

Light Rail – Columbia City Station Y2414 6K & 10K rated 2A

Emergency dial 911

© 2025 Emerald City Wanderers Start: All the Best Pet Care, 4805 Rainier Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98118

Walk directions and map may only be used by those who have a signed AVA athletic waiver. All other uses prohibited.



Please review the Table of Contents below, and set your printer to print those pages you need:

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- 1 General Information
- 2 Driving Directions & Parking Map
- 3-4 10K walk directions and map
- 5 10K “Points of Interest” flyer
- 6-7 6K walk directions and map. (“Points of Interest” are included on same page as map)

Notice for registrants using this Online Start Box:

Please use either the Online Start Box (OSB) or Physical Start Box (PSB) to register and complete the event. Do NOT mix and match (for example, by registering using the OSB, then completing your event using the PSB, nor signing the PSB log sheet). The sponsoring club only receives credit for an OSB participant when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distances, and any special programs using the OSB.

Reminder: OSB registered users should be sure to log back in to the OSB system after doing the event, to “finish/complete” your online registration, by entering your participation date, distance, and any special programs.

10K and 6K – rated 2A:

The 10K route walks through the Columbia City Landmark District, with its restaurants, pubs, art galleries and interesting shops. The route explores several parks and quaint neighborhoods, and strolls along the shore of Lake Washington. Visit the Farmer’s Market, Wednesdays, May – October, 3:00 to 7:00 (Nov – April, second Saturdays, 10 to 2), next to the start location. The 6K is same, without the stroll along the lakeshore, but includes an unparalleled panoramic Lake view.

Comments:

There are no restrooms at the start location. But, at PCC grocery next door, restrooms are available. Enter and turn left, behind produce. There are other restroom options on the route. Pets are not allowed on Light Rail, but are allowed on the route if arriving otherwise. Moderate difficulty for strollers and wheelchairs, with one relatively steep downhill grade for a short distance on both routes (no guarantee that all sidewalk corners have curb cuts for wheelchair users). The 10K route is closed for the annual hydroplane races during SeaFair, held August 1st -3rd, 2025, due to blocked sidewalks for the event. The 6K route will be open but the area will be congested at that time.

Start point address:

All The Best Pet Care
4805 Rainier Ave. S.
Seattle, WA 98118
47° 33' 33.3"N -122° 17' 32.9"W

Station Address:

Columbia City Light Rail Station
4818 Martin Luther King Jr. Way S.
Seattle, WA 98118
47° 33' 33.55"N -122° 17' 9.99"W

Challenges:

AVA:

Par for the Course – both routes.
Step to the Beat – both routes. Columbia City Theater and The Royal Room.

ESVA:

Tell Me a Story – both routes. Seattle Public Library – Columbia City branch.
That’s Entertainment – both routes:

Cultural – Rainier Valley Cultural Center, ARK Lodge Cinema (both routes)

Craft Shops – Kids’ Carpentry (both routes), Community Photo Lab (10K only)

Light Rail Challenge:

South region. Qualifier: Columbia City Station.

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Driving Directions:

