

Our Town Promotion Plan

1 Aim of the Plan's Formation

If asked to state Takamiminami Elementary School Zone's distinctive feature, one would say it is an area where public facilities are centered.

Firstly, there is the present-day Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center in the Yasunaka Rinpo-kan which was established in the Takamiminami Elementary School Zone in 1967 (Showa 42). With the aim of improving the housing and health environment, the City constructed public housing, a day nursery, a public bathhouse, a barber shop, etc in 1965 (Showa 40). Entering the Showa 50s (1975~1984), with an increase in the number of children, Takamiminami Elementary School was established. The Yasunaka Youths & Children's Center (Yasunaka Seishonen Kaikan) and Yasunaka Senior Citizens Welfare Center (Yasunaka Rojin Fukushi Center) were established enhancing educational and welfare fields of the district.

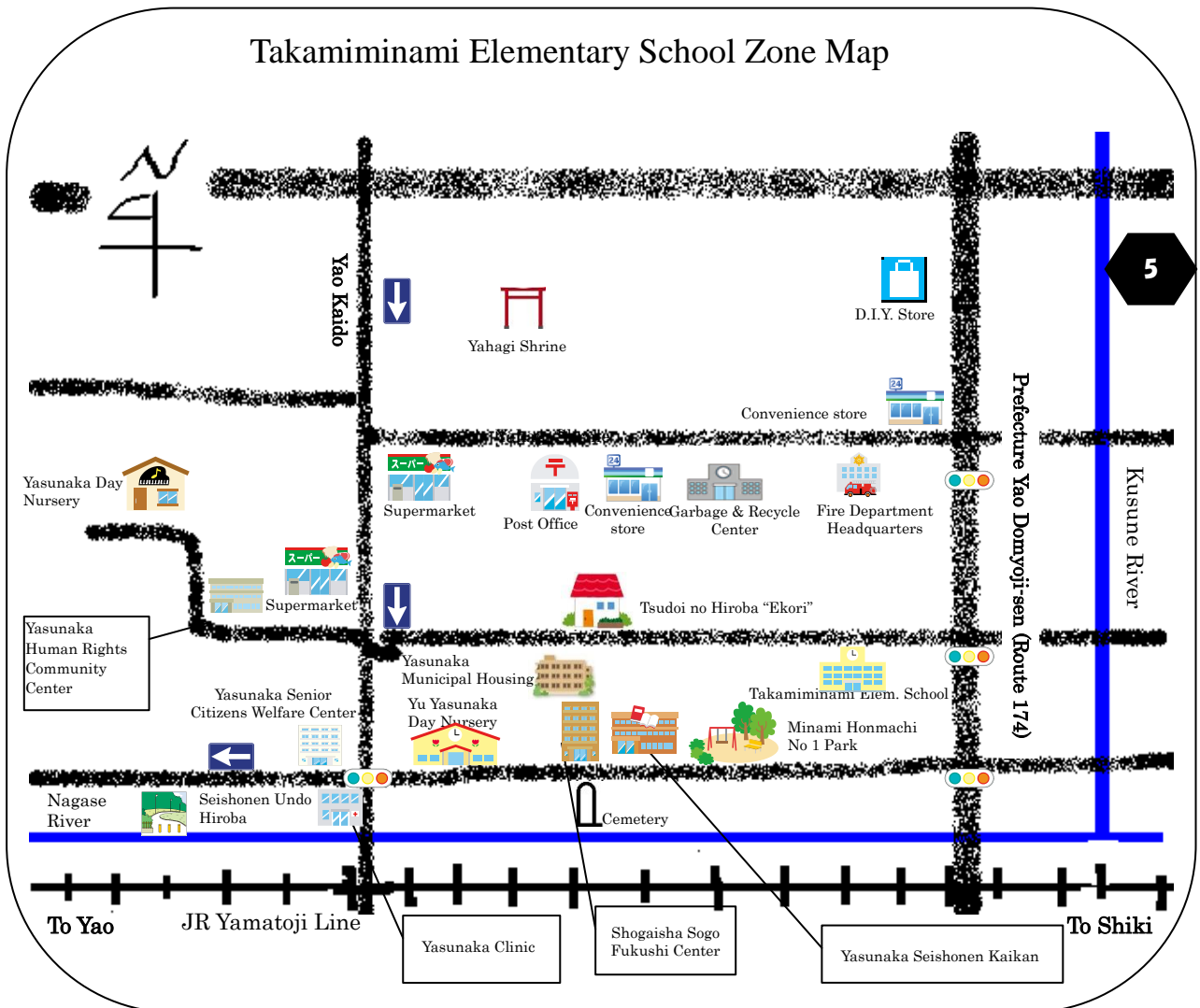
The public barber's shop no longer exists. Also, the 'Shisei Onsen' public bathhouse was closed down at the end of 2010 (Heisei 22). In 2004 (Heisei 16), the General Welfare Center for Handicapped People (Shogaisha Sogo Fukushi Center) was built. In the southwest of the district is a park and sports ground, etc. The area is a cultural, educational and welfare zone and a district where various kinds of people live.

Taking the district's distinctive features into consideration, we presented the goals for the future of the Takamiminami Elementary School Zone and plans for future community activities in the "Our Town Promotion Plan," which was originally a plan for 3 years from 2013~2015. Based on this plan, activities got under way. However, after considering the 3 years of activities, a review was conducted and this 5-year plan for 2016~2020 was drawn up.

2 Takamiminami Elementary School Zone's Present Situation and Problems

(1) An outline of 'Takamiminami Elementary School Zone'

- Elementary School Zone Map



Takamiminami Elementary School Zone is located a little south of the center of Yao City. The east side of the school zone is bordered by the Prefecture Yao Domyoji-sen (Route 174) main road. On the west side, there is Yao Kaido, which breaks off from the Nara Kaido. On the south end it is bordered by the JR Kansai Line (Yamatoji Line). Now as in the past, there are main traffic roads in the area. Presently, the school zone is basically a residential district.

In the north end, which is a historical district, there is Yahagi Shire, which was listed in the Engishiki Jinmyo-cho (an ancient list of the names of shrines). It is also known as Bekku Hachiman-gu. In the area there is the residence of the Yahagiren family and it is said that their ancestral spirits were enshrined there.

(2) Takamiminami Elementary School Zone – An outline of the school zone

About the geography & transportation

Although Yao Station on the JR Kansai Line (Yamatoji Line) is the nearest station to Takamiminami Elementary School Zone, depending on where you want to go, Yao Station on the Kintetsu Osaka Line can also be used. From the east end of the school zone, it takes some time to reach the stations on foot, so the use of a bicycle or the bus to get to the stations is usual. Though there is a bus stop on the Prefecture Yao-domyoji-sen (Route 174) (commonly called Aoyama-dori) main road on the Shiki Shako-mae ~ Kintetsu Yao Station mae on the Kintetsu Bus route, basically, only one bus runs per hour and depending on the time, there are no buses for over an hour, which means the service is not very convenient.

