

Kunitachi City Has Been and Will Continue to  
**Promote Community Development  
That Values Human Rights and Peace**

The basic concepts were articulated to formulate the  
**Kunitachi City Basic Policy for the Comprehensive Promotion of Community  
Development That Supports Human Rights and Peace.**



The right to be recognized and respected as a valued individual

regardless of your race, color, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, disease, occupation, age, origin, or other background.

Peace does not simply mean the absence of war or conflict. It also refers to a state in which all people are guaranteed basic rights. It means the absence of poverty, hunger, oppression, exploitation and other social structural issues. In a community that is at peace, there is zero tolerance for human rights violations, and behaviors such as cooperation and dialogue are naturally present.



These are stated in the city ordinance below,  
so please take a look.

**Kunitachi City Basic Ordinance for Creating a Peaceful City That Respects  
Human Rights and Recognizes Diversity**

(Came into effect April 2019)

Kunitachi City Basic Ordinance Human Rights Search

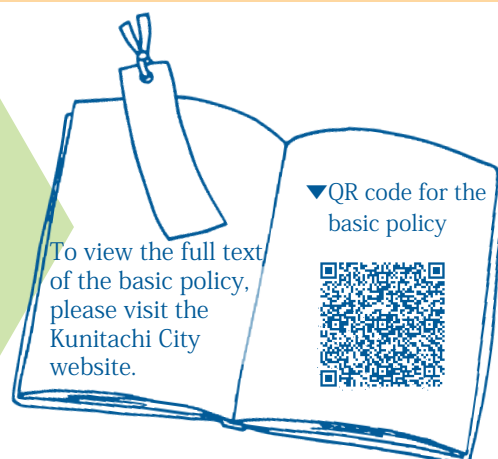


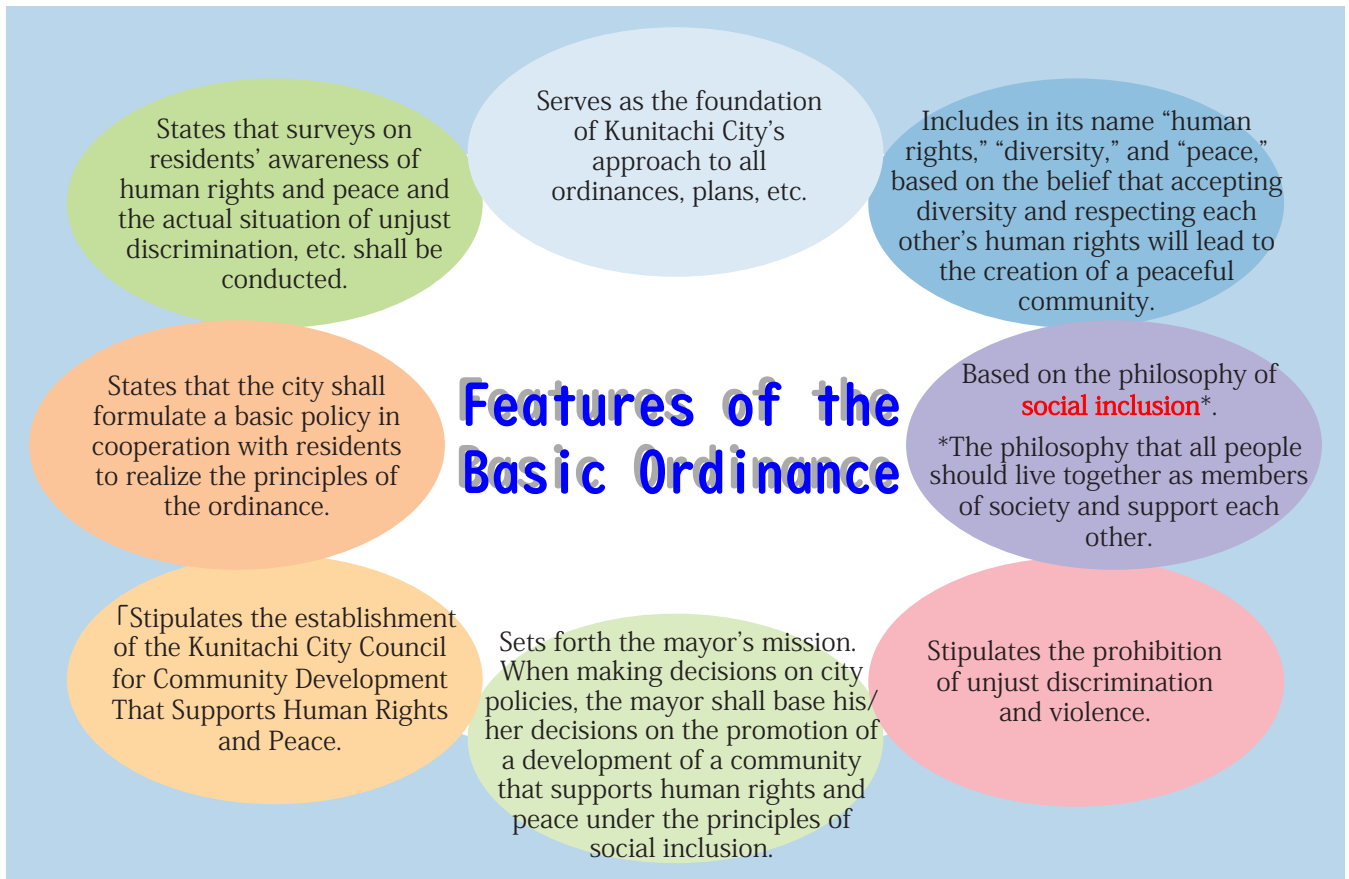
The basic ordinance stipulates that the city shall create a policy that will serve as the basis for promoting the development of a community that supports human rights and peace.