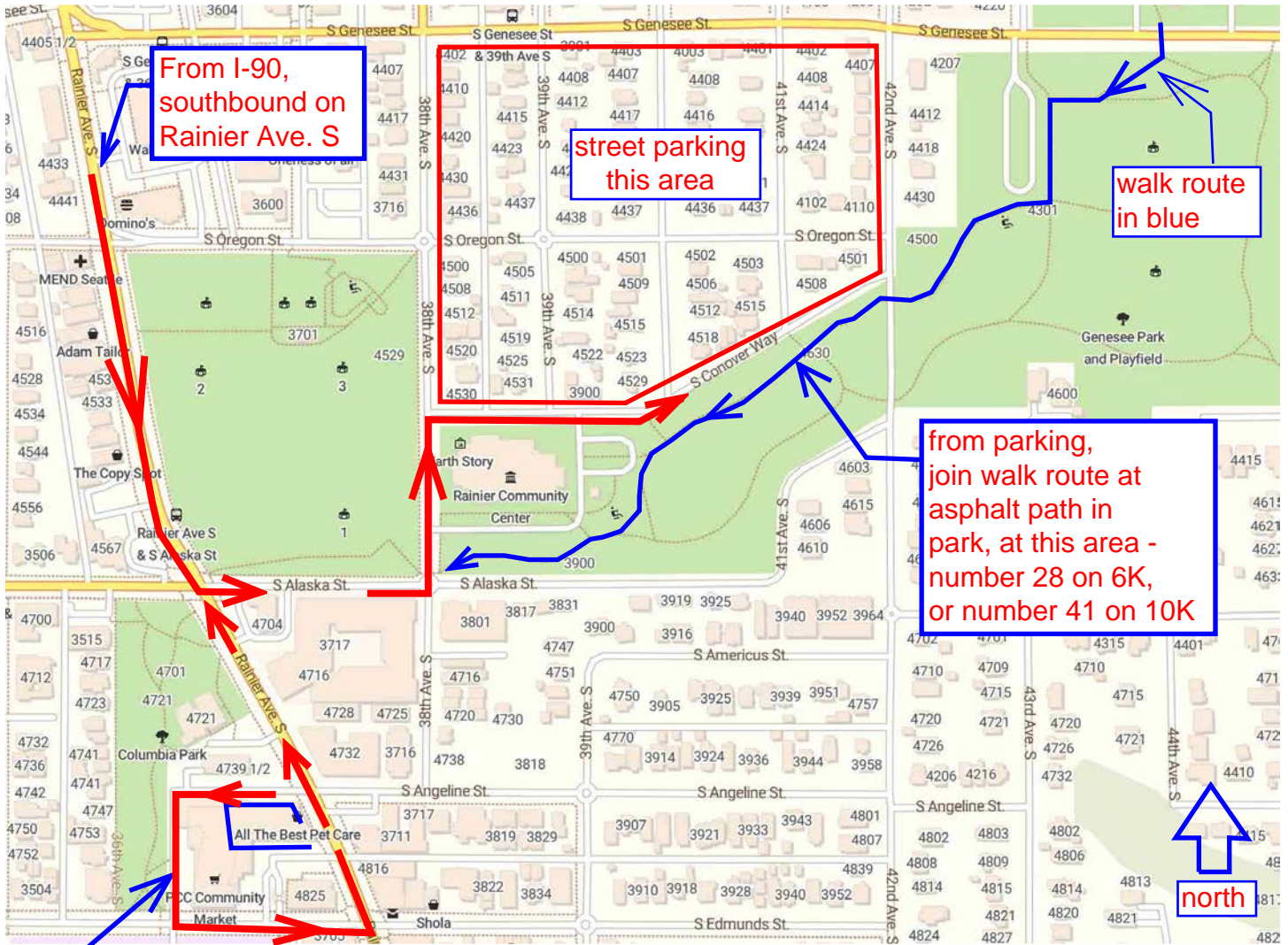
From I-5, exit onto I-90, eastbound. Immediately take exit 3 (Rainier Ave. S.). **RIGHT** on Rainier (southbound). Drive 2.3 miles. The store is one half-block south of S. Alaska St., on right. For free parking without time limits, see below.

Parking:

The store lot is for customers only, and nearby street parking is metered and limited to 2-hours. For suggested parking that is free and without time limits, follow driving directions as noted above, except:

As you're headed southbound on Rainier Ave. S, instead of crossing Alaska St. and turning right into store, turn **LEFT** on S. Alaska St. Continue one block, then **LEFT** on 38th Ave. S. Continue one block, passing the Community Center on your right, and turn **RIGHT** on S. Conover Way. Street parking should be available in this residential area to your left— see map below. (If you've already parked at the store, and need directions to parking, see notes in map below).

To start your walk after parking your car, walk south to S. Conover Way and cross the grass to enter the park. Turn **RIGHT** on the asphalt path, walking toward a parking lot. Start your walk at number 28 for the 6K route, or number 41 of the 10K route.



To street parking from Start Location at All the Best Pet Care:
Drive around PCC grocery (keeping PCC on your left) to S. Edmonds St.
LEFT on Edmonds. **LEFT** on Rainier Ave. S. **RIGHT** on Alaska. **LEFT** on 38th Ave. S.
RIGHT on Conover. Street parking in neighborhood on your left, as shown.

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Emergency: Dial 911.

No restrooms at Start. For restrooms, go next door, to PCC grocery. Enter, turn left, behind produce. Do not park at Start Location – see Parking Map.

1. Kindly thank the staff for hosting the walk box. Exit store, turn **RIGHT** to walk to street (Rainier Ave. S.).
- 2. **RIGHT** on Rainier. Walk one block to S. Edmunds St.
- 3. **CROSS** Edmunds, then **RIGHT** to continue on Edmunds, walking on left side, to Martin Luther King (MLK).
- 4. At MLK, **RIGHT** to **CROSS** Edmunds (Light Rail Station in median). Continue on MLK, to S. Alaska St.

