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Study: Washington top city for walkers

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 4 (UPI) -- Washington, Boston and San Francisco have been named the top U.S. cities for people who prefer to walk.

Christopher Leinberger, author of "The Option of Urbanism: Investing in a New American Dream," released a field survey Tuesday with the Brookings Institution that ranked cities according to how easily residents can find work, entertainment, schools, shops and restaurants within easy walking distance of their homes.

The top 10 also included Denver; Portland, Ore.; Seattle; Chicago; Miami; Pittsburgh; and New York.

"The 'Leave It To Beaver' drivable suburban vision of the American Dream is being supplemented by the 'Seinfeld' vision of walkable urbanism," Leinberger said. "As demographic trends and consumer preferences take hold, the nearby suburbs of many major cities are changing to meet the pent up demand for this new way of life. The outer suburbs are also beginning to follow suit, through the development of so-called 'lifestyle centers.' The American Dream, as laid out on the ground, is changing."

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