

A New City Planning Vision for Tokyo

By Bureau of City Planning Tokyo Metropolitan Government

A "New City Planning Vision for Tokyo" that clarifies basic policies regarding the implementation of urban planning in the future was established in October 2001.

1. Necessity for New Urban Development

As we face the advent of an age of declining population and major socioeconomic shifts, it is necessary to change from demand-led urban development that constantly tries to catch up in the area of infrastructure development to policy-led urban development with clearly defined goals realized through the participation and cooperation of various entities.

2. Urban Development Ideals and Goals

(1) Urban development ideals

1. Maintain and develop economic dynamics that ensure international competitiveness
2. Coexistence with environment enabling continuous prosperity
3. Creation and diffusion of original urban culture
4. Realization of high-quality living environment in which people can live safely and healthily
5. Participation and cooperation of various entities including metropolitan citizens, corporations, and NPOs, etc.

(2) Urban development goals and goal schedules

The goal of urban development is defined as "the creation of Tokyo as an world-leading international city that is attractive and lively," and 2025 has been set as the intermediate target date within the vision of the city for the next 50 years.

3. Aim of Urban Image

Moving toward a "circular megalopolis structure," which is a multi-functional, intensive urban structure that exploits the merit in terms of integration of contemplating the entire Tokyo Megalopolis Region, the major directions for structural urban infrastructure and future land use are

indicated.



[Framework for Tokyo's Urban Infrastructure and Zoning](#)



[General Direction for land use in Tokyo](#)

Thirteen strategies to be implemented are also defined along with the division of Tokyo into five zones and a distinctive future image presented for each zone based on a broad viewpoint.



[Central Core Revitalization Zone](#)



[Tokyo Bay Waterfront Vitalization Zone](#)



[Urban environment revitalization zone](#)



[Nuclear city regional collaboration zone](#)



[Natural environment preservation and utilization zone](#)

4. Implementation of Policy-Led Urban Development

In order to realize the aim of urban image, policy-led urban development shall be actively promoted.

(1) Maintenance and development of urban dynamics

1. Encourage the renovation of decrepit office buildings, etc., in downtown, and strengthen international business functions
2. Aim to strengthen airport functions including the re-expansion of Haneda Airport, and complete the three loop roads of the Tokyo Megalopolis Region.
3. Systematically develop the railroad network and achieve a congestion rate of 150%

allowing commuters to comfortably read a newspaper while riding the train.

(2) Creation of affluent urban environment

1. Aim for the creation of water and green spaces in various areas of urban development and increase the percentage of greenery (percentage of total region occupied by forested areas, agricultural areas, greenery in residential districts and parks, etc.) by 20% in wards, and maintain current status in the Tama region.
2. Encourage to formulate district planning measures that take into consideration the environment and promote urban development in harmony with the environment.

(3) Creation and diffusion of urban culture

1. Through the restoration and preservation of historic buildings such as Tokyo Station, and the reconstruction of the landscape at the Nihonbashi River, develop urban spaces of charm and character that are representative of Japan.
2. Develop a waterfront urban resort that also gets noticed from overseas, exploiting the attractiveness of the coastal region.

(4) Towards a safe and healthy living environment

1. Through the formation of high-quality housing stock mostly by the private sector in central and core zones, promote city center residence and realize proximity of residence and place of work.
2. Promote people-friendly urban development through the creation of integrated regions free of barriers encompassing, for example, transport systems around stations and surrounding shopping districts.
3. In high-density wood-house residential districts, aim to raise the fireproofing levels (an index indicating the resistance to fire of urban areas) up to about 60% by utilizing a block rearrangement program (tentative name), new fire protection district system, etc.

(5) New urban development by the progress of computerization

1. By utilizing ITS (Intelligent Transportation Programs), realize rational transportation administration thereby eliminating, for example, traffic congestion.

5 New Urban Development System

Future urban development must be systematically promoted through the participation and cooperation of many different entities such as the administration, metropolitan citizens, corporations, NPOs, etc. For this purpose, new urban development systems shall be created through the establishment of the "Basic Urban Development Ordinance" (tentative name), etc.

(1) Creation of block rearrangement program (tentative name)

Create systems to change urban areas that give an impression of disorder into spaces that are well ordered and planned, incorporating the will of landowners, not for individual plots, but on a larger scale at the block and district level.

(2) Creation of urban space designer system

Create a system for creating urban spaces that have originality and charm, using urban space designers, mainly in areas that seek foremost to create nice urban spaces.

(3) Other new endeavors

Supply information from an early planning stage and reinforce the introduction of PI-style methods for planning, the study of the use of taxation systems, and the enhancement of information provision systems.

Source: <http://www.toshikei.metro.tokyo.jp/>

Access time: 01/05/2004