Light Rail Riders – Alternate Start Here. Disembark train and walk to north end of platform at S. Alaska St. Turn RIGHT to CROSS northbound lanes of Martin Luther King Jr. Way S. (MLK). Turn LEFT to face Alaska. Then:

5. **CROSS** Alaska. Continue on MLK to S. Oregon St.
- 6. **CROSS** Oregon, then **LEFT** to carefully **CROSS** MLK.
7. Continue on Oregon (now called S. Columbian Way), one block, to 29th Ave. S.
8. **RIGHT** on 29th. Walk to the end at S. Nevada St.
9. **CROSS** Nevada. Continue on sidewalk between the houses, **CROSSING** a paved alley, to street beyond, at the corner of 29th Ave. S. and S. Adams St.
10. **CROSS** S. Adams St. Continue straight on 29th to the end, as it **VEERS RIGHT** to become S. Dakota St.
11. At the light at MLK, carefully **CROSS** MLK (Patience: may be a long wait if there are approaching trains).
12. **RIGHT** on MLK. Walk two blocks, to S. Nevada St.
13. **LEFT** on S. Nevada St. Walk one block to 31st Ave. S.
14. **RIGHT** on 31st. Walk one block to S. Genesee St.
15. **LEFT** on Genesee. Walk one block to Renton Ave. S.
16. **CROSS** then **RIGHT** on Renton. Walk on left side of Renton for one block, to the p-patch on the corner.
17. **LEFT** on the sidewalk that goes diagonally next to the p-patch, to the street corner beyond, at S. Oregon St.
18. At Oregon, **CROSS DIAGONALLY** toward the **LEFT**, to street sign post on opposite corner, at 33rd Ave. S.
19. **RIGHT** on 33rd. Walk to the end at S. Alaska St.
20. **LEFT** on Alaska. Continue to the light at 35th Ave. S.
21. At 35th, use walk signal to turn **RIGHT** to **CROSS** Alaska. Then **LEFT** to **CROSS** 35th. Continue on Alaska to 36th Ave. S. (3K) (Note, there is no street at 36th, just a sidewalk. Look for Rainier Cultural Arts Center on your right).

- 22. **RIGHT** on sidewalk with the sign for 36th Ave. S. (keeping park on left). Continue to S. Edmunds St.
23. **LEFT** on Edmunds. Walk two blocks to Rainier Ave.
- 24. At Rainier, turn **RIGHT** to **CROSS** S. Edmunds St. Continue on Rainier, two blocks, to S. Hudson St.
25. At Hudson, turn **LEFT** to carefully **CROSS** Rainier. Continue on Hudson to the end at 46th Ave. S.
26. **RIGHT** on 46th. Walk three blocks to S. Brandon St.
27. **LEFT** on Brandon. Continue to Wilson Ave. S. at stop sign. (note, you will **CROSS** 50th and 51st)
28. **LEFT** on Wilson. Walk through small commercial district, as Wilson angles to merge with 50th Ave. S. (50th is the main arterial heading downhill).
29. **STRAIGHT** on 50th, downhill, to S. Genesee St.
30. At Genesee, turn **RIGHT** to **CROSS** 50th Ave. S. Continue on Genesee, one block, to 51st Ave. S.
31. **CROSS** 51st. Continue on Genesee as it **VEERS RIGHT**, downhill, to Lake Washington Blvd. S.
32. **CROSS** Lake WA Blvd, and parking lot, to path. (7K)
- 33. **LEFT** on asphalt path. Continue for about 1.5K to the Mount Baker Sailing & Rowing Center (Look for two buildings and a parking lot. Restrooms).
- 34. Before reaching parking lot at Rowing Center, turn **LEFT** on path leading back up to Lake WA Blvd.
35. **LEFT** to **CROSS** Lake WA Blvd. at crosswalk.
36. Enter the park, and follow the main gravel path to far end of park, always taking the left fork. After passing a restroom building, continue past a parking lot on your right, to the street (S. Genesee St.).
37. **CROSS** Genesee. **VEER RIGHT** on asphalt path.
38. Continue to parking lot and turn **LEFT**.
39. At the little building, turn **RIGHT** (past playground on left). Follow path to street (42nd Ave. S.). (9K)
40. **CROSS** 42nd. Follow asphalt path into next park, essentially **STRAIGHT**, to the parking lot ahead.
41. At parking lot, stay on asphalt path and turn **LEFT**, (playground on your right) to the next asphalt path.
42. **RIGHT** on next asphalt path, to street (38th Ave. S.).
43. **CROSS** 38th Ave. S. Walk up S. Alaska St. to stop light.
44. At Rainier, turn **LEFT** to **CROSS** S. Alaska St., then turn **RIGHT** to **CROSS** Rainier Ave. S.
- 45. Turn **LEFT** to continue on Rainier Ave. S., one block, to start point, at All the Best Pet Care, on your right.

