# GREENLAKE

The University of Washington FIG newsletter

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## **Background Information**

Located north of downtown Seattle, Green Lake is a medium sized neighborhood that is perfect for outdoor recreational activities to diverse businesses for all ages. The park is well-known, attracting people from all places to experience and visit. On a typical day, you'll find people walking around with their pets, fishing, and playing pickleball and tennis. In the summer, Green lake is crowded with people at West Green Lake Beach swimming and kayaking. Overall, it is a beautiful place to visit and should be experienced by everyone.





### **Asset or Barrier**

The overall evaluation of Green Lake is 4, all topics are assets for the neighborhood. Urban planning is an asset for Green Lake. The center of Green Lake includes the lake and park that the city has established to make it a suburban city. The park had pathways for walking and bike lanes. The current and future design of Green Lake allows the community to gather and enjoy the amenities together. Parks and Green spaces are definitely an asset to the city of Green Lake. They bring the community closer together, offer beautiful scenery and even a habitat for many animals and people. Race, ethnicity, and culture was an asset for Green Lake, because of the diversity observed at Green Lake. People of all races were seen enjoying their time in the park, and the culture was noticeable as well. There were signs with all kinds of languages on them. Lastly, business is an asset with industry flourishing all throughout Green Lake. There are multiple businesses improving the overall quality of the park. The neighborhood is a large attraction for people who want to live and visit, boosting their overall economy tremendously.

## **Observations**

Written by: Blake Koeller

When taking a personal visit to Green Lake there were plenty of people walking around enjoying the various different types of activities and sights provided by beautiful Green Lake. I saw people in the coffee shop getting a hot cup before they take a stroll around Green Lake, as well as a boathouse full of boats for rental, although not occupational in the cold months of the winter. It was about everything I had expected from my research done prior to the visit and it was awesome to see that it all came together. Business and economy are by far an asset and create a fun welcoming environment for all those who live there and those who visit or want to.

## **History**

About 50,000 years ago, Green Lake was formed from the Vashon Glacial Ice Sheet. Green Lake Park was designed by the Olmsted Brothers in the early 1900s. In 1905, Washington state owned the rights to Green Lake and made improvements to the neighborhood. The neighborhood has been expanded, dredged, with additions of native flora and fauna. Today, the neighborhood is 323.7 acres, home to about 13,000 people and is still growing till today.



## Population Health Topic(s) Information

#### **Business**

Written by: Blake Koeller

Green lake is extremely diverse and full of different businesses both in Green Lake and the close surrounding areas. There is a plethora of everything including two theatre studios, lodging, bowling, yoga, all of which is right on the Green Lake and looking right out at beautiful Green Lake. The multitude of different types of businesses coupled with the crucial urban planning factor that the businesses are right next to the Green Lake trail which largely increases foot traffic, sales made, and business as a whole. It would seem that if they continue at the rate they are, this neighborhood is one that will only continue to grow and flourish.





### Race and Ethnicity

Written by: Perry Liu

Green Lake is a less diverse area than the rest of Seattle. 79% of Green Lake is white, compared to 69% across Seattle as a whole, and only 1.14% of their population is black compared to 7% throughout Seattle. 13.5% of their population is Asian, which is similar to the number across Seattle as well, but other races such as Native Americans and Mixed-race people are all lower in Green Lake compared to Seattle.

However, this difference was not noticeable at all on our trip to Green Lake. Around the Green Lake park and community center, people of all genders, races, and ages were all enjoying the park. There did not appear to be any kind of barrier for who went to the park. The sheer diversity of people was honestly incredibly surprising and disproportionate to what the data was saying.

# Population Health Topic(s) Information

### **Parks and Green Spaces**

Written by: Mitchell Franklin

Green Lake is scattered with beautiful trees and homes but there is one feature that makes this place remarkable. The lake. Most things revolve around the physical lake in Green Lake. There are trails, big grass fields to play sports on, canoes to rent, tennis courts, you name it. The location of the lake gives easy access to all people, as it is public. There are entry points to the trail that goes around the lake on all sides, keeping the community healthy and active. During the fall, the trees that cast over the trail turns orange and brown, creating amazing scenery. There is also a park for children on one side of the lake that includes a play structure and other structures for kids to play on. If you are hungry while in the middle of your walk or want to pick up your morning cup of coffee, there is a cute little cafe filled with pastries and drinks to fit the season.



## **Urban Planning**

Written by: Amelia Ide



One highlight about Green Lake is that it features both an urban neighborhood while having the park and lake as the focal point of the city. As a smaller neighborhood, Green Lake's goal is to be thoroughly designed in using all the land given and create an environment safe for pedestrians. Currently, the neighborhood is convenient and safe for residents and visitors to easily get around in the suburban area. An ongoing plan for Green Lake is to renovate and improve the neighborhood's design and quality of life for the residents. In the current Green Lake community center and pool redevelopment, the city plans to shift the parking lot around in order to install large planted islands that will clean stormwater and plant larger trees for shade. With this redevelopment plan, the recreation at Green Lake will be updated and sustainable for the community.

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your Green Lake favs

