

10 year Project to Advance Fire Resistance in Close-set Wooden Housing Areas

The Close-set Wooden Housing Areas are distributed widely in Tokyo. Therefore, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government has been promoting the development of the roads to be the firebreak belts, and the fire-resistant and quake-resistant buildings, by instituting “Urban Development Plan for Disaster-resistance”, and designating its development districts. However, the ratio of fire-resistant area in the development area (approx. 7,000ha) is 56% in fiscal year 2006 and the development ratio of the Urban Planning Road is approx. 50% in fiscal year 2010. In addition, the improvement of the Densely-Built Wooden Residential Area is in a difficult situation due to aging residents and complicated relationship of rights. Under such circumstances, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government has decided to promote the 10 year Project to Advance Fire Resistance in Close-set Wooden Housing Areas, as a result of the fact that the improvement of the Close-set Wooden Housing Areas needs to be further accelerated, taking note of the imminent threat of the earthquake predicted to directly hit Tokyo area and the Great East Japan Earthquake.

In order to make the Close-set Wooden Housing Areas fire-resistant and without fire spread, we are setting the followings as goals for the development areas of 10 years later, by focused and intensive efforts for 10 years until the fiscal year 2020.

- (1) To realize no house burned down by fire spread (the ratio of fire-resistant areas 70%) by making the urban areas fire-resistant.
- (2) Development of the principle Urban Planning Roads to be the firebreak belts, achieving 100%

To boost disaster resistance in the 7,000 ha area designated as development districts, the program for Special Development Zones to Advance Fire Resistance (Fireproof Zones) was launched in March 2013, in which the TMG works with the wards to improve the level of fire resistance in areas which are particularly in need of improvement. As of December FY2013, the program is being implemented in 18 districts.

In the fireproof zones, along with stepping up building fireproofing regulations, the TMG is promoting reconstruction of buildings through a variety of efforts, including extending subsidies tailored to the situation in each community, tax reductions or exemptions (fixed asset tax, etc.), and actively paying visits to homes and businesses within the zones.

In FY2014, along with expanding the program to include 39 zones, the TMG will coordinate with the wards to select new zones for program implementation.

Image of the 10 Year Project to Advance Fire Resistance in Close-set Wooden Housing Area



Merits of the Special Zone for Fire-resistance System (In case of Rebuilding)

