

## **NISSAKU TIMES 10 CLASS**

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Class 10

## **Exploring the Charms of Tokyo Suburb Towns**





Taiyaki / Photo by Tatsumiya

he six towns in Tokyo suburb dealt in this newspaper may have similar cityscape; however, each have unique culture and tradition which can only be noticed with exploration. Each article of the Nissaku Times explores the towns, focusing on the benefits that the locals enjoy and difficulties that the town faces.

By Chinatsu Ito, Yui Kizu, Masaaki Nishii and Saneyuki Yamamoto



Photo by Shori Hachiman Jinja Shrine

### Is Hachimanyama Convenient for Movement?

The daily live is supported by various services, such as medical, food, and daily necessities. Speaking of Hachimanyama, it has big hospitals, chain food stores, general shops and restaurants around the station. Hachimanyama is easy to get to the metropolitan. For example, it takes only 23 minutes to get to Tokyo station, 20 minutes to get to Shibuya and 15 minutes to get to Shibuya. Probably due to such proximity, Hachimayama is a bed town.

On the other hand, the residents

experience inconvenience in the transportation. Although both rapid and local train stop in Hachimanyama station, a few trains arrive in an hour and reaching to some stations to exchange trains. Gohei Shimada, who moved to Hinabashi village, explored Tenryo during the Edo period. It is said that Hachimanyama shrine, which is a guardian in this village, gave the area its name.

By Shotaro Kamijo, Keito Kikuchi, Mizuki Kusuda, Ouki Kondo, Riku Sasaki and Rentaro Nakayama



Delicious ramen / Photo by Taberogu

#### **ENTERTAINER**

## Elevated Railway Revitalizes Sakurajosui



Sakurajosui townscape

Setagaya Ward, Tokyo. There are quiet residential areas around Sakurajosui, which is relatively safe in Setagaya Ward, so you can live with peace of mind.

In addition, it takes about 13 minutes to get to Shinjuku, and about 16 minutes to get to Shibuya, which gives you good transportation access.

On the other hand, there are almost no restaurants or supermarkets around the station, the prices are high, and there is a shortage of shopping and dining environments. In addition, in the rush-hour trains in the morning and evening, it is difficult to get on the train due to the congestion. In addition, the width of the road is narrow and there are many one-way roads, which often result

in traffic jams. Particularly on the roads in front of the station, there is a battle between the Keio Line's closed railroad crossing due to rush, students attending nearby educational institutions, and a large number of cars trying to exit onto Koshu Kaido via the narrow one-way road. To overcome such problems, the constructions are currently underway to elevate the Keio Line, and the railroad crossing is scheduled to be removed. It will be completed around 2030.

From this, I think that if we can solve the problems with commercial facilities and roads, we can become a nice town to live in.

By Reito Ninomiya, Ayuta Masui, Hiroto Minowa, Aika Miyoshi and Eishin Morishita

## Shimotakaido Keeps Evolving



Photo by Setagaya Line homepage

pproximately 130,000 people live in Shimotakaido, an area of 50ha (=500,000m2). This is due to the fact that it is located right in the middle of Hachioji, where there are densely populated residential areas, and Shinjuku, the city center. Therefore, there are a large number of restaurant people can enjoy a variety of gourmet foods. Shimotakaido is also conveniently located, easily accessible from Shinjuku and Shibuya by train. It is also a very safe area with a low risk of collapse and fire, strong earthquake resistance, and a crime rate of less than 1%. Most of the daily necessities can be

purchased at Shimotakaido Shopping District, and if you collect 400 stamps for every 100 yen spent on shopping and paste them on a mount, you can use this mount as a 500-yen gift certificate (some stores do not participate). This mount can be used for 1,000 yen at festivals such as the Great Sakura Festival. If you have a chance, please join the festival.

Shimotakaido is a evolving town with the aim of becoming a better town. For example, there are no safe sidewalks because there are many six meter roads. The problem was discussed at the Urban Development Council of Shimotakaido area. Many of

the buildings in Shimotakaido have a volume ratio of less than 50%, and 70% of the buildings are three stories or less. This means that the land is not being utilized effectively. Therefore, the council decides to make the diagonally receding building straight, by increasing the number of floors, and set the lower part back, as shown in the diagram. The council suggests to make effective use of the land, to establish secure sidewalks and strengthen

disaster prevention by broadening the spaces between the buildings. Don't you want to go to Shimotakaido?

This is all about the charm

of Shimotakaido. Of course, there are many more charms of Shimotakaido that could not be included in this article, but I hope you will understand that Shimotakaido is a town that has evolved with the aim of creating a better town while valuing its original charm. However, if you still want to know more about Shimotakaido, please come and enjoy here. There is a town where many events are held, so we recommend trying to find one that interests you.

