

A HIBIYA PARK



Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project



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The Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Get to know about the Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project



Hibiya Park is a metropolitan park that opened in 1903 as a pioneer of modern Western-style parks in Japan. It has long been enjoyed by citizens of Tokyo as a precious green oasis and a place of relaxation in the heart of the city; it is a park integrated with the Imperial Palace and its surrounding areas.

In July 2021, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government formulated the "Metropolitan Hibiya Park Renewal and Redevelopment Plan." With this, the TMG will redevelop the park – to be completed in 2033, marking the 130th anniversary of the opening of the park – by dividing the park into several areas to be redeveloped in stages.

Under this project, we need to redevelop Hibiya Park into one that is accessible and more enjoyable for everyone, regardless of age, gender, nationality, and whether or not they have a disability, so we can pass it on to Tokyo residents of the future.

We have compiled the "Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project" as a redevelopment plan toward the realization of this scheme.

In the project plan, we have described how we will treat the existing trees in the park during the redevelopment, together with the content and schedule of redevelopment. We hope that you will you refer to this document and deepen your understanding of the project as much as possible.

All information in this material is based on information available as of the end of January 2025. Updated data on the contents of the redevelopment and the ways to handle trees in each area will be posted on our website continuously as the project progresses, by updating the "Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project" and other documents.

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Overview of the 'Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project'



"The Metropolitan Hibiya Park Renewal and Redevelopment Plan"* was formulated in July 2021, thanks to discussions spanning over about 4 years, based on the opinions of academics, other experts, and citizens of Tokyo.

The TMG will carry out the redevelopment work in stages over 10 years, starting in 2023 and ending in 2033, on the basis of the "Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project."

	Schedule	Contents
	June 1903	Opened as a pioneer of modern Western-style parks in Japan. Design supervisor: Honda Seiroku (Doctor of forestry)
Major Historic Developments	July 1923	The first "Large Open-Air Concert Hall" was completed. *The current one is the third of its kind and was completed in 1983.
	September 1961	The "Grand Fountain" was completed.
	October 2017	The "Hibiya Park Grand Design Study Committee," consisting of experts and others, was established.
December 2018		The "Grand Design of Hibiya Park—Five Proposals" was made public.
Formulation of the Renewal and Redevelopment Plan	October 2019	"The Metropolitan Hibiya Park Renewal and Redevelopment Plan" was submitted to the TMG' park council for deliberations.
	November 2020	"The Metropolitan Hibiya Park Renewal and Redevelopment Plan (an interim summary)" was released.
	December 2020 to January 2021	The public was invited to make comments on the interim summary.
	March 2021	The park council made its report on "The Metropolitan Hibiya Park Renewal and Redevelopment Plan."
	July 2021	"The Metropolitan Hibiya Park Renewal and Redevelopment Plan" was formulated.
	July 2023	The "Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project" was formulated.
Progress in Redevelopment Plan	September 2023	The redevelopment work in and around the 2nd Flower Garden (presently Green Field) started.
		Stage-by-stage progress of redevelopment by area. *Please see Page 10 for a detailed schedule.
	2033	Completion of the new Hibiya Park (130th anniversary of Hibiya Park)

Following the basic concept shown below, the TMG will move ahead with this project, thereby having Hibiya Park passed on to Tokyo citizens of the future.

The TMG will redevelop the park into one that everyone can enjoy more while inheriting its historical and cultural values

We will further refine the appeal of Hibiya Park that has accumulated over the past 120 years and aim to create a barrier-free space that is easily accessible for everyone. While maintaining it as the backbone of the greenery in the city center and conveying its culture and history, utilizing its prime location, we will redevelop the park into one in which contributes to the well-being of every visitor today and Tokyo citizens of the future.

The TMG will preserve the greenery of the park

The TMG will preserve the trees appropriately to protect the greenery of the park that we have inherited and to ensure that the park will continue to be a high-quality green space well into the future. *For details, please look at p. 12.

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We will improve accessibility to the park and aim to increase the number of visitors

By installing decks that connect the park to neighboring districts and removing the fences surrounding it, we will redevelop it into a park where a diverse range of people, including those in a wheelchair or with a stroller, can visit safely, pleasantly and freely. By enhancing the accessibility to the park, ease of movement around, within, to and from the park, and improving the harmony with its neighboring area, we aim to create a park that people can visit more easily.

