

Development of Road Networks

Roads play a crucial role in not only aiding the smooth flow of people and vehicles as they go about their daily lives and business, but in numerous other capacities as well, such as forming the framework of built-up areas, providing space for water supply and sewer pipes and other city infrastructure, acting as firebreaks, and providing greenery in the form of roadside trees.

The systematic and efficient formation of a road network is essential to resolve traffic congestion in Tokyo and to revitalize the National Capital Region. In order to achieve this goal, the TMG has been building roads designated under the City Planning Act (city-planned roads) and the three Tokyo Megalopolis ring expressways.

Development Policy for City-Planned Roads

Roads totaling some 3,210 kilometers in Tokyo have been designated for development under the City Planning Act, but as of March 31, 2023, the completion rate was only about 65percent. For the systematic construction of city-planned roads, the TMG, the special wards, 26 cities, and 2 towns in March 2016 jointly formulated the "Development Policy for City-Planned Roads in Tokyo (4th Construction Plan)," which is a 10-year plan.

Key Elements

(1) 4th Construction Plan

(selection of roads for priority development)

Taking into account both regional and local needs, six criteria were used to select 320 sections totaling 226 kilometers of roads for priority development by fiscal 2025. In making the selection, all pertinent factors were considered, including the project's sustainability and feasibility.

(2) Review of the future city-planned road network

The necessity of city-planned road projects for which work has not yet started was reviewed based on 15 criteria. Those projects that did not meet any of the criteria (9 sections totaling about 4.9 kilometers) were designated as "routes (sections) for review." The TMG is advancing the required city planning procedures as the directions for plans are finalized.

(3) Re-examination of road plans

Among road projects that were confirmed to be necessary, 28 sections totaling around 30.4 kilometers were designated as "routes (sections) for re-examination of plans" for review of the details of the project, including the width and structure of the road.

Regarding the course, width, and structure of the roads, the TMG is implementing necessary procedures for city-planned roads, while taking into account the various issues surrounding each route.

(4) Further easing of restrictions on construction

Deregulation was expanded to allow construction of structures up to three floors in all areas of city-planned roads, including roads for priority development (excluding some cities and wards).

(5) The Basic Policy for the Future of City-Planned Roads in Tokyo

In November 2019, the TMG went on to formulate the Basic Policy for the Future of City-Planned Roads, which sets forth the methods used in reviewing city-planned roads and policies for changes to individual route plans and other matters. City planning procedures are being advanced starting with routes for which preparations have been completed.

Since the 4th Construction Plan is set to expire at the end of fiscal 2025, efforts are being made to study the formulation of a new development policy, considering factors such as changes in societal and economic conditions, as well as diversifying needs with regard to roads.

Current status of city-planned roads (as of March 31, 2023)

Area	Planned length km	(Completion rate) Completed road length km	Length of roads under construction km	Uninitiated road length km
Special-ward area	1,770	(66.7%) 1,181	165	423
Tama area	1,426	(62.8%) 896	144	384
Islands	10	(100%) 10	0	0
Total	3,207	(65.1%) 2,088	310	808

※Urban expressways and roads designated for automobile traffic only are not included.

※Totals in each column may not match due to rounding.

※Uninitiated road length includes almost completed road.

