2023 Ota City Budget (Draft) Overview

Feb 28, 2023 Ota City



Planning the Ota City 2023 budget (draft)

The Ota City 2023 budget (draft) is now complete. We defined it as "A budget to confront regional challenges, to have a stronger relationship with residents and societies, and to make steady steps toward a sustainable future of both abundance and growth".

We allocated limited resources effectively and efficiently in this budget, and reviewed/updated current actions for the following issues with a future vision in mind.

Countermeasures against infection and natural disasters; Actions to assure safety and security of residents' lives and regional businesses facing sharp inflation; Actions to realize an inclusive society that can combat a rapidly aging population with a low birthrate, change of household structure, and other complex challenges of the region; Actions against universal challenges like SDGs and decarbonizing; and Actions for continuous regional economy growth and for urban development to enhance attractiveness.

In particular, Ota City will take necessary measures looking ahead to 2040 and beyond. Firstly, for "Children", we will enforce the "Project to support childbirth/raising", "Interview with moved-in child-raising households", and "Project to support post-partum housework and childcare" for childbirth/raising families. To support the growth of children for the future, we will enhance special needs education at elementary and secondary schools, and also newly establish "Ota global communication" to promote international education.

As for "Environment", we will implement the "Second Ota City basic environmental plan" to achieve a decarbonized society by 2050. We also will expand the subsidy for housing renovation to increase eco-friendly houses, and for manufacturing factory construction to promote a zero-carbon city.

As for "Urban development", we will make the region vibrant and functionally rich. For this purpose, developments along the railways including a new airport railway project will be promoted.

Based on the above, the general account budget is approx. 314.76B Yen, a 13.9B Yen or 4.6% increase from last year.

With this budget (draft), Ota City will enforce sustainable local government management, and also make steady steps towards a sustainable future of both abundance and growth in order to meet the expectations of its 730,000 residents.

February, 2023 Mayor of Ota City

1 Trends of the social situation surrounding Japan, and administrative management concepts

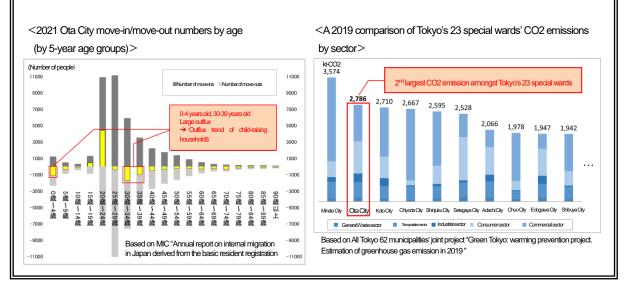
Concern regarding recession continues to increase internationally and the social situation remains uncertain due to several issues. The fight against still prevalent COVID-19, a declining and aging population with a lower birthrate accelerated under COVID-19, rising prices of raw materials caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and inflation due to the weak yen, etc.

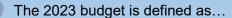
Furthermore, the birthrate has been declining at a much faster rate than expected, and has reached a highly critical level. This is affected by the change and diversification of family structures, such as the upward trend of single households in a hyper-aging society.

Regarding environmental issues, it is reported that the average world temperature in 2020 had already risen by approx. 1.1C, compared to that of the pre-industrialized age (1850-1900). Further warming is expected if the situation remains unchanged. The risk of natural disasters is likely to be higher as a result of this climate change, and avoiding such a risk is an urgent universal challenge. Ota City has been steadily taking necessary actions based on the "New Ota Priority Programs" to overcome various difficulties. This program has six main actions, such as protecting the lives and safety of residents, and supporting the activity of businesses in the city.

Hereafter, the city is required to take continuous action to combat the variety of challenges such as infection, inflation, the increasing trend of child-raising households, natural disasters becoming more frequent and stronger, high CO2 emission, etc. Urban development along the railway has also been accelerated including the significant progress of a new airport railway plan which has been desired for the past 40 years.

Under such circumstances, we will continue to take aggressive actions to realize a sustainable future for Ota City, where citizens feel comfortable and want to remain situated. Areas of focus for 2023 are "Children", "Environment" and "Urban Development", where the most urgent actions are required. Furthermore, with the renewal of the city's basic policy in mind, Ota City will update the "New Ota Priority Programs" by adding several actions to accelerate the realization of the future vision stated in the current version. Through these, we will steadily and strategically advance sustainable local government management.





"A budget to confront regional challenges, to have a stronger relationship with residents and societies, and to make steady steps toward a sustainable future of both abundance and growth."

The following are considered as major challenges with regards to the 2023 budget.

~Major Challenges~

- ① Supporting the lives of residents who are facing crises of infection, energy problems, natural disasters, etc., and assure their safety/security by improving regional resilience.
- ② Realizing an inclusive society where residents can actively participate at each stage of life, support the growth of the region, safely birth and raise children, and creating environments conductive to learning.
- Winning the competition against other cities through sustainable growth of the regional economy and enhancement of comfortable/attractive city functions. This can be done by utilization of digital technologies, SDGs and decarbonizing.

Performance improvement and cost analysis of administrative jobs.

Ota City has been acting to improve the quality of finances and maintain financial soundness thorough the performance improvement and cost analysis of administrative jobs. We also mounted an effort to take quick and appropriate actions for urgent challenges of the city, and for sustainable local government management by 2040.