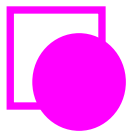




Saitama Municipal Library connects people with books, knowledge and information, supporting lifelong learning and creating something new.

Saitama Municipal Library Vision —Towards the Future— Summary



Section 1

Purpose of Saitama Municipal Library Vision

Saitama Municipal Library has enhanced its services through the development of a library network centered around the main Chuo Library, in accordance with the Saitama Municipal Library Development Basic Plan, which was instituted in 2006.

In order to address changes in the socio-economic climate as well as the diversification and sophistication of citizens' needs over the six years since the plan was introduced, the plan was revised and the "Saitama Municipal Library Vision" was formulated to serve as the new guideline for future library projects.

Current State of Saitama Municipal Library

- Presently, there are 24 libraries in Saitama City.
- According to user statistics for FY2010, 11.24 million items were checked out to individuals, while there were 2.51 million cases of materials being reserved. This is 1.3 times and 4.1 times more, respectively, than in FY 2005 when the city was the same area in size.

In comparison with libraries in other government ordinance-designated cities, Saitama Municipal libraries rank 1st for the number of books checked out per capita and the number of materials reserved per capita and 2nd for volumes per capita in the library's collection.



Section 2

Position and Implementation Period of the Saitama Municipal Library

The Saitama Municipal Library Vision serves as the Basic Policy of the library, in keeping with the comprehensive development plan—the Saitama Hopeful City Plan—and the related programs and policies.

The implementation period for the programs under this Vision is the same as the comprehensive development plan, a period of 8 years until FY2020. Each year, project objectives will be set based on this Library Vision and the degree of achievement will be evaluated, verified and published.



Sections 3 and 4

Saitama Municipal Library Vision and Basic Policies for Implementation

To address the social conditions affecting the library and ensure the library grows and develops as the Community Hub of Knowledge for citizens, the following four objectives have been adopted for the Saitama Municipal Library Vision and 22 basic policies have been set to realize those objectives.

1 Library that satisfies intellectual curiosity of citizens

The library, in its capacity as a hub for lifelong learning and information transmission, will collect and preserve materials that satisfy the needs of citizens and support the educational activities of citizens by providing services that are relevant to the information age.

- Promote widespread use of the library, conduct PR activities and strengthen information provision
- Collect and preserve materials in an extensive and systematic manner
- Preserve the history and culture of the community
- Improve library services through the use of ICT (Information and Communication Technology)
- Hold cultural programs

2 Library that supports zest for living

The library will provide services that are easy for everyone to access and create an environment in which citizens can obtain the knowledge, information and skills they require by themselves.

- Enhance services for the various age groups
- Improve reference services
- Resolve community issues
- Develop lifestyle support services
- Enhance barrier-free services
- Improve multicultural services
- Support children's reading activities and collaborate with school libraries

3 Library that walks hand in hand with citizens

By sharing the current conditions and challenges of library administration with citizens and by cooperating with the many talented persons throughout the city, the library will reflect the unique characteristics of the community in its operations.

- Conduct library evaluations and reflect the beliefs of citizens
- Collaborate with citizens
- Partnership with related organizations (public organizations, private sector organizations, NPOs)
- Reflect unique local characteristics in the running of the library

4 Library that everyone can use with ease

The library will develop its services by making use of the Saitama Municipal Library network, as well as work to enhance the qualifications and capabilities of staff in order to meet the needs of citizens in an appropriate manner.

Efforts will also be made to improve library facilities and equipment so that citizens can feel safe and secure using the library.

- Create a friendly library atmosphere
- Improve staff qualifications and capabilities
- Assign staff with specialized knowledge
- Improve facilities and equipment
- Conduct sustainable and stable library management
- Enhance the Crisis Management System



Section 5

Development and Administration of Saitama Municipal Library

The management and administration of the library will be examined comprehensively to ensure that each citizen can use the library with ease and efforts will be made to further improve library services and manage the library in a more efficient manner.