In Kintetsu Yao Station, there are elevators, escalators and toilets for handicapped people. The area around JR Yao Station was built with the concept of ‘an open path and station building to show the history and future of the town’ with an open thoroughfare connecting the north and the south of the elevated station. There are ‘walk-through’ type elevators, escalators and multi-function toilets, which make the station area convenient for users.

About infants, children and education

Takamiminami Elementary School, which opened in 1975 (Showa 50), has a total of 9 classes (including the special support classes) with 228 pupils studying at the school (as of May 1, 2015 (Heisei 27)). In 1991 (Heisei 3), there were 545 pupils in the school and the number has dropped to less than half that number, and it is expected child population will decrease further in the future

The Takamiminami Elementary School emblem was chosen in 1975 by open applications from and voting by the school staffs and pupils. The emblem uses the leaves of Yao City’s tree (ginko/maidenhair tree), which look like the wings of a bird and symbolize the flight of Takamiminami Elementary School. The ginko/maidenhair tree lives for hundreds of years and it was hoped that the school would have a long and vigorous life.



The number of students in Takami Junior High School has also dropped greatly from 679 in 1991 (Heisei 3) to 375 in 2015 (Heisei 27).

Change in the number of pupils and students attending
Takamiminami Elementary School and Takami Junior High School

	Number of pupils		
Takamiminami Elementary School	1991	2008	2015
	545	279	228
	Number of students		
Takami Junior High School	1991	2008	2015
	679	393	375

There are two pre-school facilities, the Municipal Yasunaka Day Nursery (capacity 120 children) and Yu Yasunaka Higashi Day Nursery-Kindergarten privately run by Shakai Fukushi Hojin Hokusui Fukushikai (capacity 140 children).

In 1975 (Showa 50), the Yao Municipal Yasunaka Children & Youths Center (Seishonen Kaikan) was established with the aim of ‘contributing to the healthy development of youths and children’s activities.’ There are long-term classes held throughout the year and short-term classes held during summer vacation, and cultural, sports and other classes and lectures. There are also classes for children in lower grades in elementary school, making it possible for many children to use the facility.

Also, on February 8, 2016 (Heisei 28), the Tsudoi no Hiroba Ekori (a meeting place) was opened as a place for children from 0 years old up to kindergaten-going age (about up to 3 years old) and their mothers to meet casually and to consult experienced advisors on childrearing; a place where they can come and leave anytime. (Open days/hours: Mon / Wed / Fri 10:00~15:00)

About welfare and medical services

Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center (Yasunaka Jinken Community Center)

Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center was established in 1967 (Showa 42) as Yasunaka Rinpo-kan. Thereafter, in accordance with a municipal utility ordinance it has been a facility open for public use and as a human rights exchange center. Its name was also changed. Its role ‘based on the social welfare law and respect for basic human rights, to promote the welfare of the local residents and promote human rights and for citizen exchange, as well as to contribute to quick resolution of human rights problems’ has not changed. Consultation on problems related to everyday life and lectures on human rights are held, and movies are also shown. Lectures are also held to promote life-long learning and exchange between residents.

In fiscal year 2015 (FY Heisei 27), the human rights promotion movie *Ningen Mina Kyodai – Buraku Sabetsu no Kiroku* (We are All Brothers and Sisters – A Record of Buraku Discrimination) was shown.

Also, in the center’s consultation rooms, there are local employment support services, employment and livelihood consultation services, Ikiiki-Net consultation services, consultation services for foreign residents, etc.

Yasunaka Senior Citizens Welfare Center (Yasunaka Rojin Fukushi Center)

This center is one of three such centers in the city. The center also has bathing facilities. Since fiscal year 2011 (FY Heisei 23), it has been under designated management as a social welfare corporation. Every day, senior citizens get together here to improve their health, listen to lectures, as well as enjoy activities like shogi (Japanese chess), Go, Bumper and seasonal events, etc., and take a bath, etc., which deepens

exchange among senior citizens.

The center has an annual total of about 36,000 users (fiscal year 2014 (Heisei 26) and has become a center for senior citizen welfare.

Yao Municipal General Welfare Center for Handicapped People (Yao-shiritsu Shogaisha Sogo Fukushi Center)

The Municipal General Welfare Center for Handicapped People (commonly known as ‘Kizuna’) was opened in 2004 (Heisei 16). One-day service and short-stay are provided as well as consultation services. For handicapped people there are about 10 types of classes, such as cooking, Tai Chi Chuan and computer classes, as well as sign language and Braille, sports for handicapped people and courses to foster volunteers. As of the end of March 2014 (Heisei 26), about 48,000 people used the facility.

Other welfare and medical services facilities

‘Satoyama’, a paid nursing care home (capacity 56 people), is a care insurance related resident care facility in the area.

There are also the Yasunaka Clinic, other medical facilities and health insurance pharmacies.

The school zone is the No.4 Designated Senior Citizen Daily Life District. Takamiminami Elementary School Zone’s district comprehensive support center, which is the general consultation office for senior citizens, is the Comprehensive Support Center Seihoen (Chiiki Hokatsu Shien Center Seihoen).

About historical sites and remains

West of the center of the school zone Yao Kaido (old Yao Highway) runs where the Nara Kaido (old Nara Highway) cuts off, and runs along the Kyuhoji temple compound town, Yao temple compound town, Nagayao and links up with the Nara Kaido again at Oihara.

To let later generations know that the Yao Kaido was there, a sign with the name ‘Yao Kaido’ is on the roadside near Minami Honmachi 8 chome. Yahagi Shrine, which is located along the Kaido, is listed in the Englishiki Jinmyo-cho (an ancient list of the names of shrines). Its other name is Bekku Hachiman-gu, and it is thought that old name for the area, ‘Bekku’, had its origin in the shrine’s name.

The big ginko/maidenhair tree in front of the shrine is also well for its autumn foliage.

In the past, there was a village or district referred to as ‘Yaoza’ in the school zone whose residents were discriminated against. Originally, in the middle ages, during the Shoen Era, people in the ‘Yaoza’ district who worked making oil for votive lamps formed groups or ‘Za’ and this is where the name ‘Yaoza’ came from. However, as time passed, these people were looked down on and were called by this name in order to avoid them. This name ‘Yaoza’ was also used after the Meiji Period for a number of local industries. Match making, glue production and cleaning of pig hairs for use in brushes were among them. Because of developments in technology and the introduction of chemical products, all of these industries have died out and none of these factories exist in the school zone today.

