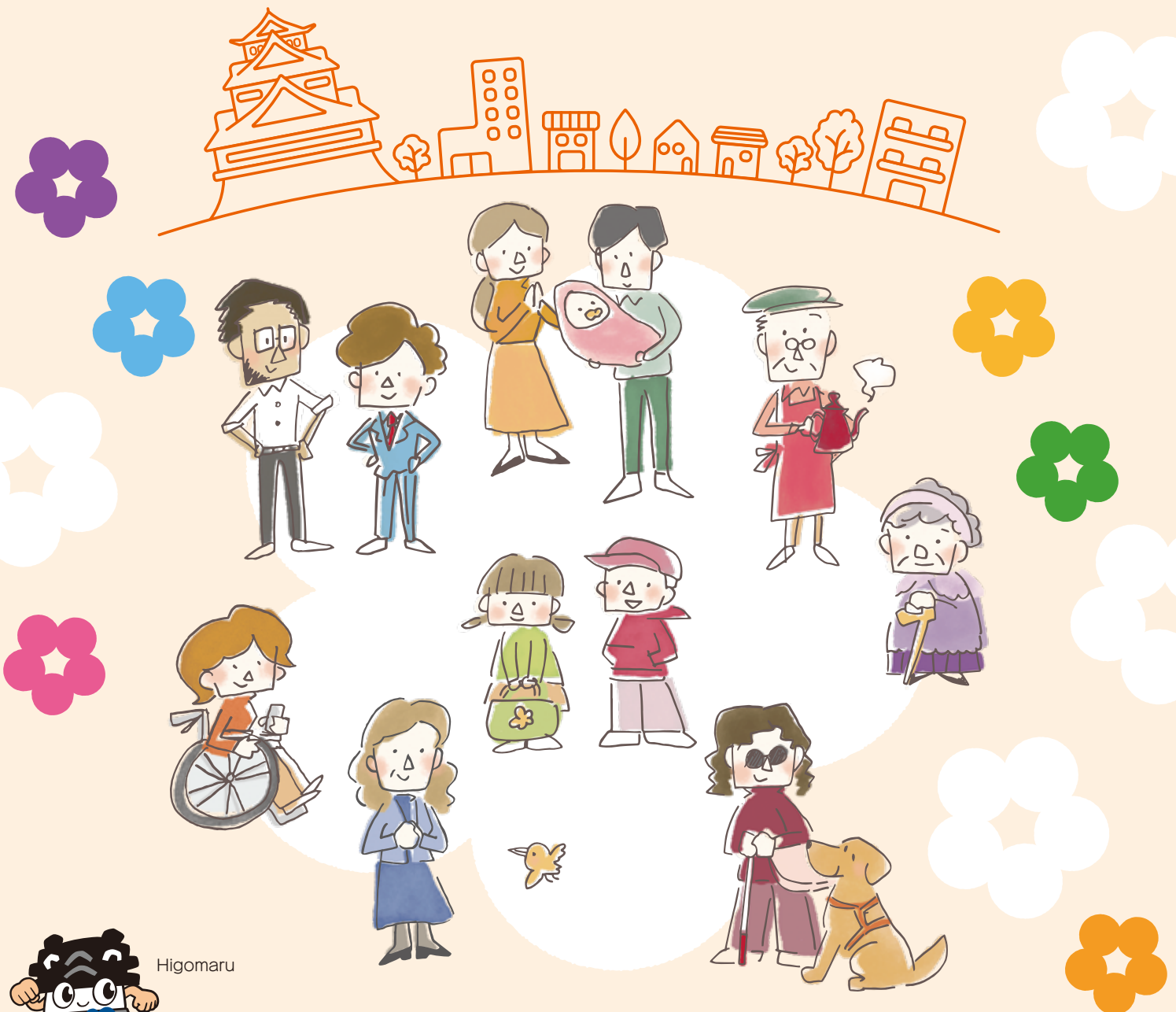


Kumamoto City Autonomy Basic Ordinance

Our Watchword is “We Create Our City by Ourselves”



Higomaru

What is the Kumamoto City Autonomy Basic Ordinance?

It establishes rules to build up Kumamoto City with all citizens in order to realize a unique and vibrant society and describes the fundamental philosophies of this city's self-governance and issues such as the roles of citizens, assemblies, and administrations.

Kumamoto City

The Fundamental Philosophies Self-Governance

Self-governance refers to

Governing our own region responsibly according to our own will.

- ☐ Promotion of the citizens' welfare
- ☐ City administration based on the trust that appropriately reflects the will of the residents who have the sovereignty
- ☐ Respect the human rights of each person
- ☐ Promotion of the city administration and community developments through information sharing, trust, and collaboration
- ☐ Promotion of the city administration and community developments through voluntary and proactive participation of the citizens
- ☐ Realization of a sustainable society that remains in the future
- ☐ Promotion of an independent city administration based on an equal relationship between the national and prefectural governments



A City Worth Living in

A citizen refers to

A person who lives or commutes to work or school as well as corporations and organizations within the boundaries of Kumamoto City regardless of nationality, gender, age, etc.



Citizens are the bearers
of community developments

Citizens

Citizens strive to engage in community developments voluntarily through proactive participation in the city administration and community developments.

Each of us shall
fulfill our roles and make
a comfortable
city
to live in.

The city assembly

The city assembly
shall make policy proposals.



The city administration

The city administration
shall provide services.