A Conceptual Image of Hibiya Park of the Future

By having the greenery in the park and surrounding districts connected on the basis of the basic concept of the redevelopment project, as written on the previous page, the TMG will form a network of rich greenery in the Imperial Palace and that of Hibiya Park.



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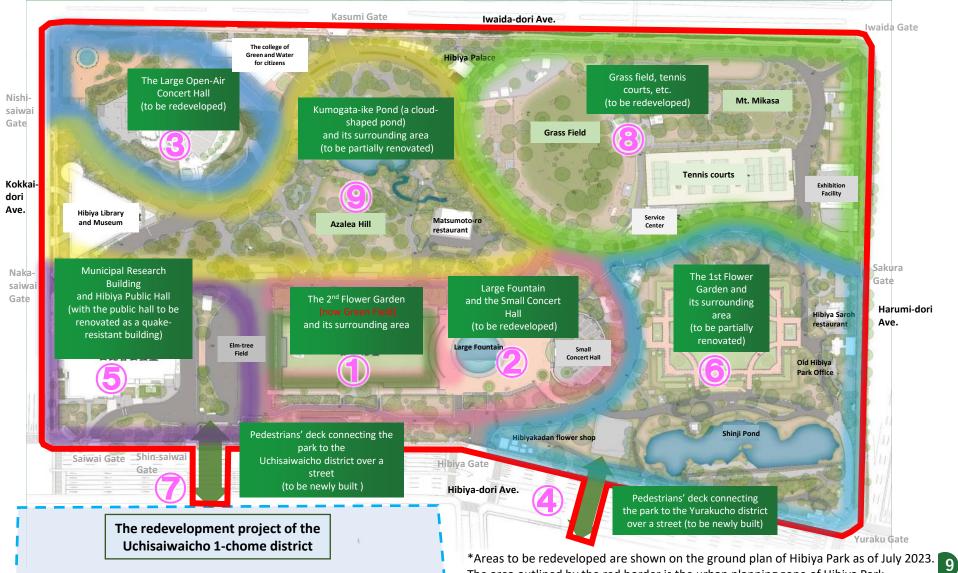


Work Schedule and Contents





The TMG is set to work on the redevelopment of the park as a whole, with the target year of completion in 2033, which will mark the 130th anniversary of the park's opening. The redevelopment will be carried out in stages, roughly in the order of (1) to (9) as shown below.



The area outlined by the red border is the urban planning zone of Hibiya Park.



Area Responsible entity	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027 onward
①The 2 nd Flower Garden (now Green Field) and its surrounding area	Redevelopm •	nent work			
②Large Fountain and Small Concert Hall and surrounding areas		•	Redevelopment work		
3Large Open-Air Concert Hall			•	Redevelopment wo	rk
<pre>④Pedestrians' deck connecting to the Private</pre>			Developme	ent work	FY2029
Yurakucho district					End of FY2027
5 Hibiya Public Hall TMG				Quake-resistant ar	d renovation work End of FY2029
⁽⁶⁾ The 1 st Flower Garden, Shinji Pond and surrounding areas				Partial renovation	
⑦Pedestrians' deck connecting to the Uchisaiwaicho district					Development work End of FY2029
⑧Grass field, tennis courts, etc. TMG					Redevelopment work
(9) Kumogata Pond and its surrounding area					End of FY2031 Partial renovation work End of FY 2031
⁽¹⁾ Redevelopment of passages in the park					Renovation work End of FY2032

*The above schedule is the one envisaged at present and is subject to change.

*After the content of redevelopment is worked out in each area, we will give an open-house to deliver information related to the work.

The Rationale behind Making the Park Barrier-free

The TMG will grapple with the following tasks to redevelop Hibiya Park, which was opened in 1903 as a pioneer of modern Western-style parks in Japan, into one that will be easier to use and more enjoyable for everyone, regardless of age, gender, nationality, or whether or not they have a disability.

Easy to use

- The TMG will make a park which people can use free from worries and move around inside safely.
- Eliminating differences in levels at facilities such as concert halls and flower gardens.
- Installing flower gardens where even those in a wheelchair can enjoy.
- Adopting universal design playground equipment to be designed together with children.
- Setting up a room equipped with a pot for mixing powdered milk, at which a mother can feed her baby, and change diapers.

Easy access to information

- The TMG will redevelop the park into one where people can get responses at the window and get visitors' guide free from worries and communicate with us in use of the park.
- Use of voice recognition system, tablets, and chatbots.
- Use of guide signs in multiple languages, in easy-to-understand Japanese, and pictograms.
- Utilizing the park as a place for proving the effectiveness of a newly developed information tool.