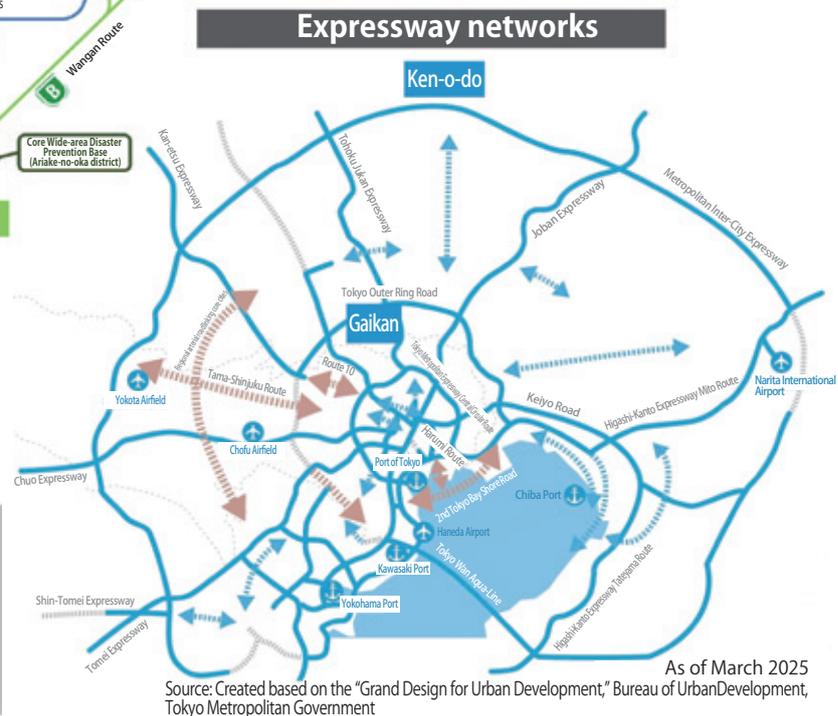
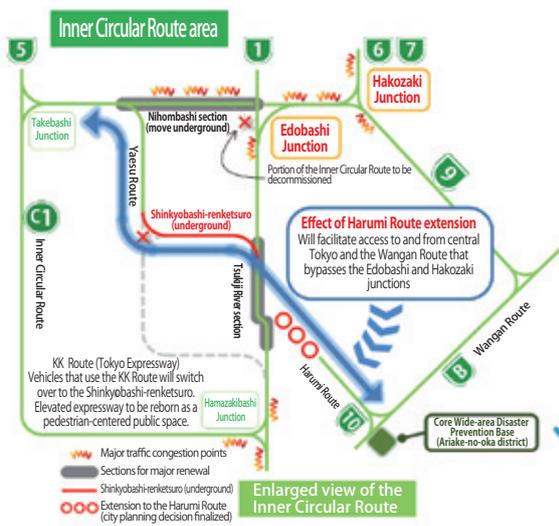
Promoting Construction of the Expressway Network

Three Ring Expressways of the National Capital Region

In terms of regional transportation infrastructure, the Three Ring Expressways of the National Capital Region are essential to the Greater Tokyo Area, which supports the functions of Japan's capital. The Tokyo Metropolitan Expressway (Shutokei) Central Circular Route, the first ring expressway to fully open in 2015, together with the Metropolitan Inter-City Expressway (Ken-o-do), of which all sections running through Tokyo were fully opened as of 2014, and the Tokyo Outer Ring Road (Gaikan) are demonstrating high stock effects, including relieving traffic congestion by redistributing traffic and reducing travel times by enhancing the road network. The Tokyo Outer Ring Road (Gaikan) between the Kan-etsu Expressway and the Higashi-Kanto Expressway, about 50 kilometers of the route's total 85 kilometers, is in service. And, currently, the central government and East and Central Nippon Expressway companies are advancing a project to complete the section between the Kan-etsu Expressway and Tomei Expressway. With regard to the section between the Tomei Expressway and Wangan Roadway, the TMG is working with the central government and relevant agencies to firm up plans at the earliest possible time so that the route can fully function as a ring road.

Major Renewal and Enhancement of the Functions of the Tokyo Metropolitan Expressway

Seizing the opportunity to implement an extensive overhaul of the aging Tokyo Metropolitan Expressway while simultaneously advancing urban development in the Nihombashi area, the TMG has been working with the central government and the Metropolitan Expressway Company to jointly move a section of the expressway in the area underground. To achieve this, the city plan was revised in 2019 and work on the project began in 2020. Following revisions to the city plan in 2023, work began in 2024 on the Shinkyobashi-renketsuro, which will replace the existing road section that connects the Inner Circular Route at Edobashi Junction when the expressway is reconfigured. Additionally, high stock effects are anticipated from the extension of the Harumi Route expressway (Tsukiji-Harumi). For example, road network functions will be enhanced through the provision of access to and from central Tokyo, which will be linked by the Shinkyobashi-renketsuro, and the Wangan Route. Urban resilience will also be strengthened through improved access to the Core Wide-area Disaster Prevention Base in the Tokyo Bay waterfront area (Ariake-no-oka). Therefore, the TMG, in partnership with the central government and others, will work to accelerate related initiatives for an early start to the project.



