits and results
The Bridge links Colombian Street to the Waterfront and provides the opportunity for pedestrians to access the water from Downtown Vancouver by foot. Pleasant scenery and landscape design attracts a large number of pedestrians and bicyclists who actively use the Land Bridge.

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Resources
Vancouver Land Bridge website
http://www.confluenceproject.org/project-sites/vancouver-land-bridge/

Photo courtesy of Jones & Jones