Research on the Formulation of a Long-term Plan for the Sakai City Sewage Works Business

Whole term 2005.6～2007.3

(Purpose)

The purpose of this research is to help establish a long-term plan which should be a compass for the Sakai City Sewerage Works business.

In proceeding with this plan, we sorted out the status quo and plan of the sewage works business of Sakai City, studied how Sakai City should proceed with the business, and obtained an opinion from the Sakai City Sewage Works Business Long-term Plan Establishment Discussion Meeting consisting of experienced academics, etc. (Chairman: Shuhei Koyama, Professor of Osaka Prefectural University, founded by: Sakai City), and then we drew up the plan. Furthermore, we distributed a questionnaire to a large number of citizens to hear their opinions on the water environment and sewage works business so that we can reflect their needs to the plan.

(Results)

(1) Results of questionnaires to citizens

We distributed and collected a questionnaire to and from 498 municipal administration monitors and 151 people who came to Uchigawa and Doigawa Festival. There are three categories of questions (water environment, sewerage business and free opinion), and the tendency of responses was as follows.

1) Water environment

The majority of the citizens feel that the water environment has become worse than before, and have an opinion that they want to have the nearby, beautiful and safe waterside.
2) Sewage Works business

   We asked about the degree of recognition of the past role and future role and the degree of requirement for the implementation of the sewage works business as well as the amount of information and how to proceed with the business. As a result thereof, we learned that many citizens strongly wanted not only to have sewage collection and treatment and inundation control, but also to have resources effectively used and have earthquake countermeasures provided.

3) Issuing of information

   The majority of the citizens think that to provide information is insufficient, and have an opinion that in proceeding the business, citizens should participate in the business in one way or another from its planning stage.

(2) Basic concept

   As a basic concept, we incorporated something like Sakai City where citizens’ sense of participation is high, picked up cooperation between the citizens and the administration as a basic philosophy, and advocated the establishment of “Sewerage Assemblage” to realize the basic philosophy. As an action philosophy, we decided to aim at realizing an “attractive sewer system” by making the best use of freedom and the tradition of self-government under the slogan of “Reclamation of City That Citizens Govern Themselves.”

   As a policy for measures, we set the following items.
   1) Realizing a sewer system that continues to keep our livelihood safe
   2) Creating a beautiful, rich and nearby water environment
   3) Developing a sewage works business based on cooperation between the citizens and the administration and the division of roles

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