<Voice recognition system (conceptual image) > < < Plain Japanese >

< Pictograms >

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A park everyone can enjoy

Using digital technology, we will redevelop the park into one where visitors can enjoy while experiencing its culture and history.

- Holding events in which people, regardless of whether they have a disability or not, can enjoy together.
- Enabling those who are unable to visit the park in reality to enjoy strolling inside the park with use of information and communication technology (ICT).
- Via the QR code or other means, the scenes inside the park at the time of its opening will be shown in multiple languages and explained with images.



< Use of QR code sheet and information transmitter (conceptual image) > Source: The Cultural Affairs Agency's HP.







< Universal design playground equipment > < Feeding room >

< Accessible flower garden >

Our Approach to Trees

While protecting the park's greenery we have inherited, the TMG will preserve the trees based on the concept as written below, so as to maintain it as a high-quality green space well into the future.

In the process of carrying out the redevelopment work of facilities, we will perverse the trees

- The TMG will carry out the redevelopment work while avoiding trees.
- If the need to move trees arises, the TMG will have them transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

< What does a tree diagnosis mean? >

The trees' health condition will be examined by a qualified arborist (tree doctor). The transplantation of trees will be done based on the diagnosis.

To protect trees, we will conserve them appropriately

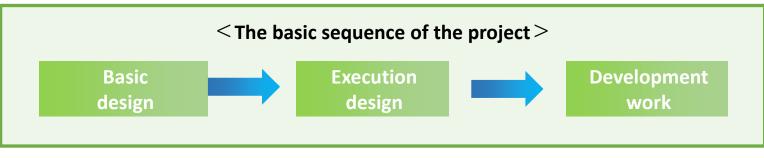
 If the transplanting of trees is deemed necessary from the viewpoints of ensuring their healthy growth, creating an attractive landscape, and improving visibility for security and safety of the park visitors, the TMG will transplant them after making a diagnosis.

*To maintain the greenery of the park in good conditions, we will continue the appropriate management of planting.

The TMG will give thought to the greenery of Hibiya Park, together with future generations

- The tree diagnosis will be conducted in such a way where parents and children can take part. By doing so, it will give an opportunity for them to feel the park's greenery close to them, deepen their understanding and learning of them, and be prompted into giving a thought to the trees and the park together.
- The results of tree diagnosis will be made public via our homepage or otherwise.

Following the "Metropolitan Hibiya Park Renewal and Redevelopment Plan," the TMG will first consider the outline and work schedule of the project at the stage of drawing the basic design for each area of the park. The TMG will then carry out the execution design, which considers the details of the redevelopment work. After the execution design is finalized, the TMG will begin to execute the redevelopment work.



*In some cases, the way the redevelopment work is pushed forward may not follow as shown above.

As to the contents of redevelopment work and ways to handle trees in each area, the details will be continuously communicated via the updating of the contents of this project and otherwise, in line with the progress of execution design and ensuing research. The 2nd Flower Garden (now Green Field)

Responsible entity: TMG | Work completed in July 2024

Issues

• There were differences in levels between the garden and the pedestrian path around it, making it not barrier-free. As a result, it had not been fully utilized, except for some special events.

Content of redevelopment

- The garden has been **redeveloped into one whose lawn-covered plaza can be entered freely** by visitors.
- The paths surrounding the plaza have been broadened so that those in a wheelchair or with a stroller can walk through it safely and reassuringly even during a special event.
- Via the QR code or other means, the introduction of facilities and scenes of large-scale events held in the past is explained in multiple languages and with images.
- Trees have been kept in place as they stood, but if the need to move trees arises, we will have them transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

Present status (as of the end of January 2025)

• The 2nd Flower Garden was redeveloped into Green Field, which was made open to the public in September 2024.



< The 2nd Flower Garden before the redevelopment >



<The state funeral for the 1st Prime Minister Ito Hirobumi in 1909> Owned by (Public Utility Foundation) Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association.

Large Fountain and Small Concert Hall **Responsible entity: TMG** | Work started in FY2024

Issues

- The Small Concert Hall is located at a more elevated place than its surrounding area and circled by a fence, leaving it somewhat closed. As such, it is difficult for it to be used integrally with the adjacent plaza where the fountain is located.
- As there are differences in levels, people have to use the stairs or a slope to go to and from the concert hall.