As of March 2025
Source: Created based on the "Grand Design for Urban Development," Bureau of Urban Development, Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Development of Railway and Automated Guideway Transit Systems

Tokyo's railway and AGT systems are unrivalled in the world in their extensive network, precision, and safety. The TMG will continue its efforts to further improve the network, make it easier to transfer between train lines, provide more barrier-free environments and services, and solve issues with railway crossings.

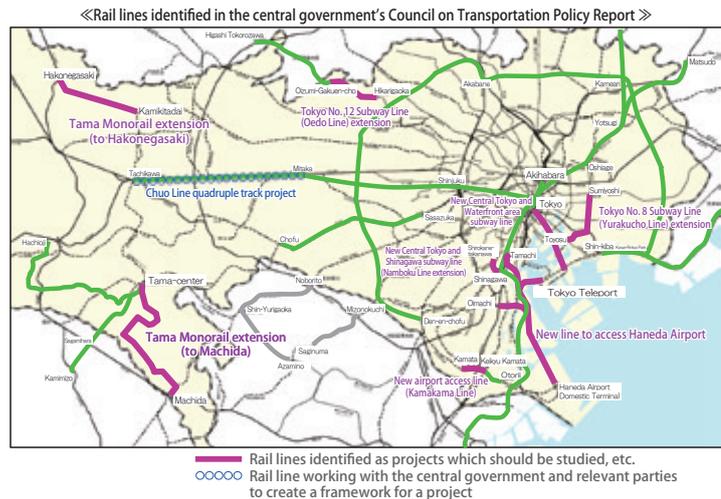
Enhancing the Railway Network

Development of Tokyo's railways has been advanced based on reports issued by the national government's council for study of transportation policy.

Tokyo is currently working with stakeholders such as the central government and railway companies to study matters concerning rail lines and transportation, including project schemes, identified in the Council on Transportation Policy Report as projects which should be studied for implementation.

Construction of the new Haneda Airport Access Line (East Yamate Route and New Access Line) commenced in June 2023, with the aim to start operations in fiscal 2031. City plans for the extension of the Tokyo No. 8 Subway Line and the construction of a new Central Tokyo and Shinagawa subway line were decided in June 2024, and construction is underway with the aim to start operations in the mid-2030s. City plans for the extension of the Tama Monorail (to Hakonegasaki) were decided in March 2025, with the aim to start operations in the mid-2030s. The project plan for a new Central Tokyo and Waterfront area subway line was formulated in fiscal 2022 and will continue to be refined moving forward.

The TMG is also working to promote the improvement and integration of subway services to enhance passenger convenience.



Examples of Past Development

Rinkai Line / Yurikamome

The Rinkai Line and AGT Yurikamome were planned with aims that include enhancing the public transportation network in Tokyo Waterfront City and contributing to the promotion of development of the areas along the lines. Through mutual use of JR Saikyo Line operation facilities, the Rinkai Line opened between Shin-kiba and Tokyo Teleport in March 1996, between Tokyo Teleport and Tennozu Isle in March 2001 and between Tennozu Isle and Osaki in December 2002. The Yurikamome began operations between Shimbashi and Ariake in November 1995, and between Ariake and Toyosu in March 2006.

Tsukuba Express / Nippori-Toneri Liner

The Tsukuba Express was developed to ease crowding on JR Joban Line trains, enhance the public transportation network in the northeastern special ward area of Tokyo, and promote the growth of the areas along the line. The line, which links Akihabara and Tsukuba, opened in August 2005. The Nippori-Toneri Liner was planned to resolve the inconvenience of poor public transport in the northeastern special-ward area of Tokyo and contribute to the development of the areas along the line. Linking Nippori and Minumadai-shinsuikoen, the line opened in March 2008.

