

Creating a “Non-smoking” legacy for the city

Mayor of Chofu
Yoshiki Nagatomo

Chofu City aims to be a place where everyone is safe, can live easily, and can raise children safely, under the slogan “The warm and bright city connected by everyone's smiles.” As arenas in Chofu have been selected as venues for the 2019 Rugby World Cup Japan and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games, we have been promoting various initiatives to make Chofu City more attractive, not only for the citizens but also for domestic and foreign visitors.

Chofu City's Unique Project

The adverse health effects of passive smoking have been scientifically proven, but countermeasures have not progressed in Japan compared to world standards. It gives me great pleasure that passive smoking prevention measures taken by the Japanese and Tokyo metropolitan governments have come up to speed recently. In such circumstances, as a host city for the 2019 Rugby World Cup and the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Chofu City has launched a “Chofu City non-smoking restaurants” initiative in order to promote efforts to prevent health hazards to citizens and visitors. This is a result of a survey by the city, in which many voices were raised concerning the damage to health caused by passive smoking in restaurants, and the need to promote non-smoking. In this project, restaurants implementing measures to prevent passive smoking by enforcing non-smoking either inside or both inside and outside the restaurant are registered as “Chofu City Non-smoking Restaurants”. A dedicated non-smoking sticker is displayed at the entrance of such establishments, and detailed information about them is posted on the city web site in order to widely promote places where everyone can enjoy dining at ease.



Strictly Applying “Non-smoking”

In addressing this project, we have repeatedly investigated passive smoking prevention measures based on citizens’ opinions, surveys, and comparisons with the policies of other municipalities. I believe that as a result, Chofu has adopted strict non-smoking policies that exceed national and municipal standards. We do not permit either indoor smoking rooms or vaping in non-smoking restaurants. I was privately prepared for criticism that the policy was too strict, but in fact, I have received encouragement from within and outside the city, directly or via email, praising the policy and hoping for its spread nationwide. I would very much like both smokers and non-smokers to cooperate with each other and work on our non-smoking initiative passive smoking, to leave it as a legacy for the city and for the children who represent the next generation.

For these important goals, I would like many citizens as well as people around Japan and the world to read this booklet and visit the non-smoking restaurants featured. I also hope that even more restaurants will join the initiative so that we can further improve the effectiveness of our passive smoking prevention measures.

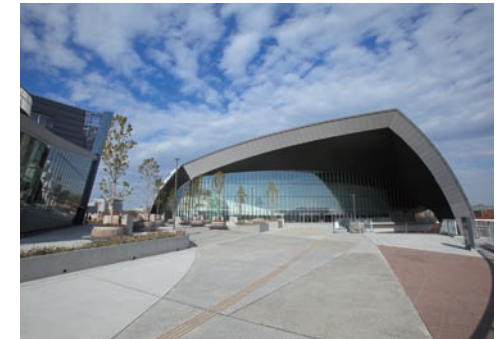
Profile of Chofu City

Chofu City is situated in the southeastern part of Tama area, 15km from Shinjuku, the sub-center of Tokyo. Chofu City is surrounded by Setagaya City to the east, Mitaka City and Koganei City to the north, Fuchu City to the west, Inagi City and Komae City to the south, and Kawasaki City of Kanagawa prefecture the other side of the Tama River. The city covers 21.58 square kilometers, which is about 1% of the whole Tokyo area. The city's

must-visit sights include the AJINOMOTO STADIUM (TOKYO STADIUM) and the Musashino Forest Sport Plaza which are venues for the Rugby World Cup 2019 Japan Tournament, and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and Jindaiji-temple, one of the most famous and ancient Buddhist temples in the Kanto region, where you can find a Buddha statue designated as a National Treasure and enjoy soba noodles in the surrounding area.



AJINOMOTO STADIUM (TOKYO STADIUM)



Musashino Forest Sport Plaza



Jindaiji Temple