Content of redevelopment

- The Large Fountain will be redeveloped with its present configuration maintained. As to the small concert hall, the level of its stage and seats are to be lowered to eliminate the differences in levels with that of the ground, while the fence is to be removed. Through this, the concert hall will be more in harmony with the fountain plaza.
- Through the QR code or other means, the small concert hall at the time of the park's opening and introduction of the facility will be explained in multiple languages and with images.
- Trees will be kept in place as they currently stand. If the need to move trees arises, we will have them transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

Present status (as of the end of January 2025)

The TMG started the redevelopment work in FY2024.



< The Small Concert Hall today>



<The Small Concert Hall at the time of the park's opening> Owned by (Public Utility Foundation) Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association.



Content of Redevelopment by Area

Large Open-Air Concert Hall *(Yaon)*

Responsible entity: TMG | Work to start in FY2025

Issues

 With the passage of 40 years since its previous renovation, the Large Open-Air Concert Hall has dilapidated. Besides, the room for performers and its backyard are cramped, and the facility is lacking in barrier-free access.

Content of redevelopment

- The aged concert hall will be rebuilt, while its surroundings will be redeveloped in an integrated manner with the new hall.
- The large concert hall will be renovated in such a way to maintain the sense of openness that only an outdoor concert hall can provide, while a roof will be installed to cover the stage and front rows of the audience seats so that a concert can be held even if it rains. Meanwhile, the functions of the room for performers and the backyard for the hall will be improved, by also taking into consideration those opinions presented by performing artists and other people concerned.
- Through the QR code or other means, the history of the first large concert hall, at the time of the park's opening, and an introduction of the facility will be explained in multiple languages and with images.
- Trees will be kept in place as they currently stand, in principle; if there arises a need to move them, they will be transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

Present status (as of the end of January 2025)

• The TMG is to work out the execution design in FY2024 to get the redevelopment work started in FY2025.



<The original Large Open-Air Concert Hall Yaon completed in 1923>

Content of Redevelopment by Area



Responsible entity: A private-sector business | Yurakucho decking installation to start in FY2025 | Uchisaiwaicho decking installation to start in FY2027

Issues

• To gain access to Hibiya Park, it is necessary to cross a wide street, while the park is encircled by fences, making it difficult for people not only to gain access to the park but also to feel a sense of connectedness between the park and its surrounding area.

Content of redevelopment

- A deck that connects the park to the nearby district is to be installed at two locations. By
 improving the peripheral section of the park, including through the removal of the fences, the
 park will be integrated with pedestrians' sidewalks, while the accessibility between the park
 and its neighboring area will be enhanced.
- The decks will be equipped with elevators so that those in wheelchairs or with impairments can visit the park safely and comfortably. Also, by greening the deck, the greenery of the park will be connected to that in the Uchisaiwaicho 1-chome urban redevelopment district.

*The decks will be installed by a private business operator on the basis of the conditions set forth by the TMG.

• The conditions set forth by the TMG will be such that the trees will be kept in place, in principle, but if the need to move trees arises, they will be transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

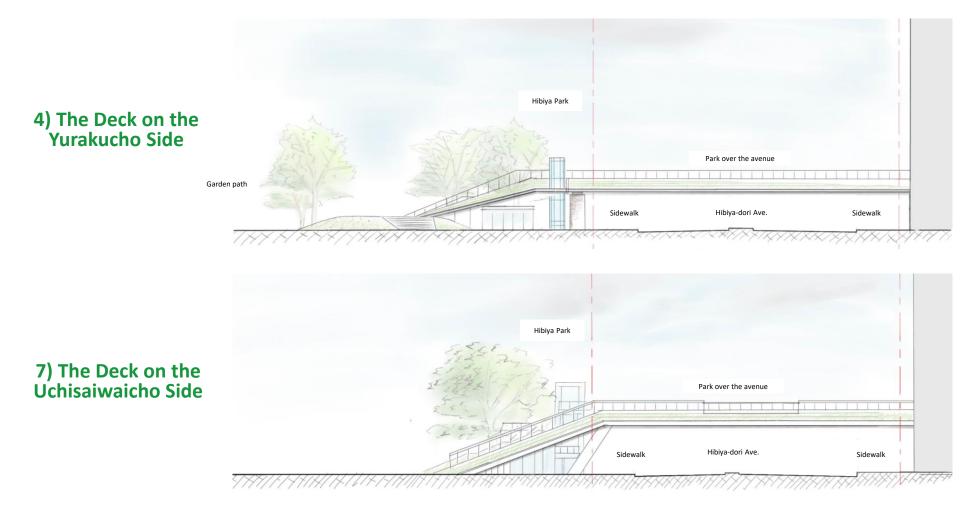
Present status (as of the end of January 2025)