In the district, to learn about this history and pass it on to future generations, with the cooperation of Takamiminami Elementary School, community groups, the Yasunaka District Culture Preservation Group (Yasunaka Chiku Dento Bunka Hozon-kai), the Yasunaka District Human Rights’ Community Development Committee, ‘historical records rooms’ have been set up in the elementary school’s vacant classrooms.

About public facilities

The previously mentioned Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center, Yasunaka Senior Citizens Welfare Center, Yasunaka Youths & Children's Center and Yasunaka Day Nursery, etc were built during the 1960s and 1970s together with the municipal housing estate as projects related to 'dowa' (social integration) projects. As can be seen, there are many public facilities in the Takamiminami Elementary School Zone.

Also, in 2004 (Heisei 16), the General Welfare Center for Handicapped People (Shogaisha Sogo Fukushi Center) was constructed making the southwest area a cultural, educational and welfare zone.

In the Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center, which may be considered the main facility of the district, there are assembly rooms, lecture rooms and kitchens for cooking classes which can be used for various community activities. There are 14 types of hobby and practical courses: sign language, calligraphy using a pencil or pen, water color painting, for beginners calligraphy and painting using ink paint on postcards, pottery for beginners, gardening, cooking for men and computer classes. In February every year, a presentation (Gambatten) of the students' progress for the year is held. Also, there are 13 buildings in the municipal housing estate (including one building which has shops).

Other public facilities in the school zone include Yao City's Garbage and Recycle Administration Center (Seizo Chosha): [Kankyo Hozen-ka (environment preservation division), Shigen Junkan-ka (recycle division), Kankyo Jigyo-ka (environment projects division) and Kankyo Shisetsu-ka (environment facilities division)], and Yao City's Fire Department Headquarters and Fire Station.

Also, the employment/skill development authority's housing (employment promotion housing) 'Bekku Shukusha' has been closed down and demolished and there are convenience stores and a housing estate.

Other topics

Shopping

There are two supermarkets and two convenience stores in the school zone. Also, in the school zone, there are eating and drinking establishments and Vietnamese food stores, which make the location convenient for everyday living. The east side of the school zone faces the Prefecture YaoDomyoji-sen road (Route 174) main road on which there are a DIY store and other types of businesses, etc.

Sports

In the school zone, sports, such as soccer, softball, baseball, etc. can be enjoyed until 9:00pm at night at the Youths & Children's Sports Center (Seishonen Undo Hiroba), which has night-lighting facilities. Approximately 23,600 people (during FY 2014 (Heisei 26)) came from all over the city to use the facility.

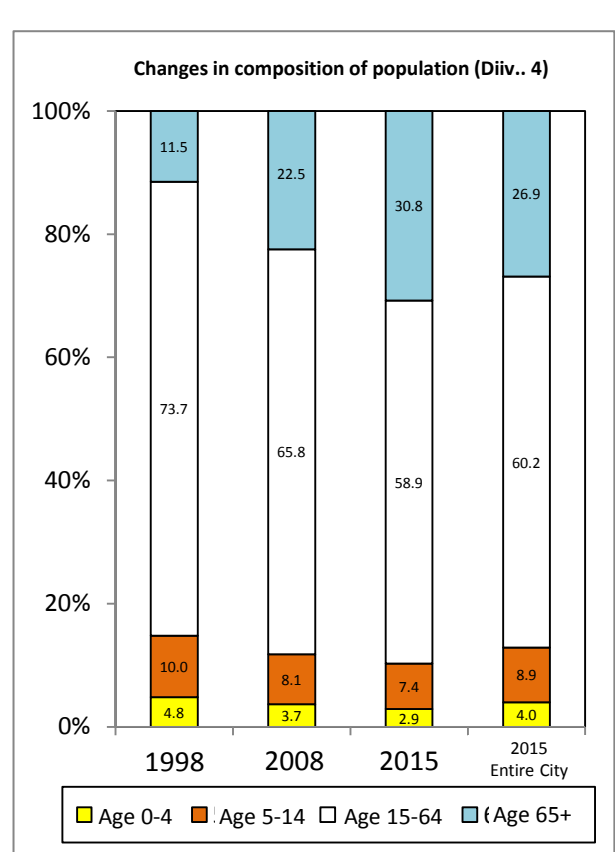
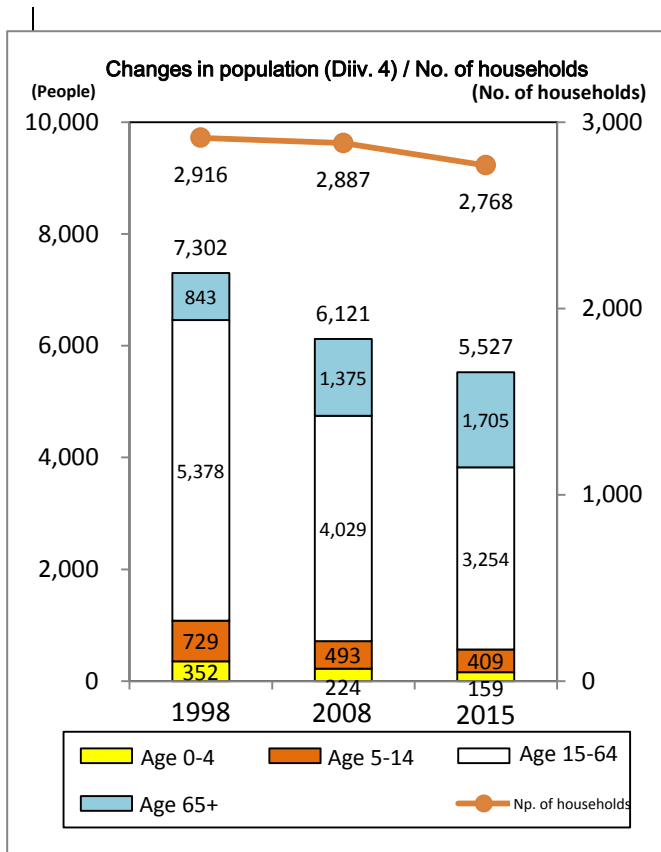
Relaxation spots

Parks which are the residents' relaxation spots include Minami Honmachi No.1 Park, commonly known as 'Robot Park'. There are a total of 12 parks in the area (as well as the new park in Takamicho 5-chome, which is planned to be opened in 2016 (Heisei 28). Robot Park is located on the west side of Takamiminami Elementary School and has an area of 0.87ha. The north side is connected to the Youths' & Children's Center (Seishonen Kaikan) and the west side connected to the General Welfare Center for Handicapped People (Shogaisha Sogo Fukushi Center). Next to the center is a spacious open space with many trees and large-scale playground equipment. There are outdoor events such as the 'Fureai-Matsuri festival for local children etc. , and every autumn, the 'Yayu-sai' festival is held in the park. Many people from all over the city visit the park.