Tama Monorail

The Tama Monorail was planned to enhance the public transportation network in the Tama area and strengthen mutual cooperation between core cities. The section between Tachikawa-kita and Kamikitadai, and the section between Tachikawa-kita and Tama Center opened in November 1998 and January 2000, respectively.

TOKYO BRT: Linking the City Center and the Waterfront Area

The TMG is advancing the development of TOKYO BRT (bus rapid transit), a public transit service linking the city center to the waterfront area centering on Ring Road No. 2.

Preliminary operations were launched in October 2020 with service on the Toranomon-Shimbashi-Harumi route. In April 2023, preliminary operations entered the second phase, extending the route in the direction of Ariake and Toyosu. In February 2024, service commenced on the Olympic and Paralympic Village route, thereby completing the initially planned network of routes.

A new route is being studied to extend the BRT network toward Tokyo Station and other areas. The TMG will assess road conditions and study the potential of implementation, in collaboration with relevant organizations.



TOKYO BRT Shimbashi Bus Stop and Articulated Bus

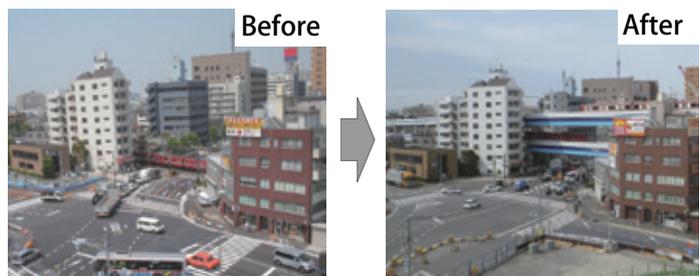


TOKYO BRT Fuel Cell Bus and Logo

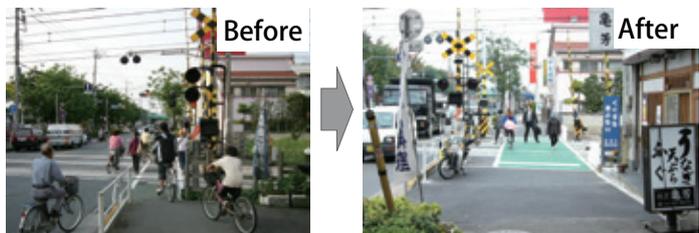
Basic Policy for Railway Crossing Measures

Approximately 1,040 level railway crossings still remain in Tokyo, causing traffic congestion and many other problems. The Basic Policy for Railway Crossing Measures was formulated in June 2004 with the aim to enhance Tokyo's attractiveness as a global city and to promote urban renewal.

In this basic policy, 394 level crossings were selected as priority areas for study and project implementation by fiscal 2025. Among these priority areas, 20 sections were then selected to be examined for construction of two-level crossings by elevating or lowering the tracks, and 83 sections were selected to be examined for other measures such as two-level crossings using road elevation or tunneling, provision of pedestrian overpasses or underpasses, shorter bell warnings of train approach, and road-widening across the tracks. The early implementation of measures for railway crossings is presently being pursued based on this basic policy.



Example of large-scale project for two-level crossings (Keikyu Line near Ring Road No. 8)
Photos provided by the Bureau of Construction



Example of road-widened crossing

Promotion of the Smooth Biz Initiative

To realize a society where everyone can actively work and lead vibrant lives, it is necessary to rethink transportation practices for Tokyo residents and companies, promote telework, and improve logistics efficiency in an effort to create a comfortable commuting environment and increase productivity at companies.

To achieve this, the TMG has been promoting various measures integrally under the Smooth Biz initiative, including the Jisa Biz initiative *1, telework *2, and more efficient logistics *3

As the Smooth Biz initiative can be effective in supporting business continuity during disasters and preventing the spread of infectious diseases, the TMG will continue working for ongoing implementation of these measures to ensure that they become firmly established in society.

- ※ 1 Initiatives to have as many people as possible experience a more comfortable commute
- ※ 2 A flexible workstyle that uses Information and Communications Technology (internet, computers, smartphones, etc.) to allow work to take place free of location and time constraints.
- ※ 3 In order to pass down Transportation Demand Management logistics measures that were introduced for the Games as a legacy, as well as to achieve greater efficiency in logistics, the TMG will continue to exchange information and study new measures with relevant parties.