• Talks are under way between the TMG and the private-sector business to work out the basic design and others, with the work for the deck on the Yurakucho side (④) to start in FY2025, and that on the Uchisaiwaicho side (⑦) to start in FY2027.



<A conceptual image of the peripheral area of the park in the future>

The conceptual image of the decks upon completion is as shown below.



Source: Drawn up on the basis of a project proposal on the specific urban district north of Uchisaiwaicho 1-chome.

*The conceptual images of the decks upon completion (shown above) may change in the future.

Hibiya Public Hall

Responsible entity : TMG | Renovation work to start in FY2026

Issues

• The present public hall has yet to be made sufficiently quake-resistant. The aged facility has deteriorated, and there is a lack of a backyard, and it is not yet sufficiently barrier-free.

Content of renovation

- Together with the work to make the public hall quake-resistant, the facility is to be renovated to enhance the functions of the dressing and rehearsal rooms, while making the facility barrier-free, including, for instance, the installation of elevators.
- In order to let visitors know about the attractiveness of the public hall and its history, and make the hall a place of relaxation, an archive café will be established.
- For everyone to be able to enjoy public performance casually, the TMG will make the facility one where people can make use of voice guidance and a device for subtitles.
- Via the QR code or other means, the public hall at the time of its completion and an introduction of the facility will be explained in multiple languages with images.
- Trees will be kept in place as they currently stand. If the need to move trees arises, we will have them transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

Present status (as of the end of January 2025)

The TMG is working on the execution design to prepare for the quake-resistant work and renovation work to get started in FY2026.



<Hibiya Public Hall at the time of completion in 1929>



<Voice guidance (an image) >



1st Flower Garden, Shinji Pond and Surrounding Areas

Responsible entity: TMG | Work to start in FY2026

Issues

- The hedge around the flower garden is high, making it difficult for the garden to be seen from outside.
- Shinji Pond, which retains its original appearance at the time when the park opened, needs restoration due to the aging of its banks.

Content of redevelopment

- While inheriting the current flower beds, the hedges will be lowered to make the garden more visible. We will also try to improve the varieties of flowers of each season and continue to deliver the appeal of flowers, while creating flower beds that even those in a wheelchair can enjoy, thus making the garden an attractive place for everyone.
- The TMG will also restore the bank of Shinji Pond, which has retained its original appearance at the time when the park opened, while reproducing the elegant landscape with the use of the remains of the stone walls of Edo Castle to convey the historic attractiveness of the park.
- Through the QR code or other means, the introduction of facilities and scenes of Edo Castle during the closing years of the Edo period will be explained in multiple languages with images.
- Trees will be kept in place as they currently stand, but if the need to move them arises, the TMG will have them transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

*The Old Hibiya Park Office, a tangible cultural property designated by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, will continue to be operated by making best use of its cultural value.

Present status (as of the end of January 2025)

• Regarding this area, the execution design will start in FY2025, and the redevelopment work will start in FY2026.



<The hedge around the 1st flower garden>



<The bank of Shinji Pond>



<A slope will be set up so that even those in wheelchairs can gain access to the flower garden.>

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Grass Field, Tennis Courts and Surrounding Areas

Responsible entity: TMG | Work to start in FY2027

Issues

- As this area is divided by the grass field and tennis courts encircled with fences, it has become one where visitors have difficulty in moving around.
- Facilities, including the Service Center, have also deteriorated and are located dispersedly, making them difficult for visitors to use.

Content of redevelopment



<Mt. Mikasa at the time of the park's opening>
*Owned by the Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association.