The city formulated the basic policy based on the council report\*1 and public comments\*2.

\*1: June 2023 report by the Kunitachi City Council for Community Development That Supports Human Rights and Peace.

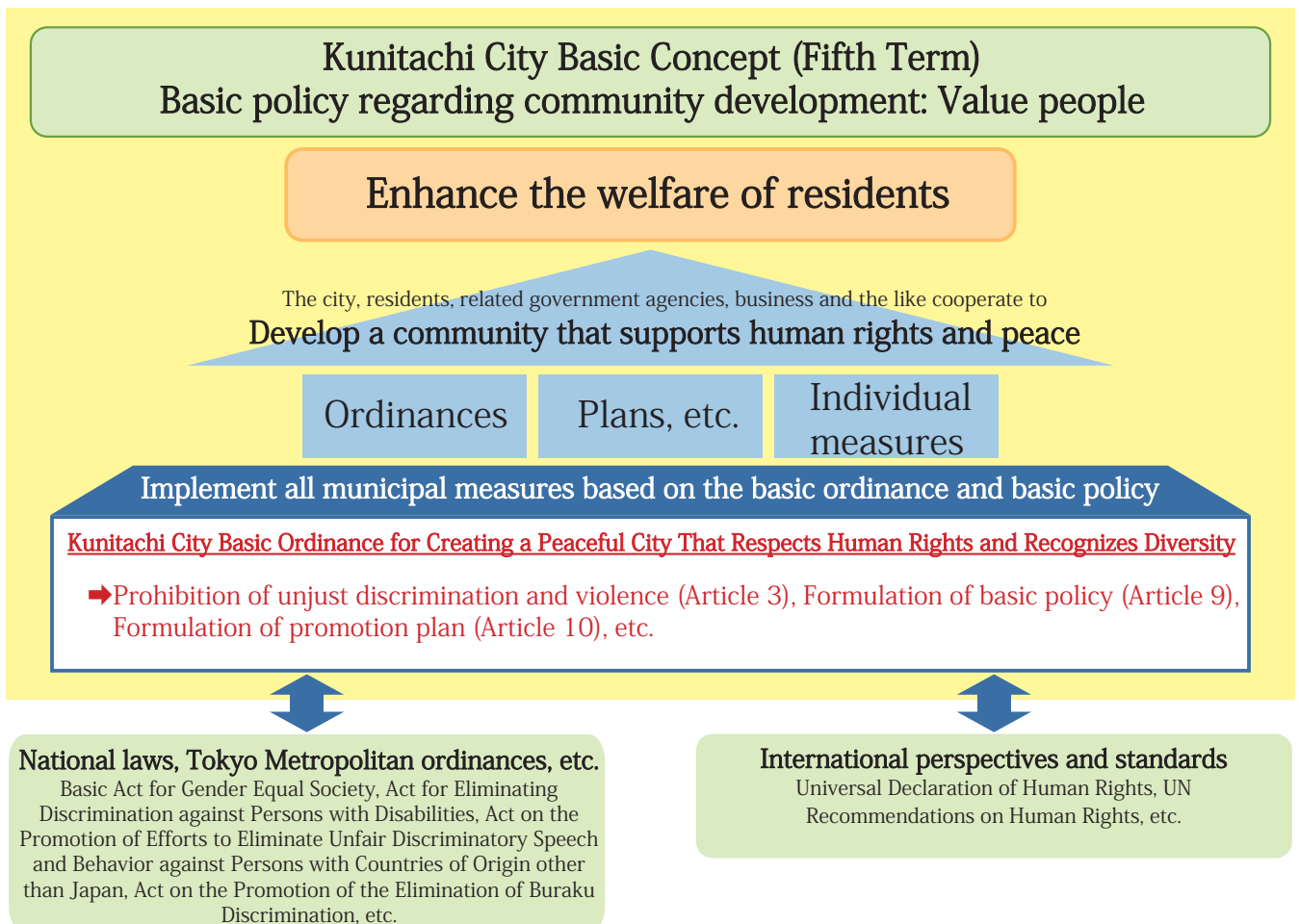
\*2: Conducted October 2023.