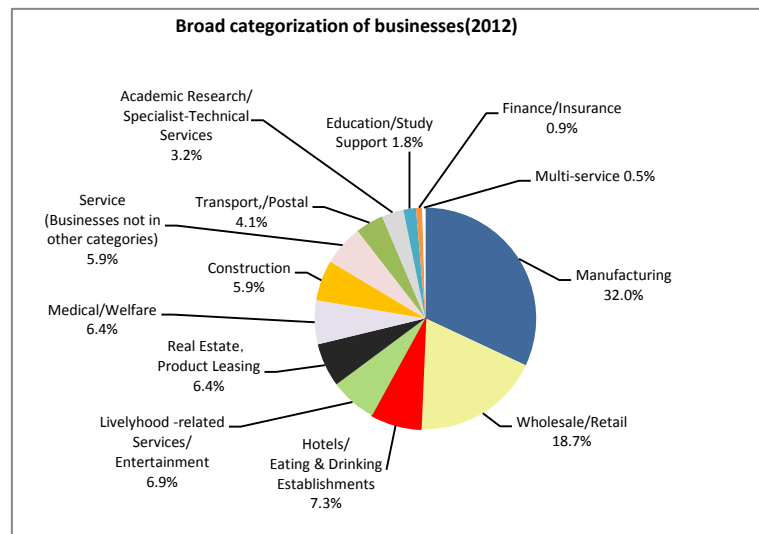
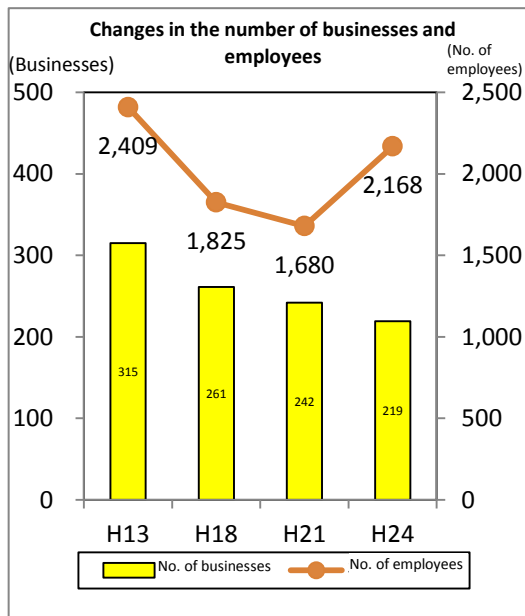
(3) Takamiminami Elementary School Zone – Quick and easy to see data

Population and household numbers (as of September 30, 2015 (Heisei 27))

	Takamiminami Elementary School Zone	Ratio in the city's population (%)	City
Population	5,527	Approx. 2.1%	268,983
No. of households	2,768 households		121,528 households



- Changes in the number of businesses and employees / Broad categorization of businesses



- Statistics that depict the area

Data per category

		Yao City	Takamiminami Elementary School Zone
Households	(Households)	121,528	2,768
Population	(People)	268,983	5,527
Area	(km ²)	41.72	0.622
Population density	(Person / km ²)	6,447	8,886
No. of senior citizens	(People)	72,295	1,705
Ratio of senior citizens	(%)	26.9	30.8
No. of elementary school pupils	(Pupils)	13,888	228
No. of junior high school students	(Students)	7,289	375
Ratio of pop. under 14 years old	(%)	12.91	10.3
No. of businesses	(Businesses)	12,250	219
Area of parks *1	(ha)	43.57	1.86
Area of parkland per person	(m ²)	1.62	3.36
Narrow roads ratio *2	(%)	31.2	16.7
Main roads ratio *3	(%)	5.7	4.8
Sewage service diffusion rate	(%)	89.8	99.5

*1 The Kyuhoji Greenbelt is not included parks' area measurement

*2 Length of roads 4m wide or less ÷ total length of roads in the school zone

*3 Length of roads 12m wide or wider ÷ total length of roads in the school zone

[Population]

The population of Takamiminami Elementary School Zone ranks 25th among the city's 29 elementary school zones, making it an area with a relatively small population. Its area ranks 28th making the 2nd smallest, and its population density ranks 15th.

Viewing the population change over the years, it can be seen that there was a big decrease of 24.3% from 1998 (Heisei 10) when the population was 7,302 to 2015 (Heisei 27) when the population was 5,527. A breakdown of the population shows that although the overall population of the district fell, the population of senior citizens over 65 years old almost doubled from 843 to 1,705. And the working-age population of 15-4 years old people declined by 39.5% from 5,378 to 3,254, and the population of 568 of children under 14 years old is a decrease of 47.5%.

As can be seen from the above, the decrease in the child population and increase in the population of senior citizens is the same as that of the whole nation.

One reason for the decline in the number of households and population is the closing and demolition of the employment promotion housing complex of 8 buildings with 320 apartments in Takami-cho 5-chome that was built in May 1968 (Showa 43).

Ref: Takami-cho 5-chome	End of March 2004	No. of households	410	Population	926
	End of March 2009	No. of households	156	Population	354
	End of September 2015	No. of households	141	Population	334

In the municipal housing complex of 7 buildings in the Minami Honmachi 8-chome area, the ratio of senior citizens is 31.2% and the average number of people per household is 1.90. These figures indicate that there is a large number of households with senior citizens living alone.

When Takamiminami Elementary School opened in 1975 (Showa 50), there were 856 pupils in the school. During the Showa 50s period (1975-1984), the number increased to over 1,000. Later, as the decrease in child population and increase in senior citizen population reflects, the number of pupils in the school in 1998 (Heisei 10) was 418, in 2008 (Heisei 20) was 279 and in 2015 (Heisei 27) the number fell to 228, a significant drop in the number of pupils.

[Businesses and parks]

In the school zone, Minami Honmachi No.1 Park (commonly known as Robot Park) is the 5th largest city park opened to the public in the city. The total park area in the school zone is 1.86ha, with an area of 3.36m² per person which is a relatively high figure, even in the city. Also, in the area where the employment promotion housing was, the Takami-cho 5-chome Park is planned to be opened in 2016.

There are 219 businesses in the school zone. A breakdown of the business shows that manufacturing/processing industries account for 32.0%, making them the largest group. This is followed by wholesale and retail businesses at 18.7% and eating and drinking establishments and hotels at 5.9%. In the junior high school zone where Takamiminami Elementary School is, there are a total of 275 businesses. Although the figures are close, a breakdown of the businesses shows wholesale and retail businesses, service businesses, eating and drinking establishments and hotels and health and welfare establishments. Though the school zones are neighbors and the number of businesses is approximately the same, there is a difference in industries.