- The TMG will redevelop this area into one where various kinds of squares and open grounds will converge, creating a space where people of all ages, including families with little children, can enjoy and relax.
- The tennis courts will be redeveloped as a ball game field where not only tennis but also other sports can be played. Mt.
 Mikasa a small hill -- will be kept in place, though partially renovated, so that it can be used in harmony with surrounding open spaces, while maintaining its continuity with them. The TMG will also develop a new plaza where children can learn and experience bio-diversity.
- Through the QR code or other means, the scene of Mt. Mikasa at the time of the park's opening and other facilities will be explained in multiple languages with images.
- The Service Center, Exhibition Facility, etc., which are dispersed in the park, will be consolidated into what we tentatively call the "Park Plaza," as a multi-functional facility.
- With the response service made available at the window, utilizing a voice recognition system and so forth, even those with hearing impairments or foreigners can gain access to relevant information without worries.
- At Park Plaza (tentatively named), a place will be set up where mothers can feed their babies, change their diapers, or little children can play indoors even when it rains.
- Trees will be kept in place as they currently stand, but if the need to move trees arises, the TMG will have them transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

Present status (as of the end of January 2025)

• As for this area, the TMG plans to start making the execution design in FY2026 and start implementing the work in FY2027.



Content of Redevelopment by Area

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Kumogata Pond and Surrounding Area

Responsible entity: TMG | Work to start in FY2029

Issues

- Due to aging, the revetment of Kumogata Pond and the rounded-stone curb of the narrow garden path surrounding it need repairing.
- At the azalea hill, a place which was once a picturesque site, the growth of azaleas has been hampered by a lack of sunshine.

Content of redevelopment





<Kumogata Pond's revetment>

<The cobble-stone curb around the pond>



<The azalea hill in the past> *Owned by the Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association.

- By having the revetment of Kumogata Pond and the cobble-stone curb along the garden path restored to their original state, as seen at the time when the park opened, the historical landscape centering around the "Crane Fountain" will be recreated.
- The azalea hill, which remains since the park's opening, will be rejuvenated by having the nearby tall trees trimmed to secure enough sunlight for azaleas, so that they can recover their original vitality which once attracted many people. Also, by eliminating differences in levels and setting up slopes, the hill will become accessible to everyone.
- Via the QR code or other means, the introduction of relevant facilities and the scene of the azalea hill at the time of the park's opening will be explained in multiple languages with images.
- Trees will be kept in place as they currently stand, but if the need to remove trees arises, the TMG will have them transplanted elsewhere in the park after making a diagnosis.

Present status (as of the end of January 2025)

• The TMG will start the execution design in FY2028, and the execution of the work in FY2029.



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Park Redevelopment with the Involvement of Tokyo Citizens



Redeveloping the Park, Together with Tokyo Citizens

To realize the park's redevelopment in 2033, a year to mark the 130th anniversary of the opening of the park,

the TMG will work together with Tokyo citizens.

Having Parents and Children Take Part in the Tree Diagnosis

Tree diagnosis will be carried out with the participation of parents and children. By doing so, it will provide them with an
opportunity of watching how trees would be transplanted, a sense of closeness to the park's greenery, and help them to deepen
their understanding and learning, thus prompting them to give more thought to the greenery in the park.

Events for People to Experience, in Advance, a Hibiya Park of the Future

• The TMG will hold events to experience, in advance, together with Tokyo citizens, various ways to enjoy a Hibiya Park of the future, including lying in a hammock under a tree or remotely working in the greenery, which will be made possible upon redevelopment.

Guided Tours inside the Park

• The TMG will organize guided tours and so forth so as to give people an opportunity to explore the park and learn about its nature and history, thus promoting them into giving thought to a Hibiya Park of the future.

Designing Playground Equipment, Together with Tokyo Citizens

- The TMG will work with children to design playground equipment which everyone can enjoy and install them in the park.
- By organizing workshops, and the like, to work out the designs of flower gardens, the TMG will create a new park, together with citizens of Tokyo.

Hosting Open-House Events

Once the detailed content of the redevelopment is worked out for each area, the TMG will hold area-specific open house events to
disseminate the relevant information.

*Information such as when these events will be held and how one can participate in it will be announced via the homepage, etc.



You can find the "Frequently Asked Questions" concerning the Hibiya Park Renewal and Redevelopment and the "Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project" on our homepage.

The TMG will continue to provide updated information concerning the content of the redevelopment of each area on our website as the project progresses, as well as by updating the "Barrier-free Hibiya Park Project," etc.

[Hibiya Park Revitalization and Development HP]

https://www.kensetsu.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/jigyo/park/hibiyakouensaiseiseibi.html

[For inquiries] Planning Section, Park Division, Bureau of Construction, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Tel: 03-5320-5395

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