## What Is the Basic Policy?

It is a basic concept that underlies all of the city's policies, and was formulated for the purpose of running a city government that embodies those values.



# 1

## Principles of Community Development That Support Human Rights and Peace

We recognize that various human rights violations, discrimination and prejudice still occur in our daily lives, whether intentionally or not, and that everyone can be a victim as well as a perpetrator of such violations.

Social inequalities still exist in various settings around the world. It does not only occur in an unknown, faraway world. In fact, it may be more familiar than you think.

It is important for everyone to learn and think about human rights and to act accordingly. Constant efforts by government bodies are also essential.

Rather than thinking, "There is no discrimination nowadays," or "I don't discriminate, so there is no issue,"

it is essential to assume that discrimination exists.

City officials work together to promote the philosophy expressed in the basic ordinance throughout the community.

Under the philosophy of social inclusion, all city officials will work together to promote the development of a community that supports human rights and peace under the leadership of the mayor, alongside residents and businesses.

Rather than thinking "Issues regarding human rights and peace don't concern me," it is vital for every city official to view it as their own affair, and to think

and act accordingly in the context of their work duties.

Under these two principles, we aim to instill four qualities in our community

### A community of coexistence based on social inclusion

Kunitachi City has a history of working together with its residents to create a community that values human beings, which means protecting all people from social isolation and exclusion and embracing and supporting each other as fellow members of society. We aim to create a community of social inclusion where local society (the city, residents, businesses and so on) work together as one

### A community that deepens mutual understanding through dialogue based on the opinions of various involved parties

We aim to create a community that values the opinions of people regardless of their race, color, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, illness, occupation, age, origin or other factors, and deepens mutual understanding through dialogue.

### A community that seeks peace through mutual understanding and cooperation

Through mutual understanding and cooperation among diverse people in everyday life, we aim to create a city that seeks peace, meaning not just the absence of war and conflict, but also the absence of poverty, oppression and other social structural issues. A community that is at peace has zero tolerance for unjust discrimination and violence, and naturally exhibits behaviors such as empathy for others, cooperation and dialogue.

### A community where people continually learn about human rights and peace, deepen their knowledge, and pass that on to the next generation

Since the concept of human rights and peace may change with the times, it is vital for each of us to constantly refine our perspective on human rights and peace, deepen our knowledge and understanding, and strive to pass that on to others and to future generations. Through the accumulation of these efforts, we seek to create a sustainable community that supports human rights and peace.

These qualities cannot be achieved through one-time efforts. It is crucial for the city to continuously cooperate and engage in dialogue with residents and businesses.

## Promoting Human Rights Education and Raising Awareness

Proactively promote human rights education and raise awareness for all generations, and in particular strengthen efforts related to the younger generation

◎ Human rights issues are constantly changing with the times, and even what the majority of people consider “normal” today may become an issue in a few years.

→ **We must continue to update our views regarding human rights**

- ◆ We will proactively promote education and raise awareness on various human rights issues relevant to all generations. While doing so, we will consider a variety of methods. In addition to lectures, poster displays, etc., we will explore systems that allow people to gather and interact with others while learning about Kunitachi City’s history as well as efforts regarding human rights issues, the human rights situation in Japan and abroad, etc.
- ◆ In particular, we will strengthen our efforts related to the younger generation and children.

