

The Sumida River - A Representative River in Tokyo



Upstream edge
Iwabuchi sluice gate

Downstream edge

Around the lower reaches of the Tsukiji Market

Overall length

23.5km

The entire river is a tidal river, which is influenced by tides.

Cultural and Historical Points of Interest Around the Sumida River



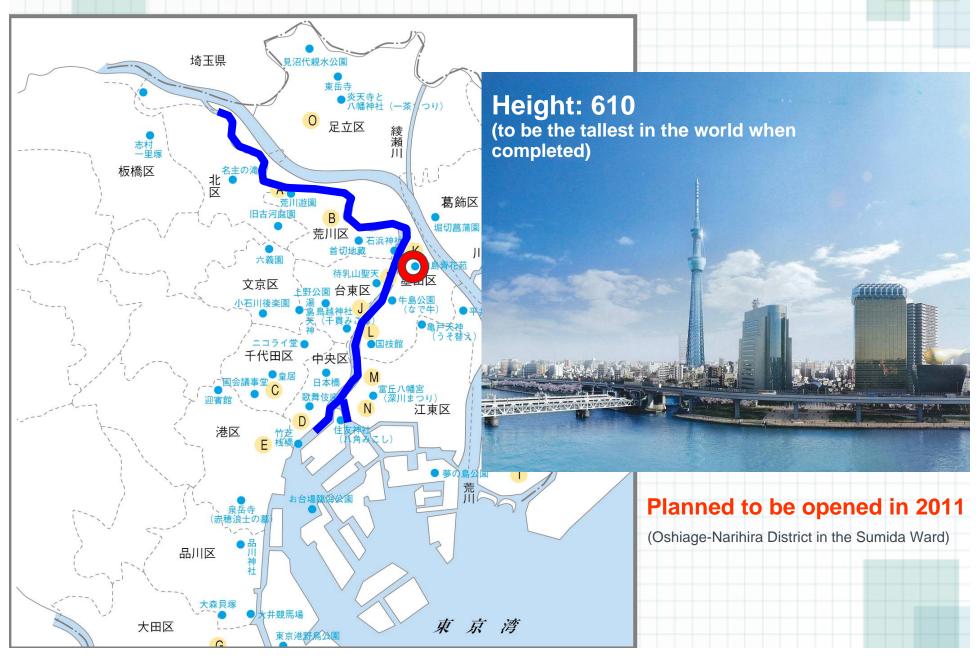
Cultural and Historical Points of Interest Around the Sumida River



Cultural and Historical Points of Interest Around the Sumida River



New Place of Interest: "New Tower"



Friendship Rivers - The Sumida and the Seine

On October 27, 1989 it was announced that the Sumida River and the Seine River in Paris became "friendship rivers."



River City 21 in Ohkawabata

Commemorative Planting of a Marronnier Tree



Commemorative Planting

On a dike in the Ohkawabata district, the Governor of Tokyo Suzuki and the Mayor of Paris Chirac planted young marronnier, a tree symbolizing Paris.

Friendship Rivers - The Sumida and the Seine



River City 21 in Ohkawabata

Chuo-ohashi Bridge



"Le Messager" - sculpted by Ossip Zadkine in 1937

Messenger

In commemoration of the friendship between the two rivers, the City Government of Paris presented "Le Messager" to the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

Friendship Rivers - The Sumida and the Seine



River City 21 in Ohkawabata

Paris Square

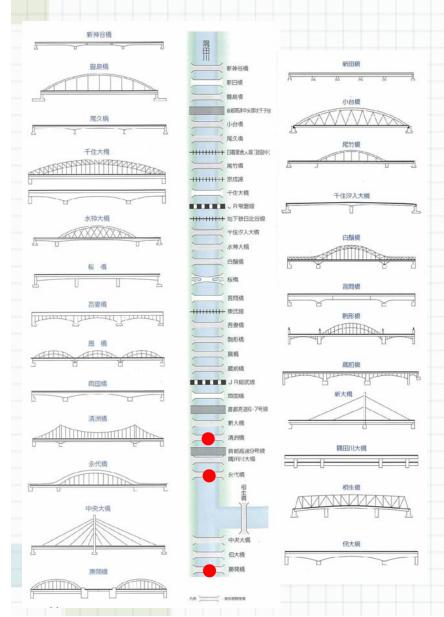


Paris Square

The "Paris Square" is situated in the Chuo ward's Ishikawajima Park in the Ohkawabata District, being paved with stone in imitation of a square in Paris.

