



# Walkable Washington

collaborate, take action, celebrate

For information about Walkable  
Washington and other Feet First  
programs

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## 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.



### Sidewalk Business License Program Longview, WA

#### Description and purpose

Started by the City of Longview in 2000, this program gives business owners the option to place features such as seating, retail signs, etc. on the city's public sidewalks under a sidewalk business license.

The main purpose of the program was to spur economic revitalization in the downtown area. Because almost all businesses in downtown Longview were originally built to the property line, this program provides an opportunity to use the public right-of-way to conduct sales. The project has recently expanded beyond the core commerce area of downtown to all economic zones in Longview.



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## Relation to larger city pedestrian plans

This program is part of a larger effort to revitalize the downtown area. Attracting more pedestrians to the area is an integral part in increasing the economic vitality of local businesses.

## Costs and funding

The program is at no-cost to the city and to businesses. There is no application fee for the sidewalk business permits.

## Implementation time-frame

On-going

## Community involvement

This has not been a controversial program. The community has been very involved. For example, some groups have committed to maintain sidewalk plantings that businesses put into place after receiving their sidewalk business licenses.

## Benefits and results

According to the city, there has been a definite increase in the economic vitality of downtown since the start of the program. Several restaurants and cafes have increased their outdoor seating as a result of the program.

Photo courtesy of City of Longview

## Project Contacts

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## Resources

Sidewalk business license overview

<http://ci.longview.wa.us/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=23>



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