

[Functions] Improve urban functions necessary for the second capital

Osaka has enhanced its functions as a metropolis thanks to the development of reforms. Steady progress has been made for Osaka to respond to the need to compete with metropolitan regions in the world, as a driver of growth, safety and security in the western region.

For the future, Osaka will continue to brush up its potential as a metropolis, and implement reforms to improve urban functions suitable for a second capital, in both tangible and intangible aspects to realize further advanced urban functions utilizing the Smart City Strategy as the basis for its reforms.

Efforts Until Now

Courses of Major Efforts and their Direction

➤ Promoting the Smart City Strategy

➤ Improvement of urban infrastructure

Projects including the introduction of a concession system for airport management, the commercialization of the extension of railways (Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line, Osaka Monorail), and the solution to the problem of the missing link on the Osaka Urban Renewal Loop Road were promoted.

➤ Upgrades to fundamental public functions

Urban functions and services for residents such as those involving safety control and crisis management were strengthened through cooperative initiatives between Osaka Prefecture and the City of Osaka.

➤ Environmental improvement by regulation reform and special zone systems

Environmental development was promoted to make the region “the world’s best place for business” by utilizing special zone systems such as the Comprehensive Special Zone System since 2011, and the National Strategic Special Zone system since 2014.

➤ Enhancement of functions and systems to support industries and research and development

Support for industries was improved through integrating growth strategies and deepening policy collaboration.

➤ Strengthening the environment for human resource development

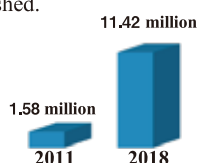
With an emphasis on improving education, the development of global human resources was promoted by enhancing English education at elementary, junior and senior high schools and other means.



➤ Formation of a base to create culture and spread information

A system to promote art, culture, and tourism in a new framework was established.

From 2011 to 2018, the number of foreign visitors increased about sevenfold.



JNTO “Foreign Visitor Arrivals”
Estimated by Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau based on
“Consumption Trend Survey for Foreigners Visiting Japan”
by Japan Tourism Agency

Lay the foundation for our own "Osaka Model" of Smart City

- Compiled "Osaka Smart City Strategy" Version 1.0 (March 2020)

Lay the foundation for urban infrastructure that supports global competitiveness

- The entire Route 6 Yamatogawa Line was opened (March 2020)
- Permit granted for Naniwasuji Line construction (July 2019)
- Privatization of Osaka Municipal Subway (April 2018)
- Started the integrated operations of the three airports located in Kansai by Kansai Airports (April 2018)
- Commercialized the Yodogawa-Sagan Route (Yodo-River left bank) Extension (April 2017)
- Make an effort to integrate the management of ports of Osaka Prefecture and the City of Osaka



Lay the foundation for a livable and sustainable metropolis

- Revised the Osaka Prefecture Wider Area Firefighting Project (March 2019)
- Set up a council to discuss water supply, aiming to create an integrated supply system in Osaka (August 2018)
- Integrate Osaka Prefectural Institute of Public Health and Osaka City Institute of Public Health and Environmental Sciences
→Osaka Institute of Public Health was established in April 2017



■ Osaka Institute of Public Health

Lay the foundation to support global competitiveness from an intangible perspective

- Utilize National Strategic Special Zone system
Projects certified under the National Strategic Special Zones: Exceptional measures on regulations for the number of hospital beds and Private Lodging Business (Minpaku) Act, air conditioning projects utilizing aquifer thermal energy storage systems, etc.
- Develop an environment for social demonstration and implementation of new businesses

Lay the foundation to produce new business activities in Osaka

- Integrate Osaka Foundation for Trade and Industry and Osaka Urban Industry Promotion Center
→Establish Osaka Business Development Agency (April 2019)
- Integrate Technology Research Institute of Osaka Prefecture and Osaka Municipal Technical Research Institute
→Establish Osaka Research Institute of Industrial Science and Technology (April 2017)



■ Osaka Research Institute of Industrial Science and Technology

Lay the foundation to develop highly specialized human resources to lead the growth of Osaka

- Established University Public Corporation Osaka (April, 2019)
Integrate Osaka Prefectural University and Osaka City University (Scheduled to be integrated in April, 2022)
- Established an integrated junior and senior high school that has an international baccalaureate course (Osaka City Suito Kokusai Jr. & Sr. High School opened in April 2019.)

Lay the foundation to build the Osaka brand and enhance advertising skills

- Open Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka (FY2021)
- Held the G20 Osaka Summit (June, 2019)
- Transformed Osaka City Museums into Local Incorporated Administrative Agencies (April, 2019)
- Improve and enhance the system to promote the tourism of Osaka by establishing Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau as the leader
- Improve information dissemination functions through IR and the holding of international meetings, sporting events and the World Expo 2025