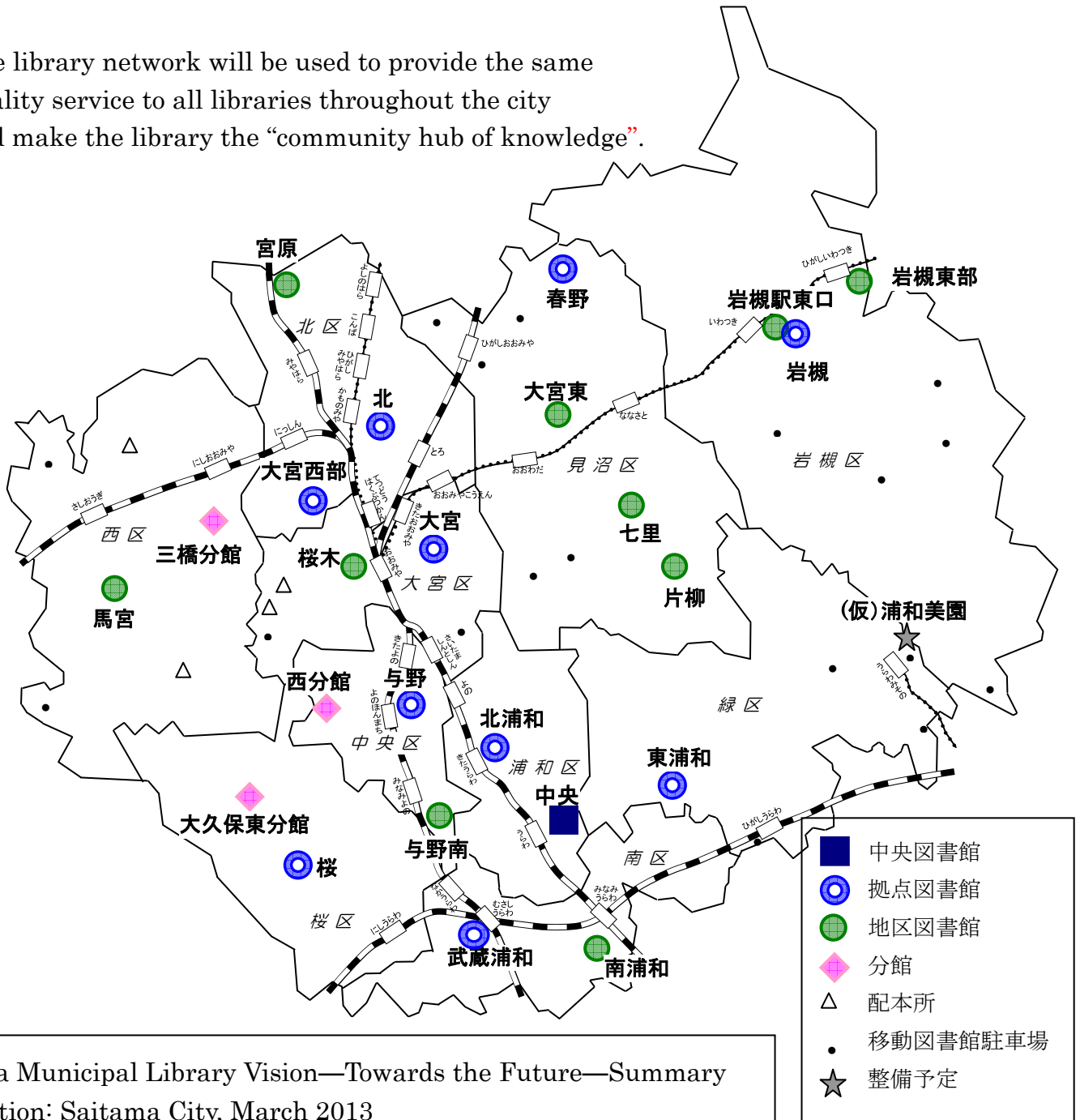
Also, in order to establish a disaster prevention system that addresses safety concerns, a disaster preparedness manual will be put together to ensure smooth operations in the event of an emergency.



Saitama Municipal Library Network

In Saitama City, there are 24 libraries: the Chuo Library that functions as the nucleus of the library network, hub libraries, district libraries and branch libraries. The libraries are linked by a computer system and there is a transfer service to transport materials to all libraries.

The library network will be used to provide the same quality service to all libraries throughout the city and make the library the “community hub of knowledge”.