Promotion of Off-Peak Commuting

In order to increase the productivity of society, easing congestion on trains is an important issue. In light of this, the TMG has been implementing the Jisa Biz Campaign since fiscal 2017 with the aim of having many people experience a more comfortable commute. The Jisa Biz Campaign has been implemented as part of the Smooth Biz initiative since January 2019.

The TMG is also partnering with rail companies and others so that hard and soft measures to ease congestion can be advanced by the public and private sectors together. This includes studying measures that could contribute to the further dispersion of users during commuting hours.



Promotion of Aviation Policies

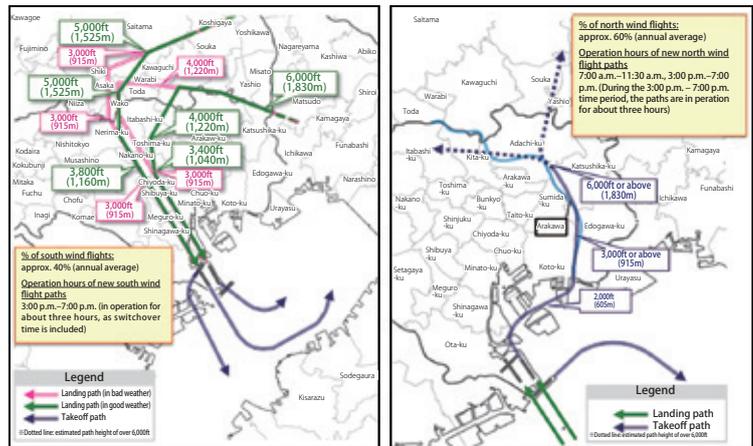
It is essential to bolster the airport functions of the National Capital Region for Tokyo to develop as a global city. The TMG is taking many initiatives to address this challenge. These include efforts to strengthen functionality at Haneda Airport and increase its international flights, and to have Yokota airspace returned to Japan.

Enhancing Functionality of Haneda Airport and Increasing International Flight Services

The TMG had been lobbying the central government to re-expand and introduce regular international flights to Haneda Airport, and had also cooperated in a variety of ways including providing the central government with interest-free loans for construction of a new runway. As a result, Runway D and the International Terminal opened for service in 2010, and regularly scheduled international services commenced. In 2014, the annual number of arrival and departure slots at Haneda was increased to 447,000.

To raise Japan's international competitiveness, the central government began operating new flight paths on March 29, 2020, boosting the annual number of international arrival and departure slots by 39,000. Regarding the new airplane flight paths, the TMG is requesting that the central government continue to provide detailed information to the residents of areas affected and take solid safety and noise prevention measures. In these ways, the TMG will take steps to further enhance Haneda Airport's functions and international connectivity.

Additionally, taking into account the Haneda Airport runway collision that occurred in January 2024, the TMG is requesting the early implementation of measures for airport safety and security aimed at preventing accidents.

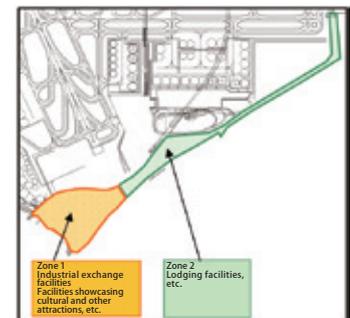


Flight paths from March 29, 2020 (based on data from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)

Development of the Vacant Land Formerly Part of Haneda Airport

In 2010, the TMG, jointly with the central government and local wards, compiled a plan for developing the land left vacant after completion of the Haneda Airport offshore development project and the re-expansion project, and has been taking concrete initiatives. In Zone 1 of the site, along with infrastructure development through a land readjustment project, a private-sector company selected by Ota-ku developed industrial exchange and other facilities, which fully opened in November 2023. In Zone 2, a private company recruited by the central government developed lodging and other facilities, which went into full operation in January 2023.

