

A future Himeji we want to create together



What will Himeji be like in the future? What should it be like? How can such a city be built? Many people - especially those who are living or working in Himeji - ought to be interested in these matters.

Let's take a look together at the desired state of Himeji that the Himeji City aims to achieve, in the next 10 years!



Desired future state of Himeji Let's come together to realize it!

The Mirai family

Our parents live far away, so we had thought it would be difficult to manage both work and child-rearing, but...

Telecommuting and flextime have been introduced at the workplace, so we both use those systems actively when there are school events, pregnancy checkups, or other occasions. We are also satisfied with the school our child attends. The school provides lessons using tablets, experience-based learning opportunities, and career education in collaboration with companies and universities. Our child seems to enjoy going to school very much. As parents, we are very happy and grateful for that.

Mr. and Ms. Himeji

It has been 10 years since I retired at the mandatory retirement age. My children are already independent, so I want to lead a meaningful life with my wife in the future...

Thinking that I want to do something for the community, I participate in activities to watch over children walking to and from school, as well as town beautification activities. I receive energy from children every day. These days, I also participate in community development activities in which residents come together to discuss how to make their community a better place to live.

Ms. Tomo and her mother

Recently I opened a café, which was my long-cherished dream, while caring for my mother, who is disabled in her legs. I want to contribute to my hometown, where I was born and grew up...

I became acquainted with people in various industries at cross-industrial exchange meetings. I invited a woman, whom I had become friends with there and who had returned to Himeji from Tokyo, to work with me in my café. I also developed menus that feature local produce, with the collaboration of local farmers. Next, I will take on the challenge of developing new souvenirs for Himeji.

Tsukuru-kun

I am in my third year at university in the city. I am thinking about my future career and support my international student friends...

Himeji City's support services for foreign residents are quite good. The city provides a range of useful information and consultation services. My international student friends can live in Himeji with peace of mind. In Himeji, there are many places and services where people can experience history and traditional culture, as well as delicious foods. My friend's family members, who visited Himeji the other day, were all very satisfied.

But can we realize the desired state of Himeji so easily?

Issues that Himeji City is facing, and changes in the world around us

Population decline and progress of the falling birthrate and aging population

Change in the population of Himeji City

2015 (actual data)		2045 (estimation)	
Approx. 536,000		Approx. 462,000	
The total population about 14% decrease			
Ages 0-14	: 76,000	Ages 0-14	: 56,000
Ages 15-64	: 325,000	Ages 15-64	: 250,000
Ages 65 and above	: 135,000	Ages 65 and above	: 156,000

※Prepared based on "Regional Population Projections for Japan (released in 2018)" by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research.

Other changes seen in the world around us

- ✓ Changes in residents' awareness and desired public services
- ✓ The dawn of a new society with further advancement of information technologies
- ✓ Movement toward the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- ✓ Rising sense of crisis toward large-scale natural disasters, etc.
- ✓ Changes in social economic conditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic

What should we do to create an attractive city where many more people want to live or continue to live? How should we promote city development while ensuring the active involvement of residents?

A new Himeji City "Comprehensive Plan"

has been developed while hearing opinions from residents.

See other side.

What is the Comprehensive Plan?

● It is an important plan that provides **guiding principles for Himeji City's city development efforts in every field.**
 ● Developed in light of the issues faced by the City and changes in social and economic conditions, the Plan defines the **desired state of Himeji that citizens, local communities, companies/organizations and administrative agencies strive together to achieve over the next 10 years (fiscal 2021 to 2030), as well as the clear goals and direction for city development** to inspire them to work together to achieve that desired state.

The desired future state of Himeji (City Vision) and goals in nine fields envisioned in the Comprehensive Plan

*Examples of specific initiatives are presented for each field.

Environment

Goal ▶ **Eco-friendly city**

The City's specific initiatives

- Promote the beautification of the city through the collaboration of residents, businesses and administrative agencies.
- Promote conversion to eco-friendly lifestyles and business practices.
- Reduce food loss.
- Control the discharge of waste plastic.

