

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

Hello residents of Kawaguchi City.

With a catchword of “Vitalization of Kawaguchi brought up by close cooperation of residents”, I have been conducting various measures to bring structural elements that will enable us to carry on as a long-lasting municipal government operation. Restoration of municipal financial basis with an effort to increase municipal tax revenues, upgrade of child rearing/childcare/educational environment, stimulate municipal economy, to disaster-proof urban development, etc., there were too many to enumerate. Above all, I have especially focused on and successfully completed the Three-Major Municipal Projects. One was “Reorganization of Municipal Senior High Schools” by which three municipal senior high schools were integrated in the fiscal year 2021. The other was the “Akayama Historical and Natural Park Improvement Project” which was completed in the fiscal year 2023. The park contains our long-awaited crematorium “Kawaguchi-shi Meguri-no-mori” on the premises. And the last one is the “New Municipal Hall Construction Project”. With the completion of Kawaguchi City Hall Main Building 2 on 27<sup>th</sup> of June this year, our Three-Major Projects had finally concluded. We appreciate residents and all the parties concerned for your understanding and cooperation for a long period of time.

Also, in April, as a first step to invite medium-distance train service to Kawaguchi Station, main gateway to Kawaguchi City by train, we have concluded the “Basic Treaty on the Construction of Ueno-Tokyo Line Service Platform and Free- passage, etc. of Kawaguchi Station” with JR East. Specifics still need further coordination, however, to secure Ueno-Tokyo Line Service to Kawaguchi Station is vital for us in the struggle for survival as one of the municipalities located around Metropolitan Tokyo, especially now is the time when over-centralization to Tokyo has once again started. We will carry on deliberation with them for the earliest realization of it.

We are also planning to create new bases for culture and art creative scenes befitting to a heartland city with 600,000 residents. We are seamlessly carrying out the large-scale improvement of Kawaguchi Comprehensive Culture Center • LILIA and an establishment of Kawaguchi Municipal Museum of Art, of which construction work is progressing well for the completion within this fiscal year 2025.

I firmly believe these projects and efforts will become the driving force of continuous development of the city. At the same time, that will help making this city more comfortable to live in.

In order to the city remain as a “Place to keep living in”, “Place to be chosen by residents to be more than ever before”, I hereby declare my devotion in conducting municipal government operation for further grow and prosper for you all.