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Bay Area was Made for Walking San Francisco ranks tops on annual list

By [SAJID FAROOQ](#)

Updated 3:45 PM PDT, Tue, Apr 7, 2009

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A man walks by the offices of Asian Week in San Francisco's Chinatown.

In [San Francisco](#), walking is a way of life. Don't believe us? Then get ready to call the folks at [Prevention Magazine](#) liars to their face.

The magazine ranked San Francisco as the best walking city in its annual survey with the [American Podiatric Medical Association](#) and Sperling's Best Places.

The city was recognized partly because its government devotes 12 agencies to walking issues. [Oakland](#) made the list at number 11 and [San Jose](#) made it at 19.

“Whether you hoof it for fitness or walk to minimize your carbon footprint, Prevention’s list will get you up off the couch to discover, or even re-discover, what some of America’s finest cities have to offer,” said Prevention Fitness Director Michele Stanten.

The magazine evaluated metro areas based on 19 criteria including population density per square mile, use of mass transit, crime rates, and square miles of local and state parks. Prevention, APMA, and Sperling's Best Places also consulted with a panel of nationally recognized experts in the field of walking communities.

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