The Sumida River Presenting an Exhibition of Bridges

26 bridges of varied types



Designated as important cultural assets (on June 18, 2007)



Kiyosu Bridge (built in 1928)



Eidai Bridge (built in 1926)

(the oldest bridge among those existing on the Sumida River)



Kachidoki Bridge (built in 1940)

History of Lowlands Around the Sumida River

The Sumida River When Lord leyasu Tokugawa Acquired the Fiefdom of the Area (Around 1590)

The section of the present-Ara River was meandering.

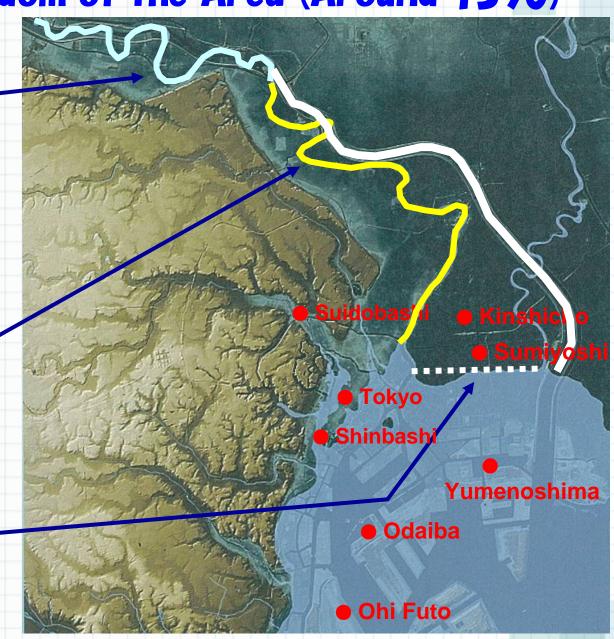
The downstream section of the present Ara River had not been excavated yet.

Excavation: 1911 (Meiji 44) ~

1930 (Showa 5)

The section of the present Sumida River was flowing through about the same course as the present one.

The coastal line almost coincides with the present Onagi River.

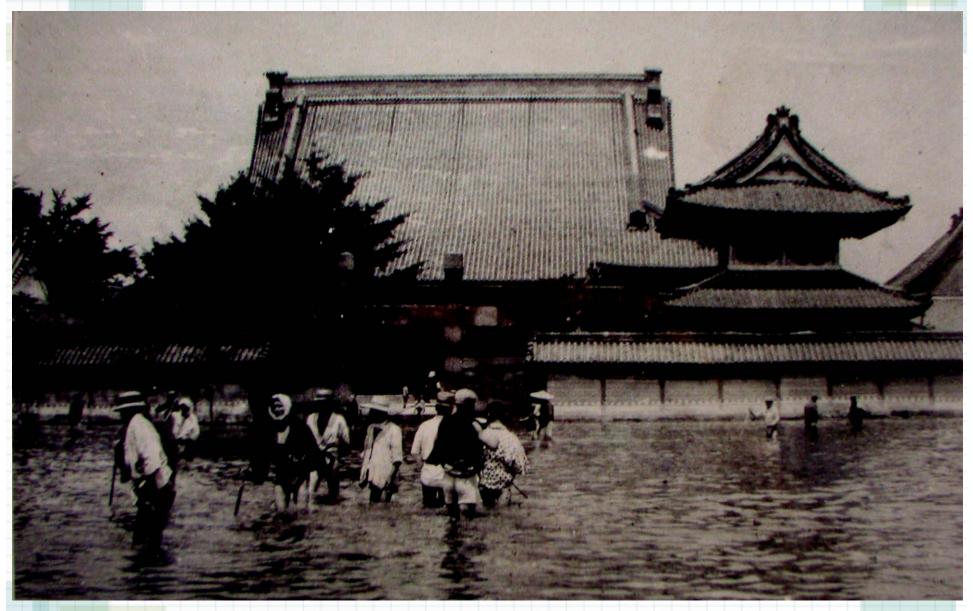




Area Around Mukojima in the Meiji Era (1868 - 1912)



Floods Hit Lowlands Frequently



The Sensoji Temple was inundated by a major flood in 1910 (Meiji 43).

