Gresham: Springwater Corridor Trail

These two walks travel part of the 16.8-mile Springwater Corridor Trail, the first urban Rails-to-Trails conversion project in Oregon. It runs from near the Willamette River in Portland to Boring, Oregon. Along Gresham’s 4.8 miles of the trail, pass restored railroad trestles and wetlands, and visit sites of Gresham’s history. The trail roughly parallels Johnson Creek, one of the last free-flowing streams in the metro area.

Route One

[5.2 miles 10982 steps difficulty 45-495, -122.430]

The first route, a 2.6-mile one-way walk, heads west from downtown Gresham. Enter the Springwater Corridor Trail at 219 S. Main Avenue in Main City Park. At Walters Drive, investigate three pioneer cemeteries adjacent to the trail. Continue west on the trail to Linneman Station, a replica of a 1903 streetcar station that burned down at this site in 1995. The station, once a popular destination for weekend tourists from Portland, is one of the last remaining depots in Oregon’s once-extensive interurban electric railway system. It features railroad memorabilia and artifacts of early Gresham life.

From Linneman Station, continue west; turn right on Highland Drive and walk about 0.25 mile on the sidewalk to Powell Boulevard. Turn right on Powell to catch Bus 9 east back to Gresham Central Station. To travel west to Portland, cross Powell at Highland, turn left and walk 350 feet to the bus stop. Or return to the start by retracing your steps.

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