Compared to 2001 (Heisei 13), the number of businesses dropped by 96, and the number of employees by 241. The decrease rate in the number of businesses is 15.5 points higher at 30.5% than the overall city rate of

15.0%. With regard to employees, the decrease rate was 10.0 points at 10.0% 3.8 points higher than the overall city rate of 13.5%. The number of businesses and employees in the city fell from their peak in 1996 (Heisei 8). In the same way, although there has been a slight recovery in the number of employees, businesses and employment in the school zone have been facing a declining trend since their peak in 1996.

The decline rate of businesses is higher than that of employees which is the same as that of the city. The closure of small businesses with fewer employees may be the reason of this.

(4) Takamiminami Elementary School Zone (Community potential)

Lunch service

Centered on the community welfare committee (Chiku Fukushi Iinkai), lunch is served on the second Tuesday of every month, except January and August, to senior citizens at the Yasunaka Senior Citizens Welfare Center.

Community volunteers think about the menu and prepare the meals at the Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center and bring them to the senior citizens.

About 50 senior citizens participate each month to enjoy delicious meals and chat.

Greetings / Mimamori (Citizen Care) Activities / Clean-up activities

Every third Wednesday of each month, except January and August, local residents meet at the entrance of the elementary school and greet the children, ‘Good morning’, as they enter school as a children protection activity.

Also, since May 2016 (Heisei 28), traffic safety activities for children going to school done mainly by senior citizens have been held every week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:40~8:15.

Regarding clean-up activities, every year in August and December, a community clean-up campaign for the whole district is held. Local residents, staff from facilities in the area and junior high school students clean up the roads, the area around the housing complex and parks.

Fureai Matsuri festival

Every autumn, Fureai Matsuri festival, a fun event for children, organized by the community education committee (Chiiki Kyoiku Kyogi-kai) is held in the Minami Honmachi No.1 Park (commonly known as Robot Park).

Every year, on the stage children perform music and dance. There is also a play corner where children enjoy fishing for balloons and ring-throwing. There is a flea market and many stalls where the local people can enjoy themselves.

Literacy classes (Reading and writing classes)

Literacy classes (reading and writing classes) are held every Thursday evening in the Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center. Although this is a Yao City’s Life-learning & Sports Division project, local people participate in the running of it. This project was started in 1971 to give people who did not have the opportunity to learn to read and write because of Buraku discrimination a chance to learn how to read and write. Recently, many foreign people join the classes to learn Japanese and how to read and write the language.

International Exchange Yayu-sai Festival

The International Exchange Yayu-sai Festival is held every autumn in the Minami Honmachi No.1 Park. There are many people with foreign cultural backgrounds; Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, etc, living in Yao

City. The Yaya-sai Festival is an opportunity to meet these people and encourage exchange.

TOKKABI, a non-profit organization, has been involved in the organizing of the Yaya-sai Festival from its beginning. Its parent organization, TOKKABI Children's Committee (TOKKABI Kodomo-kai) was founded in 1974 and is a well-established organization.

At the beginning, it was established to solve problems the Korean community faced and to help Korean children be proud of their ethnic identity. Study courses, Korean language classes and history lectures were held. Recently, support is given to children with Vietnamese and Chinese roots.

(5) Takamiminami Elementary School Zone from now on ...?

Learning from the history of the area

There is a long history of human rights activities in the Takamiminami Elementary School Zone. The school zone is in a district where social discrimination occurred. Poverty existed because of insecure work due to discrimination and as a result living conditions were very bad. Buraku discrimination caused these conditions. It was the nation's responsibility to eradicate Buraku discrimination, and with the Dowa Policy Council Report (Dowa Taisaku Shingi-kai Toshin) activities got underway to address this problem. This was continued by the issuance of the Dowa Special Measures Act (Dowa Taisaku Tokubetsu Sochi Ho) when social environmental projects were undertaken. With the construction of municipal housing, the community changed and former poor living conditions were alleviated.

In the area of education too, human rights related activities were also undertaken. At Takamiminami Elementary School, 'Human Rights Study' presentations are held. Guardians and faculty give presentations on the school's children's activities taking into consideration the school's educational goals and main goals, thus making this an opportunity for the school and community to think about 'Human Rights'.

However, discrimination still continues at important points in life such as marriage and seeking employment. The discovery of a new Buraku District Name List (Buraku Chimei Sokan) corroborates this. Recently, anonymous malicious discriminatory postings are made on the Internet. And in Yao City, family registers have been illegally obtained.

Also, in 2015 (Heisei 27), a large-scale outbreak of discrimination by posting discriminatory documents in public housing, private groups, public facilities took place not only in the city, but also in the (Osaka) Prefecture and Hyogo Prefecture. In 2016 (Heisei 29) a large-scale mail order company had begun accepting orders (has now stopped) for a reprint issue of the Buraku District Name List (Buraku Chimei Sokan).

Thinking about coexisting with foreign residents

There are many foreign residents, including those with Vietnamese nationality, living in the Takamiminami Elementary School area. If you walk around the school zone, you will find Vietnamese restaurants and stores that sell Vietnamese foodstuffs. There is sometimes trouble between people who have lived in foreign countries and now live in Japan and local residents because of the language barrier, difference in living customs and culture.

The reason why many Vietnamese people live in the area is because after the Vietnam War when many Vietnamese refugees abandoned their country and fled to Japan they were housed in the employment promotion housing complex. Although the employment promotion housing complex was closed down and demolished and some of the Vietnamese people moved to neighboring districts, because of their children's education and because they want to continue to live in the district they are familiar with, many of them continue to live in the Takamiminami Elementary School Zone.

Vietnamese guardians of elementary school pupils participate together with local residents in the community clean-up campaigns, and work together as any other resident in community activities. Japanese language support, etc is provided in the community through the previously mentioned NPO group

TOKKABI, literacy classes and the citizen volunteer group ‘Nihon-go Network YAO’, etc.

Since many Korean, Vietnamese and Chinese children attend Takamiminami Elementary School, an ethnic club has been set up to foster ethnic identity, learn about each country’s culture and customs. And for children whose Japanese language skills are insufficient, a Japanese language class has been set up.

Also, (Yao City’s) Life-long Learning & Sports Division holds a ‘Multi-cultural Kids Club’ (Tabunka Kids Club) for children with foreign roots at the Youths & Children’s Center every Wednesday.

To reduce inconvenience in everyday living, local administration offices create translated versions of information needed for everyday living, such as, disaster prevention maps, procedures for registering moving into the city, Maternal and Child Health Handbook, etc.

Also, for foreign residents living in Yao City, there are consultation services in Vietnamese, Chinese and Korean on everyday living problems and for things they may want to know, etc.

