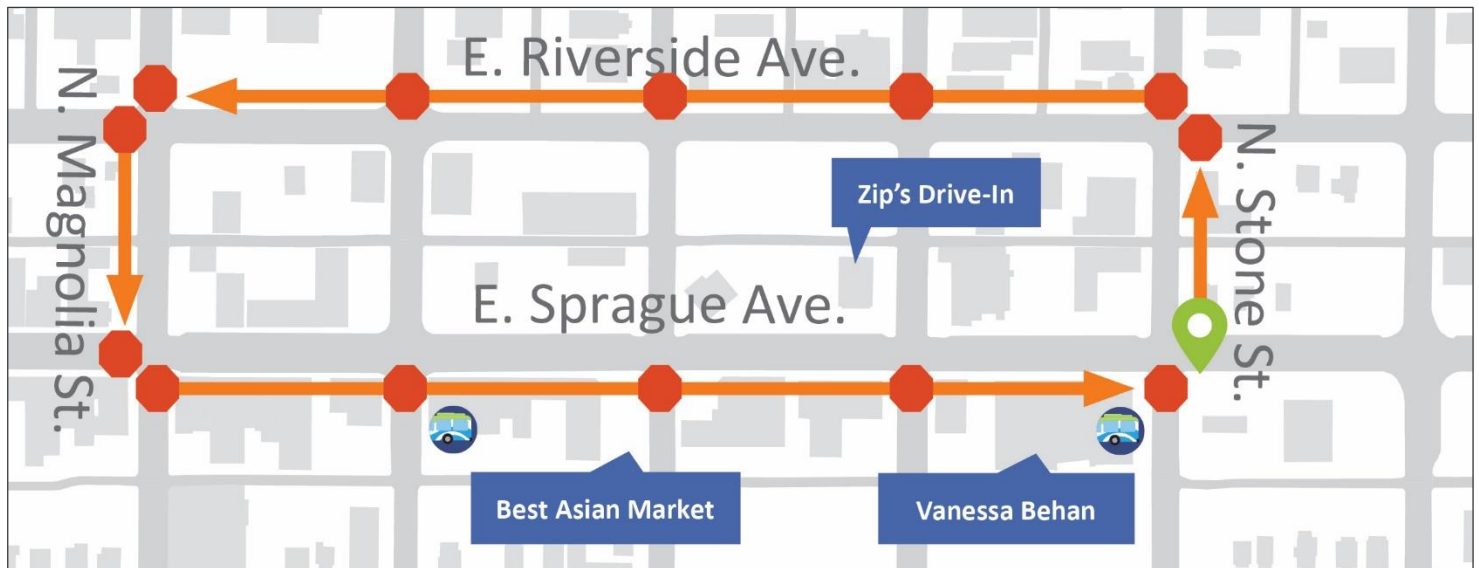


Walk Audit Route #6 Summary

East Sprague Avenue East Central Neighborhood Route



Conducting Walk Audits

A walk audit is a simple exercise that identifies and records sidewalk conditions, barriers and assets to walking, and the perceptions of people walking. It is used to improve walking conditions on a pre-planned route. Additionally, walk audits can improve understanding of the environment from an all-ability inclusive perspective. Walk audits can be used to build awareness of the importance of walkable design, identify specific pedestrian safety issues, advance policy and community development goals, inform planning decisions, and improve health and quality of life for residents.

To suggest a walk audit route in the Spokane region, please email Samantha Hennessy at shennessy@srhd.org.

Walk Audit Details

Date and time: May 6, 2025, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Route: East Sprague Avenue East Central Neighborhood Route