The city assembly shall monitor the city administration, listen to the voices of the citizens, and strive to make policy proposals conducting open assembly operations.

The mayor and city employees shall conduct the city administration which is fair, neutral, honest, and highly transparent as well as improving the quality of administrative services while accurately understanding the intentions and the actual situation of the citizens.

The 3 Fundamental Principles of Autonomous Operation

1. Principle of Information Sharing

The citizens, assembly and administration proactively provide and share information to promote the city administration and community development as well as maintain a system for provision and sharing information.

Examples

Kumamoto City Newsletter, City Assembly Newsletter, Kumamoto City Homepage, Kumamoto City Official LINE, letters to the mayor, information publication system, community bulletin board, community circular board, etc.

2. Principle of Participation

Participation refers to initiatively taking part in the policy-making from the planning stages. It is necessary that the diverse citizens, including children, who make up communities proactively participate in city administration and community development. As such, a system for this principle shall be maintained.

Examples

Workshops, public comments, survey, executive committees, community meeting, investigation committees, etc.

3. Principle of Collaboration

Collaboration refers to cooperation to achieve the same goal, with everyone assuming roles and responsibilities and standing in an equal position. The administration shall maintain a system to expand and promote said collaboration while striving not to spoil citizens' voluntariness.

Forms of Collaboration

Sponsorship, policy proposals, project cooperation, co-sponsorship, agreements/contracts, etc.

Let's aim to realize a unique and vibrant society
as we promote city administration and
community development based on
information sharing, participation
and collaboration.



Expressions in the Ordinances Have Been Revised in 2023 Based on Changes in Society

Principles of Participation (Article 27 Related)

- 2 The city administration and community developments through participation is carried out with the cooperation of the diverse citizens who make up the regional communities.

Reason for revision

To establish entities who participate in community development, etc. refer to everyone regardless of nationality, gender, age, etc.

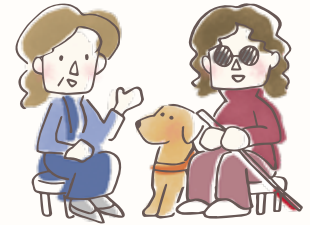


Regional Community Activities (Article 32 Related)

- 1 The citizens shall strive to promote voluntary and independent regional community activities which support society diversely as well as solving regional issues close to them such as disaster prevention, welfare and the environment, etc. through mutual collaboration.
- 2 When carrying out the regional community activities, citizens shall conduct the activities with sufficient respect for each other in the context of diverse cultural backgrounds as well as being aware of their own roles to make the region a pleasant place to live with kindness and interaction.

Reason for revision

1. By including a specific example, the regional issues are easier to imagine.
2. To show the concept of multicultural coexistence.



Crisis Management (Article 36-2 Related)

- 1 Each citizen shall prepare for the occurrence of crises, such as disasters, on a regular basis and strive to help each other in the event of a crisis as well as stockpile emergency supplies, etc. and maintain cooperative relationships with neighbors.

Reason for revision

To show specific examples of "self-help" and "mutual aid" which are necessary for preparation for disasters.



Ordinance

Preamble

Chapter 1. General Rules

- Article 1. Purpose
- Article 2. Definition
- Article 3. Fundamental policies of self-governance
- Article 4. Fundamental principles of autonomy operations

Chapter 2. Roles of Citizens, City Assembly, Mayor and Others

- Article 5. Rights of the citizens
- Article 6. Duties of the citizens
- Article 7. Roles of the city assembly
- Article 8. Duties of the city assembly members
- Article 9. Duties of the mayor
- Article 10. Roles of the mayor and others
- Article 11. Duties of city employees

Chapter 3. Principles and Systems of City Administration

- Article 12. Fundamental principles of the city administration
- Article 13. Comprehensive and organized city administration
- Article 14. Efficient and effective city administration
- Article 15. Organizational structure

- Article 16. Comprehensive administrative services
- Article 17. System of human resources
- Article 18. System of whistle-blowing
- Article 19. Deliberation assembly, etc.
- Article 20. Administrative procedures
- Article 21. Handling of opinions, etc.
- Article 22. Accountability of explanations
- Article 23. Ombudsman
- Article 24. (Deleted)

Chapter 4. Information Sharing, Participation and Collaboration

- Article 25. Principles of information sharing
- Article 26. Protection of personal data
- Article 27. Principles of participation
- Article 28. Participation of youth and children
- Article 29. Principle of collaboration
- Article 30. System for citizen participation and collaboration
- Article 31. Community developments ordinance based on participation and collaboration

Chapter 5. Community Activities

- Article 32. Regional community activities
- Article 33. Civic public interest activities

- Article 34. Coordination of regional community activities and civic public interest activities

Chapter 6. Community Developments in Wards

- Article 35. Community developments in the wards
- Article 36. Maintenance of organizational structure, etc.

Chapter 7. Crisis Management

- Article 36-2. Crisis Management

Chapter 8. Referendum

- Article 37. Referendum
- Article 38. Request and proposal for referendum

Chapter 9. Coordination With the National Government and Other Local Governments

- Article 39.

Chapter 10. Autonomy Promotion Committee, Highest Normativity and Review of Ordinances

- Article 40. Autonomy Promotion Committee
- Article 41. Highest normativity
- Article 42. Reforming of ordinances

Details of the ordinance can be found on the city website's homepage!

More
Information



Kumamoto City HP
"Kumamoto City
Autonomy Basic Ordinance"



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