While coordinating with the relevant parties, the TMG will continue promoting infrastructure development and other efforts based on the plan.



Development of vacant land at Haneda Airport

Reversion of Yokota Airspace

Yokota airspace, currently controlled by the U.S. Forces in Japan, is a vast space that extends over Tokyo and nine other prefectures. In September 2008, part of the airspace was returned to Japan. Still, in order to ensure air traffic that is safer and more efficient, and has less adverse noise impact, full reversion of Yokota airspace, realignment of airspace in the National Capital Region, and unified air traffic control by Japan is indispensable. To this end, the TMG will continue urging the national government to negotiate with the U.S. government for total reversion of the airspace.

Studying the Social Adoption of Advanced Air Mobility



Advanced air mobility

Flying cars are being developed in countries across the world and are expected to contribute to the emergence of new services and the solving of various societal issues as an easy-to-use, sustainable form of next-generation air mobility.

To facilitate the social adoption of advanced air mobility, the TMG will work to increase social acceptance, create model application examples such as flights between hubs, and assess measures including the development of take-off and landing infrastructure, all in an integrated manner. The installation of take-off and landing sites aligned with urban development will also be studied.

Transportation Policies

In addition to developing key transportation infrastructure, such as roads, railways, and airports, with the aim to realize efficient logistics and transportation that is smooth and comfortable, befitting of the global city of Tokyo, the Bureau is also implementing the following initiatives.

Making Road Spaces Pedestrian-friendly

As part of urban development that shifts the focus from automobiles to people, in order to expand initiatives to use road space and other areas to create a city where people enjoy walking around, the TMG is encouraging implementation of the Park Street Tokyo program that integrally publicizes local events held under the program and use of a manual on the creation of pedestrian-friendly spaces by municipalities and others. It is also sharing challenges and advice on how to resolve them, among other efforts.

Through these measures, the TMG will promote the creation of a city where people enjoy walking around.



Image of pedestrian area



Pedestrian area that bustles with people during events (Nishi-shinjuku district)

Promotion of Cycling

To advance the creation of a pedestrian-friendly city, the TMG revised the Tokyo Metropolitan Cycling Promotion Plan in May 2021, with the aim to further enhance the environment to facilitate use of bicycles safely, comfortably, and with peace of mind. The revised plan also reflects the TMG's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and implementation of the "new normal." Based on this plan, the TMG will actively work on tasks such as developing a network of cycling paths and lanes, strengthening bicycle safety measures, promoting wide-area bicycle-sharing, and adapting to the "new normal."

Transportation Projects Toward Building an Integrated Transportation System

The TMG is pursuing comprehensive transportation policies for Tokyo which have been implemented with a view to the Tokyo 2020 Games and beyond. By steadily implementing concrete measures aimed at making Tokyo's transportation system truly user-centric, the TMG will realize a world-class transportation system which is easy for all to use.

(1) Improvement of information signs and other facilities at terminal stations

At major stations where transfers are difficult to understand and differences in floor levels on transfer routes exist, among other problems, it is necessary to implement improvements to benefit everyone including foreign visitors and elderly people. For example, at Shinjuku Station, a council of stakeholders made up of transportation providers, facility managers, and others, was established, and in cooperation with the local municipality, improvements were made such as better placement and consistency of signage, and transfer routes were made barrier free.

The TMG also implemented similar measures at major stations, such as Ikebukuro and Shibuya stations, and will expand such endeavors to other stations in the future.

(2) Development of Water Transport

Many waterfront areas in Tokyo provide access to rivers, the ocean, and canals. In order to leverage these resources and to restore Tokyo as a bustling "city of water," the TMG continues to advance measures to revitalize water transport, including conducting pilot programs since fiscal 2016.

In fiscal 2023, a system to subsidize the implementation of water transport services for commuting and other everyday purposes was established. Service was launched between Nihombashi and Toyosu in October 2023, and between Harumi and Hinode in May 2024. Service on a new route is scheduled to begin in fiscal 2025.

The TMG will continue working to establish ferries as a common method of sightseeing and transportation through efforts such as further expanding routes, generating vitality around piers, and implementing other measures to improve the convenience of water transport.