Hosts: staff from Spokane Regional Health District

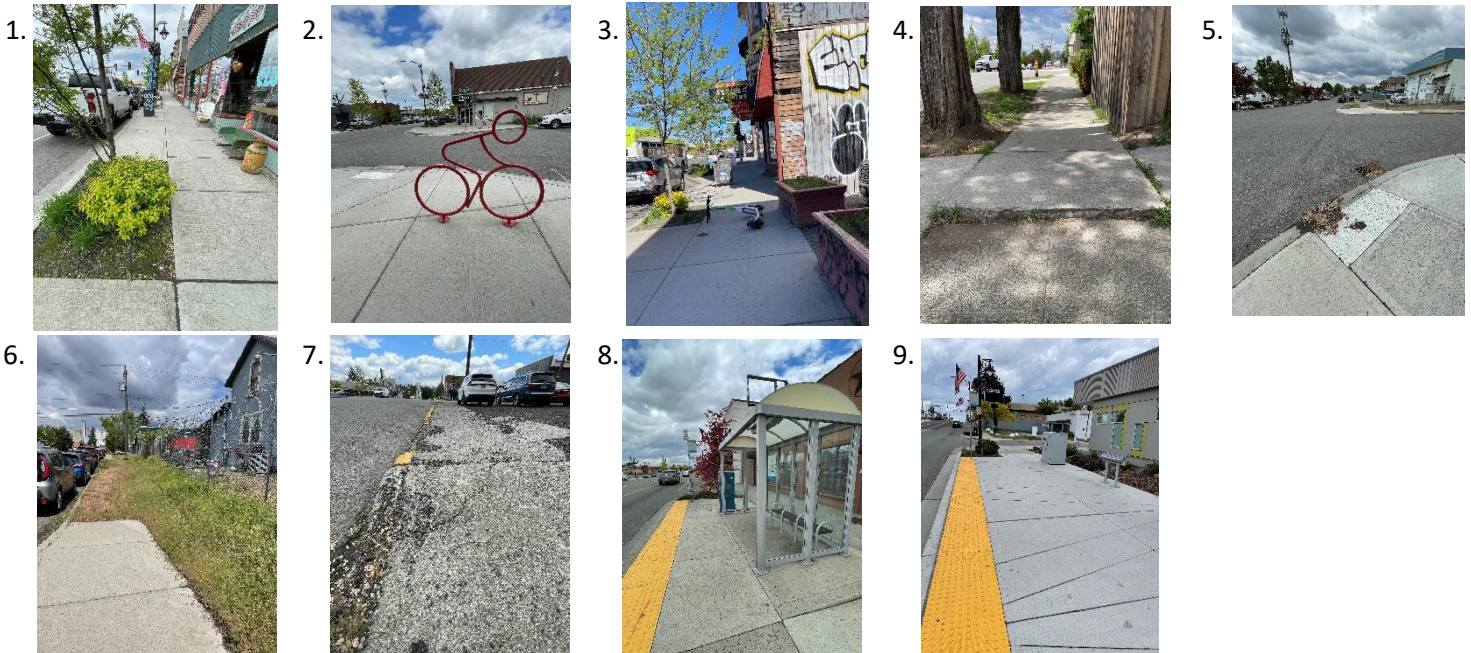
Weather: partly cloudy, temperature 72 °F

Nearby Destinations

Nearby destinations include Vanessa Behan, Spokane HOPE Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children, and Best Asian Market.

Observations

- The route had several stretches of sidewalk in good condition with a barrier between the pedestrian and traffic.
- On Sprague Avenue there were several businesses that offered decorative bicycle parking.
- There were two locations on the route and one that was visible from the route where a motorized scooter was parked on the sidewalk in a way that blocked pedestrian traffic, creating accessibility issues.
- There were sidewalks on the route that were raised by over two inches, cracked, covered in gravel, deteriorating with curbs that were crumbling, and a section that was incomplete.
- There were many street crossings on this route, and several had different styles of curb cutouts. There was one such style (see picture 5) where the pedestrian was directed towards the center of the street instead of towards the sidewalk on the neighboring corner.
- There were two Spokane Transit Authority bus stops on Sprague Avenue. The first was Sprague and Napa and the second was Sprague and Stone. The two transit stops had different facilities, covered benches versus open leaning benches, but similar features, such as a navigation strip. Both transit stops were clearly marked and accessible from the sidewalk.
- The route included one crosswalk at a traffic light on Sprague Avenue and South Napa Street. There was an audio prompt, but it could not be heard by many of the auditors due to traffic noise. The time allotted to cross South Napa Street was not enough for the auditor group to cross.



1. Wide sidewalk with landscaping on Sprague Avenue
2. Two businesses on Sprague Avenue that offer bicycle parking option
3. Motorized scooter laying down across the sidewalk on Sprague Avenue and graffiti on building and landscaping boxes
4. Raised sidewalk of over two inches on East Riverside Avenue
5. Curb cutout on East Riverside Avenue with tactile strip pointing to the center of the intersection, grate on street where pedestrians cross
6. Incomplete sidewalk on North Stone Street from finished corner on Sprague Avenue
7. Curbing that is crumbling and gravel from parking lot on North Magnolia Street
8. Spokane Transit Authority bus stop number 2855
9. Spokane Transit Authority bus stop number 2857

*The pictures provided in this section were taken during and after the walk audit.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are suggestions to improve pedestrian access in the East Central Neighborhood.

Recommendations were identified through auditor forms and notes, auditor discussion, and the AARP Build a Better Neighborhood tool.

Top Auditor Recommendations

- Increase the volume of the audio prompt, and increase the time to cross for the crosswalk on South Napa Street.
- Repair sidewalks to improve raised, cracked, and deteriorating sections of the route.

Other Recommendations

- Increase greenspace along the route by maintaining current planters and improving landscaping.
- Make improvements to the bus stop on Sprague and Stone, such as adding a bench and shelter for a more accessible user experience.
- Increase pedestrian lighting to make walkers visible to vehicle drivers and to provide natural surveillance to decrease graffiti and increase feelings of safety.
- Add mandatory motorized scooter parking in this area that is separate from the main pedestrian walkway.

Walk Audit Participants

Special thanks to the volunteer auditors:

Micah Clark

Laura Johnson

Callie Morris

Katy Parrish

Dennis Swennumson

Kim Crumpacker

Doug Trudeaus



How pedestrian-friendly and safe is this section?

**This is an average of the participants' scores on this question*

**Participants felt safer on East Sprague rating it 'Mostly'*



Walk Audit Pilot Program
1101 W. College Ave., Spokane, WA 99201 | 509.324.1493 | srhd.org

Spokane Regional Health District assures nondiscrimination in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. To file a complaint or to request more information, reasonable accommodations, or language translations, contact 509.324.1501 or visit srhd.org.