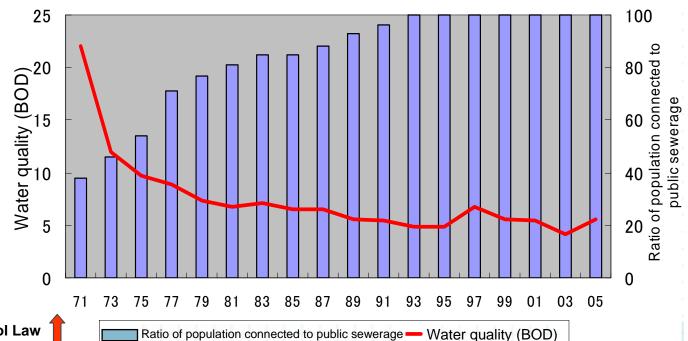
Deterioration of the Water Quality in the Sumida River over a Certain Period



The deterioration was caused by industrial and domestic wastewater.



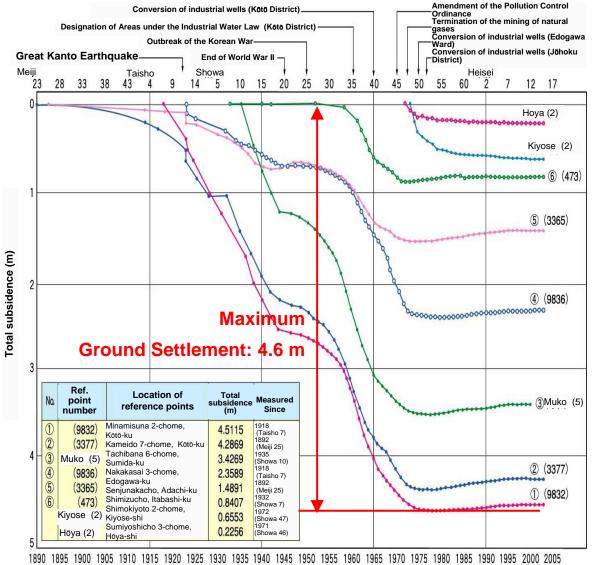
The water quality was improved gradually with the enforcement of the Water Pollution Control Law and an increase in the ratio of population connected to public sewerage.

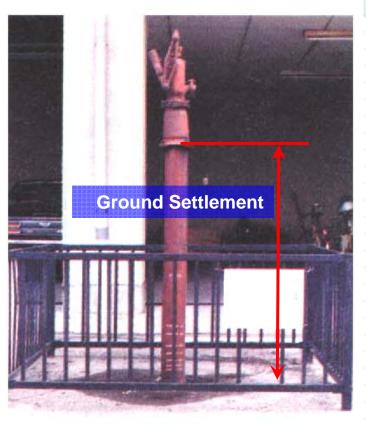


Enforcement of Water Pollution Control Law (on December 25, 1970)