The desired future state of Himeji (City Vision)

Himeji - a vibrant exchange hub city where people live together and shine together

Population Vision

- Target resident population for 2030: 518,000
- Increasing the interacting and related population (Tourists, short-term residents, people who have some connection with Himeji)

Urban Structure

- Compact and networked urban structure (Compactness plus network)

Industry

Goal ▶ **Establishment of local industries that create value we can be proud of before the world**

The City's specific initiatives

- Promote the introduction of smart agriculture.
- Promote the branding of agricultural, forestry and fishery products.
- Promote work-style reform through the use of ICT.
- Attract companies, focusing on promoting the active participation of diverse human resources.
- Support individuals in starting a business, and companies in expanding into new fields.
- Enhance the attractiveness of public spaces in the city to increase their use.

Tourism and sports

Goal ▶ **Creation of bustle and excitement**

The City's specific initiatives

- Create tourism contents that allow tourists to experience the living history, culture and charms of Himeji.
- Promote the use of the Himeji City Culture and Convention Center (Arcrea Himeji).
- Hold various sports events.
- Support local sport teams belonging to top leagues.

Urban infrastructure

Goal ▶ **Establishment of an urban infrastructure that supports social interaction and attractiveness**

The City's specific initiatives

- Create a surrounding landscape that harmonizes with Himeji Castle.
- Build a public transportation network that supports the area.
- Create attractive and enjoyable streets where people want to stroll.
- Create safe road spaces.
- Improve Tegarayama Central Park.
- Improve the operational efficiency of the water supply and drainage business.

Disaster prevention and safety/security

Goal ▶ **Disaster-resistant, safe and secure city**

The City's specific initiatives

- Improve crisis management and response capability through the combination of self-help, mutual help and public help.
- Develop an ambulance transportation support system.
- Promote watching-over activities through cooperation with local residents, etc.
- Enhance consumer consultation functions of the Citizen Consultation Center, etc.

Administrative and financial operation

Goal ▶ **Provision of administrative services that respond to residents' needs**

The City's specific initiatives

- Develop staff who are relied upon by residents.
- Promote the "Revitalization of Himeji" initiative, including the creation and expansion of the population related to the city, and the promotion of migration/settlement.
- Further promote the provision/disclosure of city administration information and public hearings.
- Improve the convenience of resident services through the use of ICT.

Why not start with what we can do? / Toward realizing the desired future state of Himeji

Action guidelines	Attitudes that all entities related to Himeji City, including citizens, local communities, companies/organizations and administrative agencies, value in working together for city development
Develop "people" in a way that allows diverse individualities to shine	We will together develop people who, while respecting each other as individuals who bring a different set of abilities and experience to their community, can shine in their unique way.
Create a "community" where all members connect and trust one another	We will together create a community where all members—regardless of their position or view—trust one another and work together toward a common goal.
Create "vitality" to become a world-class city	By taking advantage of the competitive edge of the Himeji and Harima region and advanced technologies such as ICT and AI, we will continue together to create new vitality and strength that we can be proud of before the world.
Create a "foundation" that supports people's lives and living	We will together create a foundation (systems and infrastructures) that allows everyone, including future residents, to continue to live healthy and comfortable lives.

What we can do in conjunction with the City's initiatives	Citizens	Local communities	Companies/Organizations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in community activities. Participate in local welfare activities. Learn about the city's history and culture and disseminate the city's charms. Practice an eco-friendly lifestyle. Actively consume agricultural and fishery products produced in the Himeji and Harima region. Offer hospitality to tourists. Participate in emergency drills and stockpile food and other essentials. Actively obtain and disseminate city administration information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a community in cooperation with various stakeholders. Practice resident-led health initiatives. Implement activities to watch over children and child-rearing families. Practice interaction among local residents through community sports activities. Promote beautification and landscape preservation activities. Implement crime prevention and traffic safety activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote work-life balance through work-style reforms, and use diverse human resources. Conduct business activities with low environmental impact. Develop and provide new technologies, products and services through collaboration among businesses. Encourage commuting by public transportation and staggered working hours. Help solve local problems and develop city through public-private partnerships.

By doing what you can do or want to do, you might be able to solve other people's problems or help them do things that they want. Let's work together to make Himeji a great city where people help, support and inspire one another.

