

Ordinance to Promote Elegant Neighborhoods in Tokyo

This ordinance provides three systems for creating unique and attractive neighborhoods. These systems are intended to encourage local initiatives and efforts for town development in order to advance community renewal and enhance the charm of Tokyo.

System for urban development through block rearrangement

The purpose of this system is to create attractive neighborhoods by encouraging joint rebuilding and other improvements in areas that present development challenges, such as densely built-up communities.

These areas are designated as neighborhood renewal districts, and a renewal policy that serves as the guideline for the development of each neighborhood is also formulated at the same time. This policy serves to enhance local motivations for development by providing advance notice of the future image of the area and an outline of deregulations that can be implemented in line with the degree of community contribution. A city plan is then drawn up according to this policy for a staged implementation of development.

System for the creation of townscapes

In this system, areas that are particularly important from the perspective of townscapes are designated as priority townscape districts. These include districts where efforts are being made to utilize historic and/or cultural assets to create attractive landscapes and those scheduled for development projects. The local community will play a central role in this system to draw up a townscape guideline together with professional urban designers, which incorporates local color and characteristics. (Ten districts have been designated as of the end of February 2014).

Registration system for local community development groups

The TMG registers groups that can engage proactively in community development activities to enhance community charm by incorporating local color and characteristics. By encouraging their activities, resources of the private sector are used to enhance the appeal of Tokyo. (As of the end of February 2014, four groups involved in creating townscapes and 35 groups involved in utilizing open spaces for community activities have been registered.)