Lowlands with Accelerated Ground Settlement

Total changes at the major reference points



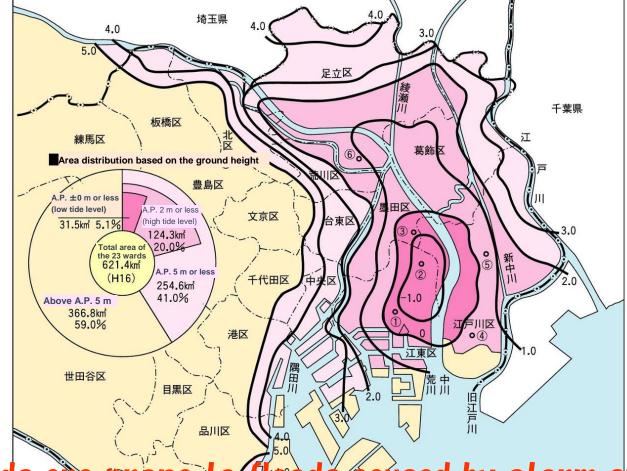




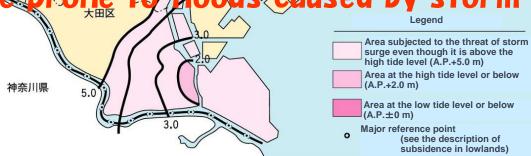
(in Higashi-shinkoiwa 1-chome, Katsushika-ku)

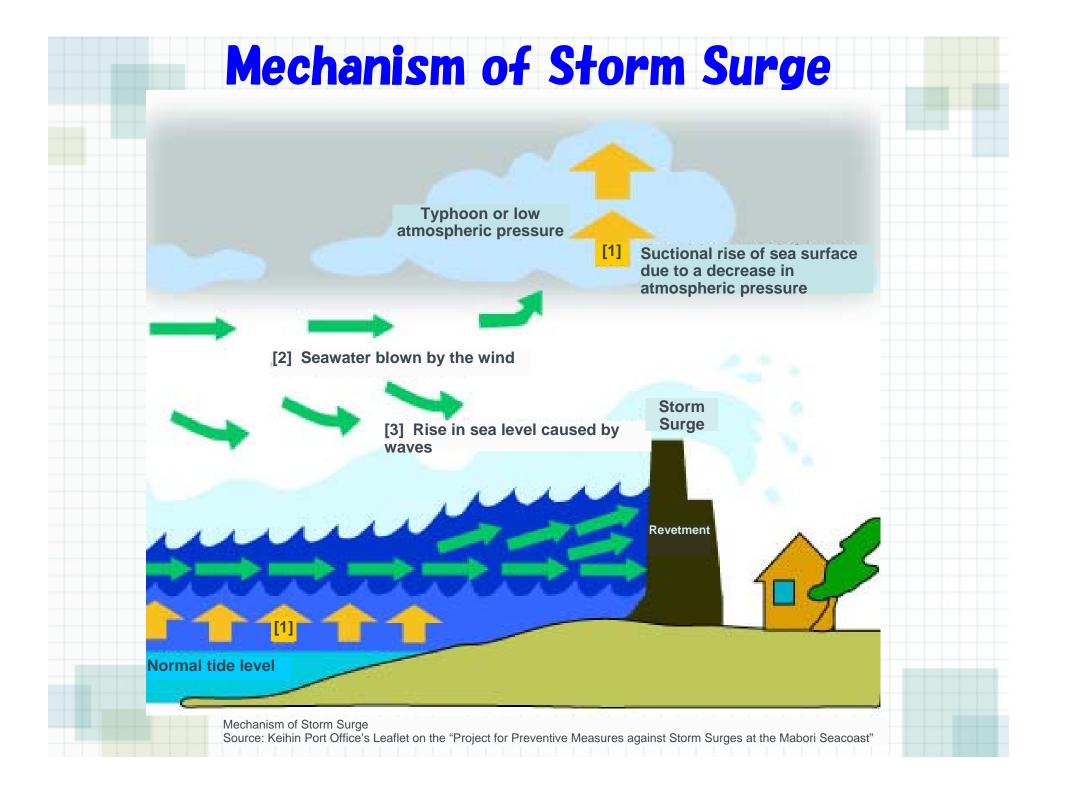
^{*} For the locations of the reference points, refer to the map of ground height in lowlands

Ground height in lowlands



Lowlands are prone to floods caused by storm surge etc.