Two ferry routes for commuting

Promotion of Logistics Measures

Logistics is an important infrastructure supporting industry and daily life. The TMG has featured the importance of logistics in visions for the city such as the Grand Design for Urban Development. In addition to working to create a regional logistics network and increase community vibrancy, the metropolitan government is promoting logistics measures to achieve efficient logistics that support a comfortable way of life.

In addition to the existing labor shortage, a new cap on overtime hours for truck drivers was introduced in April 2024. There are concerns that if measures are not taken, insufficient transport capabilities will cause logistics to stall.

The TMG will continue to develop arterial roads to support logistics and to secure space for cargo handling in line with urban development, among other efforts. The TMG also launched “Tokyo Logistics Biz” in March 2024 to generate momentum for a societal movement aimed at optimizing logistics, and will work to promote logistics measures, including disseminating information to encourage Tokyo residents to cooperate with reducing the need for package redeliveries.

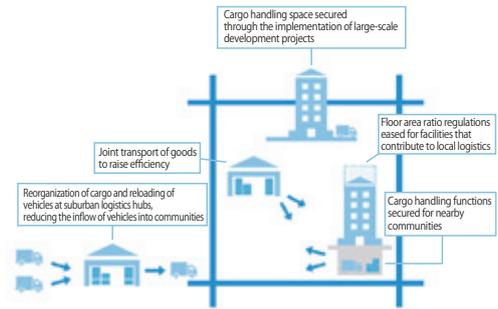


Image of making local logistics more efficient



Tokyo Logistics Biz event for consumers

Promotion of Comprehensive Measures for Parking

To help create a pedestrian-friendly city, the TMG formulated the Direction for Comprehensive Measures for Parking in March 2022, which covers all types of mobility. Based on this plan, the metropolitan government will implement comprehensive measures to deal with parking issues through management that gives consideration to local characteristics.

With regard to the issue of tour buses parking on roads in locations such as sightseeing and commercial areas, based on the Approaches to Tour Bus Parking Measures formulated by the TMG in fiscal 2018, in addition to collaborating with the central government and municipalities to conduct activities to raise awareness, the TMG is also promoting measures such as securing parking space, among other efforts.



Example of shared cargo handling area (Shibuya-ku)



Tour bus manner improvement campaign (Ginza area)

Redevelopment of Urban Infrastructure Around Iidabashi Station

With five railway lines connecting at Iidabashi Station and three arterial roads intersecting nearby, the area serves as an important transportation hub. Although several redevelopment projects and other initiatives that leverage the area's characteristics can be seen underway in the area, challenges still remain. These include urban infrastructure such as railway stations, pedestrian bridges, and underground transfer routes linking train lines which are crowded and difficult for pedestrians to navigate. There are also issues related to accessible routes.

In November 2019, the Iidabashi Station Area Infrastructure Development Policy Study Group, formed by three special wards (Chiyoda, Shinjuku, and Bunkyo), railway operators, and others, was established to examine the issues and the direction of efforts for improvement. And in April 2023, the Policy for Iidabashi Station Area Infrastructure Redevelopment was formulated to serve as the compass for enhancing and strengthening the urban infrastructure.

While continuing to work closely with relevant parties, the TMG will formulate a development plan that embodies the development policy, and work to gradually implement infrastructure development.

Rollout of Urban Development that Incorporates Autonomous Driving Technology

With a view to a society where autonomous vehicles are widely driven, the TMG is advancing the social application of autonomous driving. In areas designated as “promotion districts,” where the early application of level 4 autonomous driving is expected, efforts are being made to streamline administrative procedures and coordination with relevant parties, while also supporting measures that contribute to improving social acceptance of driverless technologies. As of the end of March 2025, Tokyo’s Bay Area and Nishi-shinjuku have been designated as promotion districts, and operations of self-driving vehicles are running year-round in both areas.

A subsidy program was established in April 2024 to fund projects that contribute to improving social acceptance of driverless technologies conducted by businesses and other parties that seek to further the adoption of autonomous driving (e.g., projects for experiencing, participating in, and learning about autonomous driving, such as exhibitions and test rides of self-driving vehicles held for the purpose of promoting public understanding of matters including driverless technologies).