Consultation in Vietnamese is available every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at.NPO TOKKABI.

However, because of serious language barrier problems and difference in living customs real coexistence has not yet been achieved. There will continue to be a need for mutual understanding in various situations.

3 Community development goals

(1) Slogan

“Aiming to be a caring and connected community”

(Nukumori to tunagari no aru machi-zukuri wo mezashite)

(2) Specific goals

Data related to population and households has been given, and as was seen, there is a progressive decline in the overall population and child population and an increase in the population of aged. With this, there is an increase in the number of households made up of senior citizens and senior citizens living alone.

The Takamiminami Elementary School Zone is also a district where people having various human rights problems live. It is important to promote development of the community by making use of the community's special features ‘Our Community Brand’ (Waga Machi Brand).

‘Developing a community where people are kind to people’, ‘developing a community where everybody thinks this is a good community to live in. It’s community I want to continue to live in.’ are important.

Goal 1. Create a community where everyone can live securely and people feel ‘I want to continue living in this community.’

Goal 2. Create a community where everyone feels this is a community where ‘life is worth living’

Goal 3. Create a community that takes care of and supports child care and parenting

Goal 4. Create a community that has a strong sense of human rights

Goal 5 Create a community that thinks about disaster prevention and mitigation

4 Content of activities to actualize the goals

Goal 1 Create a community where everyone can live securely and people feel ‘I want to continue living in this community.’

There are a lot of resources, including public facilities, in the Takamiminami district. It is important to consider if it is easy for everybody to use these facilities. To ensure this, roads, parks, public facilities, and private facilities which people use in their daily lives should be fully barrier-free and are of ‘universal design’ (designed so everyone can use them), aiming to create a community where people will feel secure and will feel ‘I want to live here. I want to continue living here.’

(Measures in the school zone)

1. Make a map of facilities (stores) that are barrier-free and of universal design
2. Promote zero illegal garbage dumping activities, conduct community clean-up campaigns twice a year
3. Hold greetings activities including the ‘Once a month greeting’ campaign
4. Conduct night patrols at the year-end and monthly night patrols. Install security cameras.
5. Make the ‘Fureai Matsuri’, ‘Natsu Matsuri’ and Yao International Exchange Yayu-sai’ festivals and the ‘historical records room’ in the school something to be proud of.
6. Promote exchange between school pupils and community residents through gardening activities in the school grounds

Goal 2 Create a community where everyone feels this is a community where ‘life is worth living’

All kinds of people live in the school zone. It is necessary to create a community where everyone from the newly-born baby to the elderly senior citizen can feel it is a nice community to live in.

Among the people living in the school zone are senior citizens who live alone, senior citizens who require care or support, handicapped people (and children). It is necessary to enhance the support and consultation systems for these people in the school zone. There are many social resources that can be easily consulted with.

For people in the school zone to feel life is worth living, the ‘Takamiminami – Mutual Support’ campaign is held.

(Measures in the school zone)

1. Create a system in the community that can support senior citizens living alone and handicapped people who have difficulties carrying out their daily lives
2. Create a place to alleviate their anxiety and isolation for those living alone, elderly couples, people with handicaps and to promote care-prevention
3. Hold lectures at which senior citizen’s experiences can be utilized and through inter-generation exchange create a sense of ‘life is worth living’

Goal 3 Create a community that takes care of and supports child care and parenting

Create a community where the whole community is involved in rearing children. Also, there is a need to support not only the children, but also a need to support the parents rearing them. For this, it is necessary to create a community that supports child-rearing, parenting, and parents rearing children.

(Measures in the school zone)

1. Create a system or network (provisional name: SODACHI-MINAMI-NET) irrespective of generation, that supports the brining up of children in the school zone.
2. Encourage inter-generation exchange
3. Promote the passing on of old games and how they were played
4. Hold classes and events for parents and children to make handmade toys, etc.
5. Work with educational authorities on child-rearing consultation, school choice and career guidance and hold lectures on education

Goal 4 Create a community that has a strong sense of human rights

People whom Yao City designates as people with human rights problems (discriminated ‘Buraku’ people, residents with foreign nationalities, minority women, handicapped people, and senior citizens) live in Takamiminami Elementary School Zone. A serious issue for the community is to think about the human rights of each of these groups. To do this, the community needs to work to ensure both the entire community in the school zone and all of Yao City should act on this.

(Measures in the school zone)

1. Work to create a multi-cultural co-existing society by deepening exchange at roundtable discussions held with foreign residents in the school zone
2. Increase human rights awareness by holding ‘human rights talks’ and ‘heart-warming photograph exhibitions’ (provisional name: Kokoro atamaru shashin ten)
3. Hold a ‘Takamiminami Peace Week’ (provisional name: Takamiminami Heiwa Shukan) and ‘Takamiminami Human Rights Week (provisional name: Takamiminami Jinken Shukan) to think about peace and human rights.

Goal 5 Create a community that thinks about disaster prevention and mitigation

Since the Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake and Northeast Japan Earthquake, it has been said there is a need to enhance measures for disaster reduction and mitigation. When thinking about disaster prevention and mitigation, it is necessary to give priority consideration to those who are in a weak situation in disasters and those who have difficulty evacuating. It is also necessary to consider human rights problems that can arise during evacuation. It is, of course, important to think about disaster prevention on a daily basis, but it is also important to think about human rights problems, too. For this, the community should think about human rights issues on a daily basis.