Greatest Storm Surge Disaster in Tokyo since the End of World War II

Inundated areas caused by Typhoon Kitty in 1949 (Showa 24)

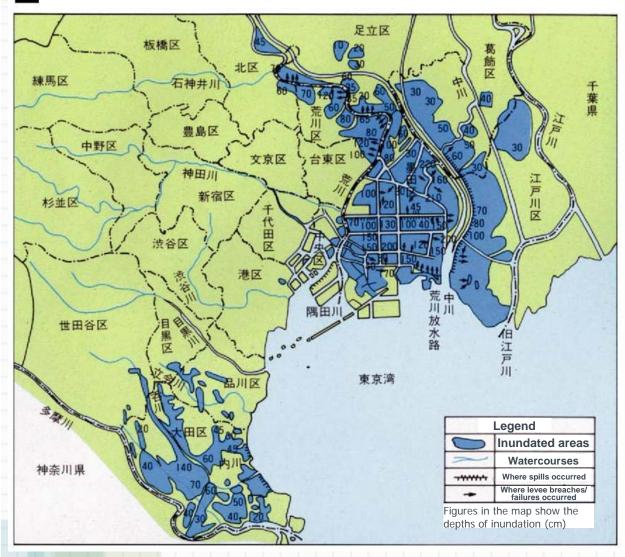
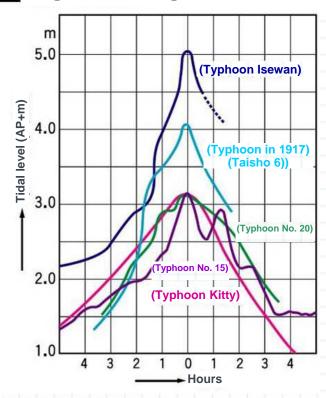


Diagram of changes in tidal level



Storm Surge Disaster caused by Typhoon Kitty



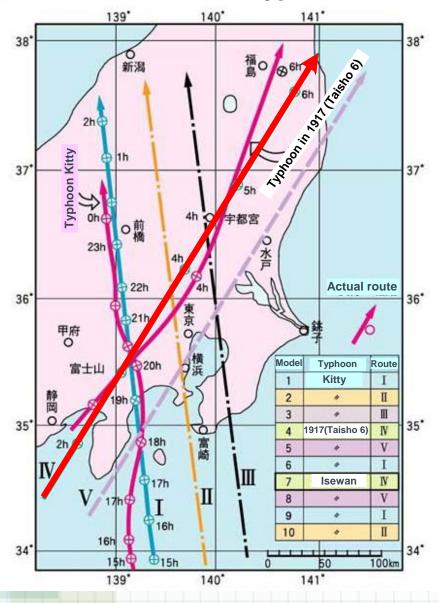
Hirai Station (Around Hirai 5-chome, Edogawa-ku)

