

To Residents of Kawaguchi City ～Message from Mayor of Kawaguchi City～

How are you.

How amazing that ten years have already passed since I assumed office as the Mayor of Kawaguchi City in February, 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to express my unreserved gratitude to all the residents' understanding and cooperation for administrative operation until today.

With an effort of putting the finance basis on a sound footing which believed to have a potential of “Vitalize Kawaguchi City”, we have succeeded in increasing municipal tax revenue by ¥74.2 billion in total in the past ten years. In addition to this, we successfully raised the amount of General Account Budget to ¥345.4 billion. Owing to this financial improvement, we could aggressively tackle with various community development plans that includes Three-Major Projects of the City, improvement of Child-rearing/Child-care and Educational environment, vitalization of municipal economy, and promotion of Disaster Prevention plan and Urban Development, etc.

In coping with the COVID-19 infectious disease, which had turned out to be a pandemic only two years after the establishment of the Public Health Center of the city in accordance with the city's changeover to the Heartland City, we could forge ahead with realistic disease control plans such as establishment of medical service program led by the City, unique vaccination program called “Kawaguchi Model”, etc.

To our greatest honor, owing to these operations, the City got widely known as a town which is comfortable to live in, then finally recognized as the one which is chosen by many people.

On top of that, this year, Kawaguchi City was selected as one of the “SDGs Future Cities” and “Local Government SDGs Model Project”, which is the first

municipality in Saitama Prefecture, by the Cabinet Office. This is the result of our multilateral operation which meticulously covers such fields as economy/society/environment, etc. has officially been highly evaluated. We would like to take this opportunity as a booster to bring us the sustainable development of Kawaguchi City to the next level in the future.

Today, COVID-19 woes have somewhat leveled-off, overconcentration of population in Tokyo has been increasing again as social/economical activities are getting back to normal. I, hereby pledge you all to continuously take an initiative to vitalize the community by large-scale reconstruction of LILIA and establishment of an art museum to become the base of culture and art creation appropriate for the Heartland City, also invite middle distance trains to stop at Kawaguchi Station, and development of Kamine General Athletic Park, etc. that will lead us to more attractive and energetic future Kawaguchi City that will survive the inter-urban close race in the metropolitan area to become the city not only comfortable to live in but also be chosen by more people.