Light Rail – Columbia City Station Y2414 10K Points of Interest

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Numbers below correspond to the number on walk directions – see dot in the margin of walk directions and red dot on map.

2. Ark Lodge Cinemas: (on your left) Former Masonic Lodge, now an independent movie house, showing big-budget first-run movies, and “Dark Lodge” – a series for the occasional goofy horror picture, some with a cult following.
3. In summer, visit the Columbia City Farmers Market, Wed, 3:00 – 7:00, on S. Edmunds St., next to PCC grocery.
4. Columbia City Light Rail Station art:
Pride: A collection of sculptures at the corner of MLK & Edmunds: Lions carved in stone, brick, or cast in bronze, from many cultures, facing in all different directions, are positioned to guard the south entry and welcome riders to ensure a safe journey. By Seattle-based artist Norie Sato.
A Relic in the Garden: Sculptures by artist Gale McCall. An abstracted magnifying glass – one on each side of the Station. See what shapes you can find in their filigree lenses – we see a spy-glass, a bowl with chopsticks, and more. These are accompanied by large woven bronze baskets, colorfully illuminated at night.
Global Garden: At the north end, look across the street for a giant shovel. This piece, articulated with organic forms and cast in bronze, is by Chicago-based artist Victoria Fuller. Formed with castings made from real plants and trees from all over the world, the artist says the sculpture symbolizes the diversity of ethnic groups in the Rainier Valley.
6. This neighborhood north of the Light Rail Station is called Rainier Vista. Originally built in 1941, this 90-acre development was created to provide housing for WWII defense workers. Completely rebuilt from 1999 to 2010, this neighborhood has a multitude of housing options in a mixed-income community. Parks, playgrounds and P-patches abound, and local small shops are open for business along the commercial strip on MLK. New development currently underway promises new additions to the business district and more multi-story apartment buildings.
22. Rainier Valley Cultural Center: Elegant 1921 National Landmark, hosting artistic and cultural neighborhood events.
Columbia Park: A lovely community green space – a sylvan setting for Jazz in the Park, held here monthly during the Farmers Market. Also great for kids’ sledding when it snows in winter, or summertime movies under the stars.
24. This strip along Rainier Ave. is an Historic Landmark District, a title designated locally by Seattle’s Landmark Preservation Board, and registered nationally by the National Park Service. Originally incorporated in 1893, Columbia City was both a thriving business hub and a locale for summer residences at that time. The area continues to be the center for a diverse and vibrant neighborhood, with an active arts community, several popular restaurants, many interesting shops, and a wide range of businesses and non-profits.
33. Lake Washington: Labelled Duwamish Lake on early maps, the name was changed in 1854 to coincide with the name of the new Washington Territory. The greenway along the lake shore is part of the Olmstead Legacy and their vision for an “emerald necklace” of linked greenspaces in Seattle. Other parts of this necklace include Seward Park to the south, and many parks in the Mount Baker neighborhood to the north, and several others. From this shore: Mercer Island is to the east on your right, and on clear days Mount Baker is visible to the north.
34. Mt. Baker Rowing Center: Programs for rowing, sailing, kayaking and windsurfing for ages 8 to 100, and the site for Seafair hydroplane races. Other Seafair events – parades, royalty, a fun-run, the Blue Angles air show, and pirates !
45. Columbia Branch Library: Built in 1915 as a Carnegie Library, this Georgian Revival style building was designed by Seattle architects Somervell & Thomas. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. The building was tastefully renovated, updated, and expanded in 2004 by Seattle architects Cardwell/Thomas (no relation to the 1915 architect). The library and adjacent greenspace mark the north end of the Columbia City Historic Landmark District.

For an interesting article on the history of Columbia City, check out this History Link article: historylink.org/File/3327

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- 4. At MLK, **RIGHT** to **CROSS** Edmunds (Light Rail Station in median). Continue on MLK, to S. Alaska St.