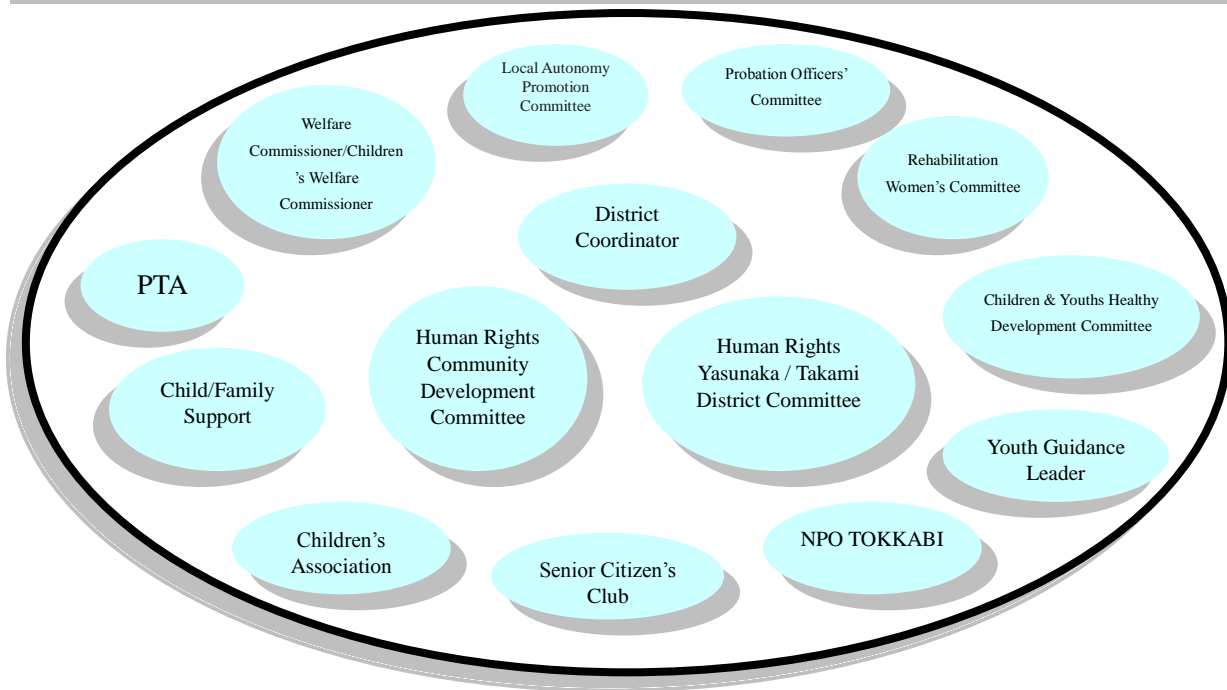
(Measures in the school zone)

1. Conduct experience-type fun learning events for children and adults
2. Hold seminars on human rights problems (about those who are in a weak situation in disasters and those who have difficulty evacuating) that need attention when a disaster occurs
3. Hold disaster drills focusing on those who are in a weak situation in disasters and those who have difficulty evacuating

5

Groups that make up the Community Development Committee

Groups that make up the Takamiminami Elementary School Zone Community Development Committee



[Yao City Human Rights Yasunaka-Takami District Committee]

The Yao Human Rights Yasunaka-Takami District Committee was established in September 2007 (Heisei 19) with the goal of creating a community free of discrimination, respects human rights, and promotes health and welfare. It is a community action group.

[Yasunaka District Human Rights Community Development Committee]

The Yasunaka District Human Rights Community Development Committee was established in May 2008 (Heisei 20) with the goal of solving problems related to livelihood, welfare, education, business, labor, health, culture and local administration of the residents in the social discrimination Buraku district of Yasunaka in order to eliminate Buraku discrimination. It is a community action group.

[NPO TOKKABI]

TOKKABI was established in 1974. It conducts projects to enhance human rights awareness to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against foreigners, and by doing so, contribute to establishing a multi-cultural co-existing society that respects a variety of cultures and social backgrounds.

Takamiminami Elementary School Zone
Community Development Committee Regulations

Chapter 1 General Provisions

(Name of the Committee)

Article 1. The name of the Committee shall be Takamiminami Elementary School Zone
Community Development Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”)

(Subject area)

Article 2.

2-1. The subject area for the Committee is Yao Municipal Takamiminami Elementary
School Zone.

2-2. The subject area for the Committee includes the whole area of Yasunaka-cho 7, 8 and
9-chome, Minami Honmachi 6, 7, 8 and 9-chome, and Takami-cho 4, 5, 6 and
7-chome.

(Purposes)

Article 3. The Committee aims to realize “Takamiminami Elementary School Zone Our Town
Promotion Plan” (hereinafter referred to as the “Our Town Promotion Plan”) which
states the “targets for community and town development” of Takamiminami
Elementary School Zone. The Committee also strives to solve problems within the
zone and targets the creation of a “community that has a good environment, is a good
place to live in, has no discrimination and respects human rights” with the
cooperation of Yao City, working with Takamiminami District Welfare Committee
and organizations working within the Takaminami Elementary School Zone, and
with the solidarity of local residents.

(Activities)

Article 4.

4-1. The Committee undertakes the following activities based on the “Our Town
Promotion Plan” in order to achieve the targets mentioned in the previous article.

- (1) Budgeting, settlement of accounts, public relations, etc. of the Committee
- (2) Creating and conducting the Our Town Promotion Plan, and evaluating its progress
- (3) Regarding human rights
- (4) Promotion of multi-cultural co-existing society
- (5) Welfare of citizens
- (6) Crime and disaster prevention
- (7) Environmental improvement and beautification
- (8) Healthy development of adolescents and children
- (9) Passing on of history and culture of the district
- (10) Other activities required to achieve the targets

4-2. The Committee shall not engage any activities for profit, or specific religious or

political activities.

(Office)

Article 5. The Committee's office is located in Yao Municipal Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center, 8-5-30, Yasunaka-cho, Yao City.

Chapter 2 Organization and Board Members

(Organization)

Article 6.

6-1. The Committee consists of groups/organizations (herein after referred to as "the Affiliated Organizations") provided for in the attached list 1.

6-2. Addition of new affiliated organizations shall be determined at a general meeting.

(Board members)

Article 7.

7-1. The Committee consists of the following board members.

- (1) Chairperson: 1 person
- (2) Vice-chairpersons: a few people
- (3) Secretary-general: 1 person
- (4) Deputy secretary-generals: a few people
- (5) Treasurer: 1 person
- (6) Auditors: 2 people

7-2. Board members shall be elected from among committee members at general meetings.

7-3. Auditors shall not undertake any other board member role within the Committee.

7-4. Counselors or advisors may be appointed to the Committee with the approval at general meetings.

(Board members' duties)

Article 8. Board members' duties are stated as follows.

- (1) Chairperson represents the Committee and presides over Committee's affairs.
- (2) Vice-chairperson assists the chairperson and deputizes for chairperson's duties in the case that the chairperson has an unexpected incident or cannot attend the Committee.
- (3) Secretary-general presides over Committee's clerical work
- (4) Deputy secretary-general assists the secretary-general and deputizes for secretary-general's duties in the case that the secretary-general has an unexpected incident or cannot attend the Committee. Deputy secretary-general is also in charge of taking minutes in the Committee.
- (5) Treasurers are in charge of the accounts of the Committee.
- (6) Auditors audit the accounts of the Committee.

(Board members' term of service)

Article 9.

9-1. Board members' term of service is two years. However, the term of service for a member elected to fill a vacancy shall be the remaining term of the predecessor.

9-2. Board members can be reappointed. However, they cannot be reappointed in the same post for more than five consecutive terms (10 consecutive years).

(Subcommittees)

Article 10.

10-1. The Committee is allowed to establish subcommittees in order to conduct activities in particular fields, if necessary.

10-2. In the case that subcommittees are established, matters regarding the subcommittees shall be stated separately.