With regard to public transportation, Guidelines for the Introduction of Self-driving Buses and Other Autonomous Public Transportation Services were formulated in March 2024. The Subsidy Program for the Realization of Autonomous Driving Services was established in June 2024 to support local governments and transportation businesses, which are the primary actors in introducing services. In fiscal 2024, with the aim of assessing the development of autonomous driving environments in various areas in Tokyo, trial operations of an autonomous bus service were conducted in Suginami Ward, Tama City, and Mizuho Town. The TMG will continue to accelerate measures promoting the realization of autonomous driving.



Year-round operations in Tokyo’s Bay Area



Year-round operations in Nishi-shinjuku

Promotion of the Development of Local Public Transportation Networks

In March 2022, the TMG formulated the Basic Policy for Local Public Transportation in Tokyo, which outlines a future vision for local public transportation, the direction for future initiatives, and specific support measures, and has been providing technical and financial support for municipality-led initiatives, as well as efforts that contribute to solving local challenges, in line with the policy.

Specifically, financial support is offered to municipalities to encourage the formulation of local public transportation plans and to promote the development of transportation services that accommodate the needs of the local community, such as community buses, demand-responsive transport, and green slow mobility. This includes support for operating costs related to running pilot programs and introducing new services, vehicle purchase and upgrade costs, and data management costs, among others.

The TMG is also working with municipalities in the northern Tama area, Ome City, and Oshima Town to advance model initiatives aimed at addressing local challenges, in addition to taking part in regional collaborative efforts, such as the formulation of local public transportation plans, to secure and maintain bus routes that cross administrative boundaries in the western Tama area.

Furthermore, in line with the development and realignment of station squares, the TMG will harness new technologies and collaborate with municipalities in Tokyo to survey and implement efforts aimed at improving transportation nodes, such as enhancing feeder transit services and introducing new forms of mobility.

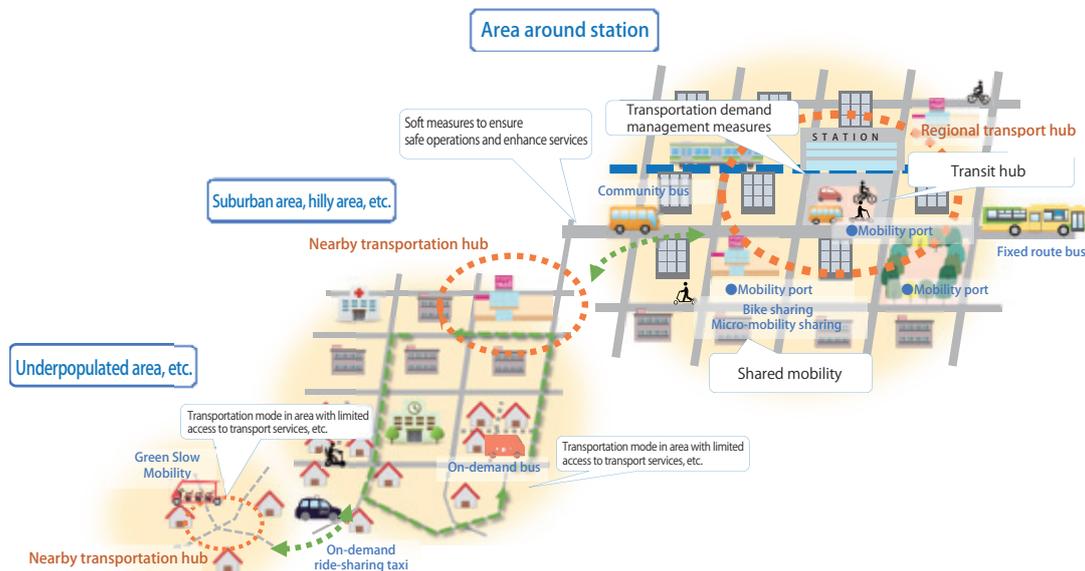


Image of local public transportation