Saitama Municipal Library Vision—Towards the Future—Summary
 Publication: Saitama City, March 2013
 Editing: Saitama Municipal Chuo Library
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As of March, 2013

(Appendix) Saitama Municipal Library Network Map

No.	Places on Map		English	No.	Places on Map		English
1	西区	区名	Nishi Ward	5 7	よの	駅名	Yono
2	北区	区名	Kita Ward	5 8	さいたましんとしん	駅名	Saitama-Shintoshin
3	大宮区	区名	Omiya Ward	5 9	とろ	駅名	Toro
4	見沼区	区名	Minuma Ward	6 0	ひがしおおみや	駅名	Higashi-Omiya
5	中央区	区名	Chuo Ward	6 1	みやはら	駅名	Miyahara
6	桜区	区名	Sakura Ward	6 2	きたおおみや	駅名	Kita-Omiya
7	浦和区	区名	Urawa Ward	6 3	おおみやこうえん	駅名	Omiya-Koen
8	南区	区名	Minami Ward	6 4	おおわだ	駅名	Owada
9	緑区	区名	Midori Ward	6 5	ななさと	駅名	Nanasato
1 0	岩槻区	区名	Iwatsuki Ward	6 6	いわつき	駅名	Iwatsuki
1 1	中央図書館	凡例	Chuo Library	6 7	ひがしいわつき	駅名	Higashi-Iwatsuki
1 2	拠点図書館	凡例	Hub Library	6 8	てつどうはくぶつかん	駅名	Tetsudo-Hakubutsukan
1 3	地区図書館	凡例	District Library	6 9	かものみや	駅名	Kamonomiya
1 4	分館	凡例	Branch Library	7 0	ひがしみやはら	駅名	Higashi-Miyahara
1 5	配本所	凡例	Book Distribution Station	7 1	こんば	駅名	Komba
1 6	移動図書館駐車場	凡例	Bookmobile Stop	7 2	よしのはら	駅名	Yoshinohara
1 7	整備予定	凡例	Scheduled for Construction	7 3	うらわみその	駅名	Urawa Misono
1 8	中央	館名	Chuo				
1 9	馬宮	館名	Mamiya				
2 0	三橋分館	館名	Mihashi Branch Library				
2 1	大宮西部	館名	Omiya Seibu				
2 2	北	館名	Kita				
2 3	宮原	館名	Miyahara				
2 4	大宮	館名	Omiya				
2 5	桜木	館名	Sakuragi				
2 6	春野	館名	Haruno				
2 7	大宮東	館名	Omiya Higashi				
2 8	七里	館名	Nanasato				
2 9	片柳	館名	Katayanagi				
3 0	与野	館名	Yono				
3 1	南与野	館名	Minami Yono				
3 2	西分館	館名	Nishi Branch Library				
3 3	桜	館名	Sakura				
3 4	大久保東分館	館名	Okubo Higashi Branch Library				
3 5	北浦和	館名	Kita Urawa				
3 6	武蔵浦和	館名	Musashi Urawa				
3 7	南浦和	館名	Minami Urawa				
3 8	東浦和	館名	Higashi Urawa				
3 9	(仮) 浦和美園	館名	Urawa Misono				
4 0	岩槻	館名	Iwatsuki				
4 1	岩槻駅東口	館名	Iwatsuki-Eki Higashiguchi				
4 2	岩槻東部	館名	Iwatsuki Tobu				
4 3	にしうらわ	駅名	Nishi-Urawa				
4 4	むさしうらわ	駅名	Musashi-Urawa				
4 5	みなみうらわ	駅名	Minami-Urawa				
4 6	ひがしうらわ	駅名	Higashi-Urawa				
4 7	なかうらわ	駅名	Naka-Urawa				
4 8	みなみよの	駅名	Minami-Yono				
4 9	よのほんまち	駅名	Yonohommachi				
5 0	きたよの	駅名	Kita-Yono				
5 1	おおみや	駅名	Omiya				
5 2	にしん	駅名	Nisshin				
5 3	にしおおみや	駅名	Nishi-Omiya				
5 4	さしおうぎ	駅名	Sashiogi				
5 5	うらわ	駅名	Urawa				
5 6	きたうらわ	駅名	Kita-Urawa				