River Projects in Lowlands

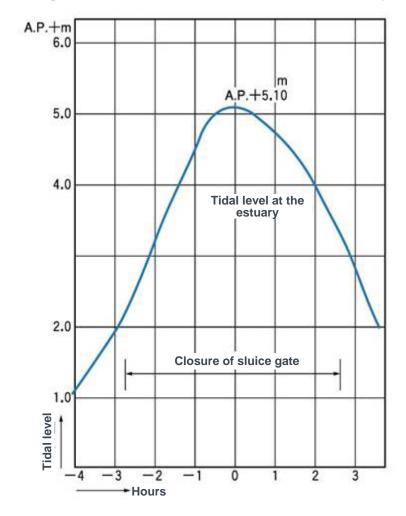


Determination of Design High Water Level

Theoretical routes of typhoons



Changes in tidal level at the estuary



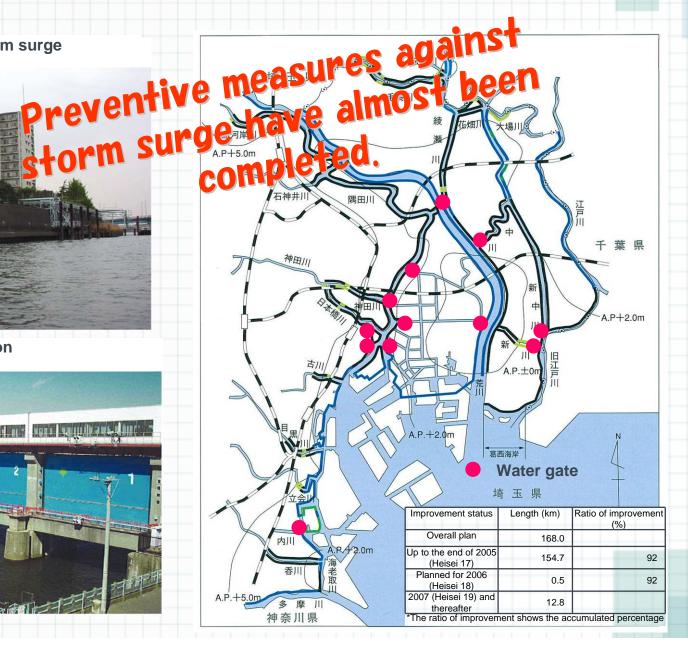
Improvement of Protection Facilities against Storm Surge

Protection levee against storm surge (on the Sumida River)

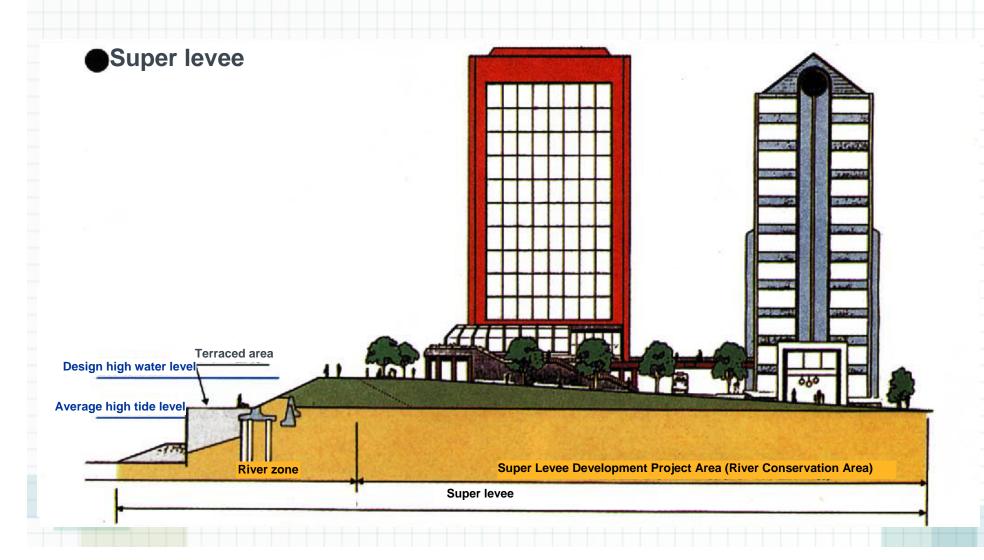


Sluice gate/ pumping station (at the Imai sluice gate)





Development of Super Levees



Developement of Super Levees

Development of super levees, etc.

Sumida River, Shinkawa/Hakozaki Districts (before construction)