By Emi Ishimoto, Aika Takahashi, Masaaki Nishii, Aoi Nishida and Saneyuki Yamamoto

#### **ENTERTAINER**

## Issues Kyodo Faces as Transfer Station



Photo by Kirari Iwasaki

yodo ranks 14th in the number of passengers out of 70 stations on the Odakyu Line.

Our research group thinks the most appealing thing about Kyodo is that it is very easily accessible by the train. For example, you can get to Shinjuku Station in 12 minutes. Sometimes, it is possible to go there in 15 minutes. In addition, express trains and semiexpress trains stop here, making it very convenient for commuting to work or school. On the other hand, rapid express trains, and commuter express trains do not stop at Kyodo, causing all the passengers to Kyodo to get on express trains. For passengers heading to Kyodo, they need to get on the local express train, at the neighboring rapid express

stops, either at Noborito or Shimokitazawa.

By Kirari Iwasaki, Eri Uwaya, Keito Ebara, Asahi Sato and Shiori Yoshida

## Town with Scenic views; Kamikitazawa

Kamikitazawa is? This great city isn't known by much people. Kamikitazawa is considered as a good residential area. I believe this is due to the fact that Kamikitazawa is the second oldest residential area in Setagaya ward, and its distinctive city design. The design of Kamikitazawa is a pleasant city with the streets designed with rows of cherry blossom trees and gentle curves at the intersections.

In addition, the famous rows of cherry trees, which are registered as one of the Setagaya 100 scenic spots, are a wonderful representative attraction of Kamikitazawa. The scenic sceneries of cherry trees was realized thanks to the hard work of local residents who take care of the Someiyoshino cherry trees. In addition, flowers are planted at the flower bed, Uemasu, on the ground of the trees. The flower bed is an important place for cherry trees to absorb water and nutrients. It can also prevent the soil from hardening, which is caused due to the pedestrians walking closer to trees, and littering.

Kamikitazawa is also known for a popular residential area for celebrities, but it is also said that the area is not appealing to new comers. One of the reasons would be its unique community and city development.

After the world war, it is said that Kamikitazawa was developed by a private Taiwanese company. However, the company did not survive after the war, and the company history is no longer available.

Due to such facts, there was substantially no local community and new comers were unaware of the history of the area. Such background may have led to residents feeling less attachments to the area.

With various charms of Kamikitazawa, we believe revitalizing the community is crucial for the area to develop. If the area can hold social events that are open to everyone from elementary school students to the elderly, it will create connections among local residents and foster a love of the local community, which will lead to people of younger generations staying in Kamikitazawa.

In addition, creating events and buildings that will serve as the core of the community would also be effective. By taking advantage of Kamikitazawa's unique history, building a local museum may attract tourists, raise the name recognition of Kamikitazawa. It will eventually increase more interest to the origin of Kamikitazawa in the history and people's attachments toward Kamikitazawa as their hometown.

Furthermore, more

a d v e r t i s e m e n t o f t h e Kamikitazawa Cherry Blossom Festival may also bring more guests to the area. Since most of the stalls at this festival are set up by local stores, it would be a good idea to invite stalls from other areas to make the festival more lively and enjoyable for all sorts of people.

By Mio Ueno, Wakana Kiyama, Zhixing Kin, Shotaro Takeuchi, Yuta Tajima and Kazuya Nakamura



Poster of Kamikitazawa with beautiful nature

#### **ENTERTAINER**

# Attracting More People to Affordable Town

enerally speaking, Chitose Karasuyama is located in Setagaya Ward, where many celebrities live and rents are said to be high. However, Chitose Karasuyama is a particularly affordable area to live within Setagaya Ward. While the market price in Setagaya

Ward as a whole is 150,000 yen, Chitose Karasuyama is 120,000 yen, making it an easy-to-livein area for families and people living alone.

The reasons why rents in Chitose Karasuyama are low include its inconvenience. There are few commercial facilities near the station. In order to improve the current situation, it is necessary to cooperate with local governments and companies to develop commercial facilities, parking lots, and bicycle parking lots. In addition, in order to increase the demand for commercial properties, it may

be necessary to further reduce rents and promote renovations to attract more people to move into the properties.

By Rui Omizo, Keiji Kanegae, Sara Hirano, Yui Kizu and Chinatsu Ito



Chitose Karasuyama with its lively streets / Photo by Yui Kizu

#### **NISSAKU TIMES 10 CLASS**

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