Chapter 3 Meetings

(General meetings)

Article 11.

11-1. The general meeting is regarded as the supreme decision-making body and consists of the members appointed by representatives and chairpersons of the affiliated organizations (attached list 1) (hereinafter referred to as the Committee Members).

11-2. Pursuant to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, in the case that the chairperson appoints a Committee Member, the approval of the general meeting is required.

11-3. Subjects regarding the following matters are deliberated, approved and resolved at general meetings.

- (1) Project plans and budgets
- (2) Project reports and settlement of accounts
- (3) Preparing and changing the Our Town Promotion Plan
- (4) The structure of the Committee, affiliated organizations and Committee Members
- (5) Electing board members
- (6) Revision and abolition of regulations
- (7) Matters to entrust to the board meeting
- (8) Other matters required for the affairs of the Committee including important matters regarding management of the Committee

11-4. General meetings shall be convened and presided over by the chairperson.

11-5. General meetings are held once a year. Extraordinary general meetings shall be held whenever approved as required by the chairperson or a majority of the Committee members demand to hold a meeting.

(General meeting minutes)

Article 12.

12-1. General meeting minutes shall consist of the following items.

- (1) Date, time and venue
 - (2) Current number of the Committee members and the number of members attended (including absentee voters)
 - (3) Purpose of the meeting and matters deliberated and resolved
 - (4) Outline of proceedings and outcome of the meeting
 - (5) Information regarding the nomination of minutes signatories
- 12-2. The chairperson of the meeting and two signatories nominated at the general meeting shall sign and put their seals on the minutes.

(Publishing minutes)

Article 13.

- 13-1. Local residents may ask the chairperson to view general meeting minutes. However, if minutes include information that is not appropriate to disclose (e.g. personal information), the chairperson shall publish minutes excluding such information.
- 13-2. Matters regarding requests on disclosing minutes shall be stated separately.
- 13-3. General meeting minutes summary shall be published.

(Board meetings)

Article 14.

- 14-1. Board meetings consist of the board members stated in Article 7 (except for auditors). If necessary, a request that Committee members other than board members may attend a meeting can be made.
- 14-2. Board meetings shall be convened by the chairperson when necessary.
- 14-3. Subjects regarding the following matters are discussed and resolved at board meetings.
- (1) Drafting project plans and budgets
 - (2) Project reports and settlement of accounts
 - (3) Disseminating decisions to local residents
 - (4) Implementing affairs of the board which do not require a decision from the general meeting

(Holding meetings)

Article 15. Except general meetings, meetings shall be held when the head of the meeting deems it necessary. However, if a majority of members request to hold a meeting, the head of the meeting shall hold a meeting promptly.

(Conducting meetings)

Article 16.

- 16-1. A meeting is established with the attendance of a majority of the members.
- 16-2. Decisions shall be effected by a majority of the members present, and in the case of tied votes, the chairperson or the head of the meeting shall effect decisions.
- 16-3. When there are unavoidable reasons for not being able to be present at a meeting, members may vote in writing. In this case, the member concerned is deemed to have

been present, according to the application of quorum and resolution rules.

Chapter 4 Project Plans and Budgets

(Project plans and budgets)

Article 17. Project plans and budgets of the Committee shall be drafted by the board members and come into effect by a resolution at general meetings. The same process shall be applied for the change of project plans and budgets.

Chapter 5 Project Reports and Settlement of Accounts

(Project reports and settlement of accounts)

Article 18. Project reports and settlement of accounts shall be drafted by the board members, subject to audit by auditors, and approval at general meetings within a month from the end of every fiscal year.

Chapter 6 Accounting

(Expenses)

Article 19. Expenses of the Committee shall be covered by comprehensive grants, subsidies, commissions, grants, sponsorships, donations and other income.

(Fiscal year)

Article 20. The fiscal year of the Committee begins on April 1 each year and ends on March 31 of the following year.

(Audit and report)

Article 21. Auditors shall conduct an accounting audit after the end of the fiscal year and report the outcome at general meetings.

(Accounting, organizing and publishing asset books)

Article 22.

22-1. The Committee will organize books related to accounting and assets in order to ensure transparency of accounting information.

22-2. Local residents may ask the chairperson to view books related to accounting and assets. However, if the books include information that is not appropriate to disclose (e.g. personal information), the chairperson shall publish books excluding such information.

22-3. Matters regarding requests on disclosing books regarding accounting and assets shall be stated separately.

22-4. Performance reports, and income and expenditure statements, etc. regarding comprehensive grants, etc. from Yao City shall be published.

Chapter 7 Others

(Change of the Regulations)

Article 23. Any changes in the Regulations shall be decided by a resolution at the general meetings.

(Delegation)

Article 24. Matters which are necessary to enforce these Regulations, shall be decided by a resolution at the general meeting and determined by the chairperson separately.

Supplementary Provisions

(Date of enforcement)

1. These Regulations shall come into effect as of January 31, 2013.

(Preparatory committee)

2. Takamiminami Elementary School Zone Preparatory Committee to Establish the Community Development Committee shall cease as of January 31, 2013. The Committee shall assume all of the obligations of the Preparatory Committee.

(Special Provisions on the Term of Service of Board Members)

3. In order to adjust the re-election year of the board of members of affiliated organizations, etc., the term of service of board members selected at the establishment of the Committee, shall be terminated on March 31, 2014.

Attached List 1

Name of Groups/Organizations (Affiliated Organizations)	
Local Autonomy Promotion Committee	Youth Guidance Leaders' Committee
Committee of Welfare Commissioner/Children's Welfare Commissioner	PTA
Yao City Human Rights Yasunaka / Takami District Committee	Children's Association
Yasunaka District Culture Preservation Group	Senior Citizen's Club
Yasunaka District Human Rights Community Development Committee	NPO TOKKABI
Probation Officers' Committee	Yao Vietnamese Circle
Rehabilitation Women's Committee	Child/Family Support
Healthy Development Committee (<i>Ikusei kai</i>)	District Coordinator

【Reference】

Cooperative Organizations

Name of Groups/Organizations		
Yao Municipal Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center	Yao Municipal Yasunaka Youth & Children's Center (<i>Yasunaka Seishonen Kaikan</i>)	Yao Municipal Yasunaka Senior Citizens Welfare Center (<i>Yasunaka Rojin Fukushi Center</i>)
Yao Municipal General Welfare Center for Handicapped People (<i>Shogaisha Sogo Fukushi Center</i>)	Yao Municipal Yasunaka Day Nursery	Yao Municipal Takamiminami Elementary School
Yao Municipal Takami Junior High School	Yu Yasunaka Higashi Day Nursery	Yasunaka Clinic
Satoyama (nursing care home requiring payment)		