Proactively promote human rights education and raise awareness by strengthening cooperation with related organizations and groups

- ◆ We will proactively promote efforts from a broader perspective in cooperation with diverse organizations and groups, such as support groups, schools and human rights volunteers.

## Support System for Human Rights Remedies and Consultations

Prompt and victim-centric human rights relief

◎ Prompt action is needed to ensure that victims of human rights violations can quickly return to their daily lives without concerns.

- ◆ In addition to measures such as stopping current human rights violations and preventing their recurrence, we will consider ways to admonish perpetrators (through public announcements, penalties, etc.), as has been systemized in other municipalities, based on actual conditions in Kunitachi City.
- ◆ Since human rights violations take various forms, we will respond to each situation in close cooperation with the individuals involved, taking into account the perspective of compound discrimination (discrimination on multiple fronts such as race, gender, etc., and the mutual influence between them).
- ◆ We will proactively promote efforts related to defamation on the Internet, including on social networking services, through regular monitoring and response, etc.

Enhanced consultation support

◎ We need to establish a system that allows individuals who want to receive counseling and support to do so promptly and comfortably. The system must also be able to respond to consultations that span multiple fronts and require comprehensive support.

- ◆ We will determine the best format for a human rights consultation service (such as one-stop consultations, the assignment of counselors with expertise and abundant experience in consultation support, etc.).
- ◆ In addition to phone and email, we will establish a consultation system with various options, including the use of social networking services.

## Creating Environments That Take Human Rights into Account

Creating various environments based on a human rights perspective

◎ We need to create a community in which everyone can lead peaceful and comfortable daily lives, so it is crucial to take a fresh look at the various environments around us from the perspective of respect for human rights.

- ◆ We strive to create local communities in which people can share their concerns and have a sense of purpose in life. We also promote initiatives that enable people to work and feel joy together in the local community.
- ◆ We will use more barrier-free facilities and universal designs in the city, promote initiatives aimed at providing education that respects the individuality of children, and pursue initiatives that ensure human rights during times of disaster.

Promote efforts to achieve gender equality

◎ Japan’s gender gap is wide compared to international standards. Since gender-based disparities often make various human rights issues more complicated or are at the background of various problems, we need to raise awareness of and support for gender equality.

- ◆ We will engage in awareness-raising activities, consultation support and other activities at the Kunitachi Gender Equality Station (Parasol) to eliminate stereotyped gender roles and promote understanding of sexual minorities.
- ◆ Proactively promote women’s activities in city staffing and assign members to affiliated organizations (positive action).



# 3

## Promote Peace Measures

“Daily peace” refers to continuous days in which human rights are respected

We must strive to ensure that it takes root in the community as a civic culture

### Passing on the experiences of war and atomic bomb survivors and their thoughts on peace

Seventy-eight years have passed since the end of World War II. The number of people of that generation who lived through the war is dwindling, and we have been witnessing threats to daily peace all over the world.

#### City measures



#### From FY2015~

Training people who will pass on the experiences of Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bomb survivors\* and their thoughts on peace to the next generation.

#### From FY2017~

Training people who will pass on the experiences of people\* who experienced the Great Tokyo Air Raid and their desire for peace.

\*Individuals who live in Kunitachi City



A scene from the presentation

We will continue these activities while recognizing the essence of passing along war memories

#### Kunitachi City's idea

The essence of passing along war memories—by having those who did not directly experience the war or atomic bombing express the experiences and thoughts for peace of survivors who did to the next generation—is to convey the raw emotions of both the former and the latter directly to others.

In other words, it is to convey aspects that cannot be conveyed in objective facts and statistics present in literature and history books, such as the reality that individuals (each with unique personalities) were actually living during those times, that their daily lives were destroyed due to the war and atomic bombings, and that we must never wage war again.

### Peace Exchanges with Various Organizations

- ◆ Enhance peace education for children (visiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki, exchange with residents, etc.)
- ◆ Promote a culture of peace (through cooperation with related organizations and groups such as the Mayors for Peace)

#### Promote a culture of peace

This refers to fostering peace by instilling in residents a more fundamental “peace culture” in which each person thinks and acts about peace during their daily life. (From the “PX Vision” and the “Mayors for Peace Action Plan for 2021-25” the Mayors for Peace formulated in July 2021)

#### Mayors for Peace

This organization now includes 8,374 member cities in 166 countries/regions worldwide (as of March 1, 2024). Kunitachi City joined in 2010, and in 2023 it formed a network to strengthen cooperation in the Tama region of Tokyo and issued a peace declaration



Peace education for children

# 4

## Promotion System

#### Promotion system within the organization

Establish an interdepartmental system to promote human rights and peace, including a conference body on human rights and peace according to the position of city officials.