Light Rail Riders – Alternate Start Here. Disembark train and walk to north end of platform at S. Alaska St. Continue as per below:

5. **RIGHT** on Alaska. Walk 2-1/2 blocks to 36th Ave. S. (Note, there is no street at 36th, just a sidewalk. Look for Rainier Cultural Arts Center on your right).
- 6. **RIGHT** on sidewalk with the sign for 36th Ave. S. (keeping park on left). Continue to S. Edmunds St.
7. **LEFT** on Edmunds. Walk two blocks to Rainier Ave. S.
- 8. At Rainier, turn **RIGHT** to **CROSS** S. Edmunds St. This is the Columbia City Landmark District. Continue on Rainier, two blocks, to S. Hudson St.
9. At Hudson, turn **LEFT** to carefully **CROSS** Rainier.
10. **LEFT** on Rainier (now walking on the right side of Rainier). Continue three blocks to S. Alaska St.
11. **RIGHT** on Alaska. Walk one block to 38th Ave. S.
12. **CROSS** 38th, then **LEFT** to **CROSS** Alaska.
13. **RIGHT** onto asphalt path, keeping parking lot on your left. Continue on this path, always taking the right fork, to the next street (42nd Ave. S.).
14. **CROSS** 42nd and continue on asphalt path.
15. At the first intersection, turn **LEFT**, walking toward a small playground on your left, and keeping the soccer fields on your right.
16. Continue to the far corner of the last soccer field. Turn **RIGHT** and follow the asphalt path as it **VEERS LEFT** to the crosswalk at the street (S. Genesee St.).
17. Carefully **CROSS** Genesee at the crosswalk. (3K)
18. **RIGHT** to continue on Genesee, three blocks.

- 19. **LEFT** on 47th Ave. S. Walk to end at S. Bradford St. Pause at the viewpoint as you wish.
20. **LEFT** on Bradford. Walk one block to the end, then **CROSS** and **RIGHT** for the pedestrian ramp downhill (caution, one obscure step at bottom of ramp).
21. **LEFT** to **CROSS** the street (46th Ave. S.), then **RIGHT** to continue downhill, as the street **VEERS LEFT** to the corner at Lake Washington Blvd.
- 22. Walk a short distance to the gravel path at the park. **LEFT** on the gravel path. (Optional: for a close-up view of the lake, **RIGHT** to carefully **CROSS** Lake Washington Blvd. The Mount Baker Rowing Center and docks are down on left. Restrooms. Retrace your steps back to this gravel path at this park. See map for this option shown in dashed lines.)
23. Continue on the main gravel path to far end of park, always taking the left fork. After passing a restroom building, continue past a parking lot on your right, to the street (S. Genesee St.).
24. **CROSS** Genesee and **VEER RIGHT** on asphalt path into the park.
25. Continue on the asphalt path, keeping soccer field on your left. At the parking lot, turn **LEFT**. Walk toward the little building and playground ahead.
26. At the little building turn **RIGHT** (passing playground on your left). Follow the asphalt path to the street (42nd Ave. S.).
27. **CROSS** 42nd Ave. S. Follow the asphalt path into the next park beyond, going essentially **STRAIGHT** to the parking lot ahead.
28. At the parking lot, stay on the asphalt path and turn **LEFT**, keeping the playground on your right, to the next asphalt path.
29. **RIGHT** on the next asphalt path, passing the next parking lot on your right. Continue to street corner (38th & Alaska).
30. **CROSS** 38th Ave. S. Walk uphill on S. Alaska St., one block, to the traffic light at Rainier Ave. S.
31. At Rainier, turn **LEFT** to **CROSS** S. Alaska St., then turn **RIGHT** to **CROSS** Rainier Ave. S.
32. Turn **LEFT** to continue on Rainier Ave. S., one block, to start point, at All the Best Pet Care, on your right.

Light Rail – Columbia City Station Y2414 6K Map & Points of Interest



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19. Lake Washington: Labelled “Duwamish Lake” on early maps, the name was changed in 1854 to match the name of the new Washington Territory. The greenway along the lake shore is part of the Olmstead Legacy and their vision for an “emerald necklace” of linked greenspaces throughout Seattle. From here, Mercer Island is on your right; and on a clear day, Mt. Baker, one among many glacier-clad volcanoes in our region, is to the north.

22. Mount Baker Rowing Center, with programs for rowing, sailing, kayaking and windsurfing for ages 8 to 100, and the locus of the Seafair hydroplane races. Other events during Seafair include parades, royalty, a fun-run, the Blue Angles air show, and pirates !

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