Strengthen cooperation with human rights volunteers ※See the bottom of the back cover.


#### Raise awareness of human rights among city officials

Raise awareness through various training programs

City officials proactively participate in community development that supports human rights and peace based on a high awareness of human rights.

### Establishment of Kunitachi City Council for Community Development That Supports Human Rights and Peace and deliberation

- ◆ The council is an affiliated body of the mayor's office established to promote comprehensive and systematic community development that supports human rights and peace. Members are appointed from among academic experts, representatives of human rights organizations, representatives of peace-related organizations, and Kunitachi City residents (two-year term).
- ◆ The council conducts surveys and deliberates on necessary matters in response to requests from the mayor, and reports the results to the mayor.

<p><b>Kunitachi City</b></p> <p><b>Consultations by human rights volunteers</b></p>	<p>Please use this service if you are being treated unfairly without justifiable reasons or suffering harassment or the like and do not know where to turn for help. Human rights volunteers are available for consultations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Days</b> : First Friday of each month (excluding national holidays and during the year-end/New Year's holidays)</li> <li>• <b>Hours</b> : 10 a.m. to noon ※Sixty minutes per session (appointment required)</li> <li>• <b>Tel</b> : 042-576-2111, ext. 178 (Resident Consultation Corner, Community Promotion Section)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kunitachi City</b></p> <p><b>Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Consultations</b></p>	<p>Specialized counselors are available to provide advice to individuals and their families regarding sexual orientation, gender identity and other gender-related issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Days</b> : Fourth Sunday and second Tuesday of each month (excluding during the year-end/New Year's holidays)</li> <li>• <b>Hours</b> : Fourth Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m. ; second Tuesday, 4 to 6 p.m. (fifty minutes per session during both time slots)</li> <li>• <b>Tel</b> : 042-501-6990 (Kunitachi Gender Equality Station Parasol)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kunitachi City</b></p> <p><b>Children's Rights Ombudsman</b></p>	<p>The children's rights ombudsman is a public agency established to protect and support children's rights. You can consult about various matters concerning school life, friends, family relationships, yourself and the like. Consultation is available for free via phone, email, postal mail or in person.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Days</b> : Weekdays (excluding national holidays and during the year-end/New Year's holidays)</li> <li>• <b>Hours</b> : 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.</li> <li>• <b>Phone (toll-free)</b> : 0120-70-7830</li> <li>• <b>Email address</b> : sec_ombudsman@city.kunitachi.lg.jp</li> <li>• <b>Mailing address</b> : Children's Rights Ombudsman, 186-8501 (only the postal code is required)</li> <li>• <b>In person</b> : Service window No. 27, North Building, Kunitachi City Hall</li> </ul>
<p><b>Legal Affairs Bureau</b></p> <p><b>Foreign-language Human Rights Hotline</b></p>	<p>The phone number (Navi Dial) below is available for human rights counseling for those who are unable to speak Japanese fluently. Feel free to consult with us by telephone from anywhere in Japan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Days</b> : Weekdays</li> <li>• <b>Hours</b> : 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.</li> <li>• <b>Tel</b> : 0570-090911 (Foreign-language Human Rights Hotline)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Human Rights Consultation via SNS (LINE)</b></p>	<p>The Tokyo Legal Affairs Bureau accepts human rights consultation requests through LINE.</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  <p>← "Add friend" from the LINE app.</p> </div>

The city also offers consultation services for victims of crimes.

If you have any questions about human rights and are not sure where to ask for help, please contact the Peace, Human Rights and Diversity Promotion Desk of the Mayor's Office.

## Human Rights Volunteers

Human rights volunteers are residents who provide human rights consultations and work to enhance human rights awareness in accordance with the Human Rights Volunteers Act. There are approximately 14,000 such volunteers nationwide, commissioned by the Minister of Justice, and five are currently active in Kunitachi City.



▲ "Flowers of Human Rights" activity at municipal elementary schools



▲ Presents awards and holds exhibitions for the Human Rights Message Contest (elementary school students) and Human Rights Essay Contest (junior high school students)



▲ Has conducted human rights lectures in city schools and human rights workshops for city officials

## Publication

March 2024

## Planning and editing

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