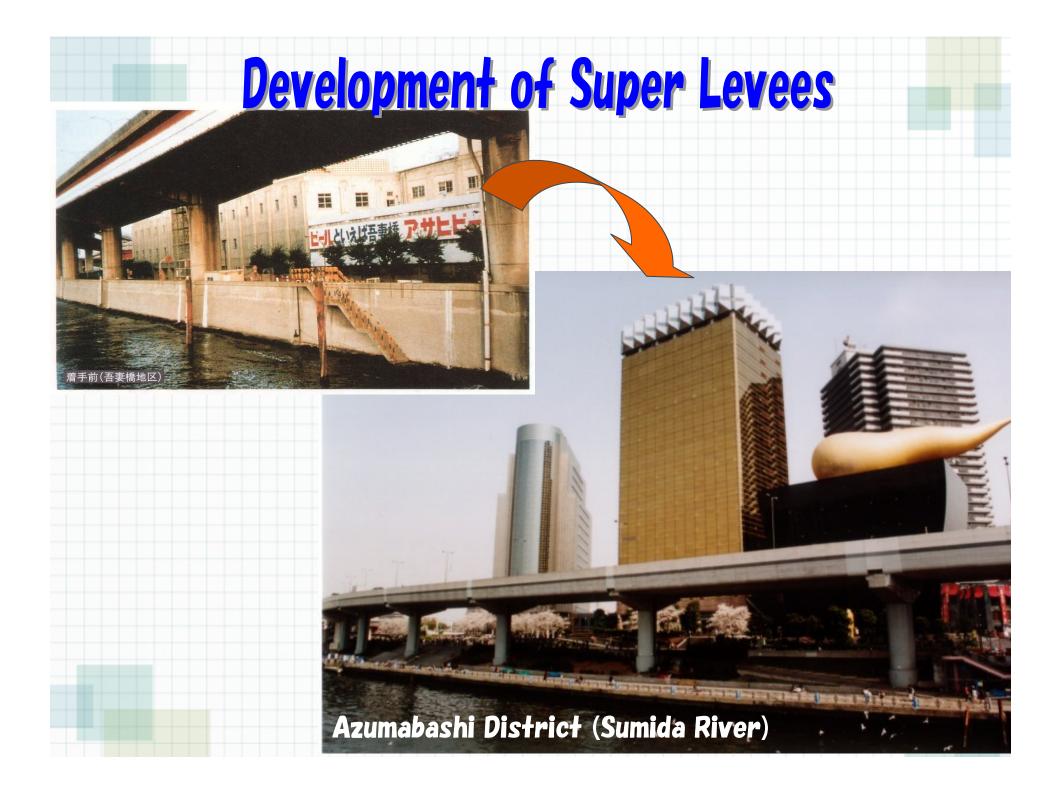
The waterfront environment was improved.

The levee is robust against earthquakes as well.

Sumida River, Shinkawa/Hakozaki Districts (after construction).

Due to the business conversion of a warehouse company, the development of a super levee was carried out together with the construction of housing and office buildings.





Vast Evacuation Site on a Super Levee in the Shirahige West District



"Gatherings" on the Sumida River









"Gatherings" on the Sumida River

Sumida River Terrace Gallery



Works by elementary school students in commemoration of graduation



Water bus station



Improvements of Rivers within the Koto Ward

2005 (Heisei 17) Planned for 2006

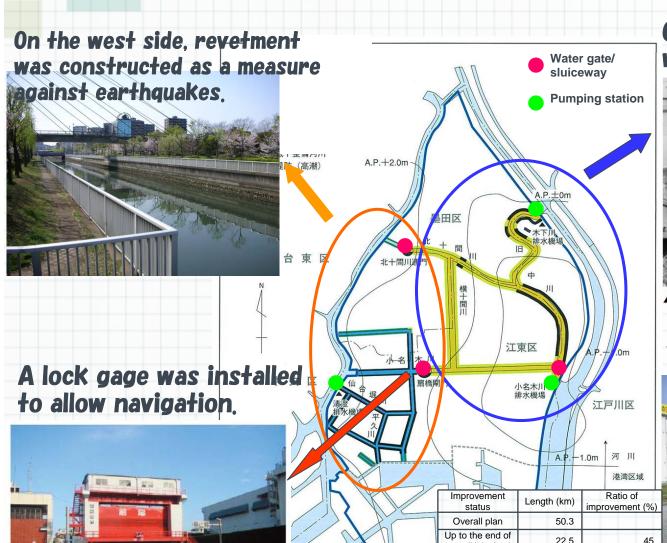
(Heisei 18) 2007 (Heisei 19)

and thereafter

1.0

26.8

*The length shows the total length of the rivers on the west and east sides. The ratio of improvement shows the accumulated percentage.



On the east side, the water level was lowered.



▲Around 1974 (Showa 49)

Water level was lowered to AP-1.0 m.





Restoration of the "Salt Road" (Onagi River)



Restoration of the "Salt Road" in the Onagi River









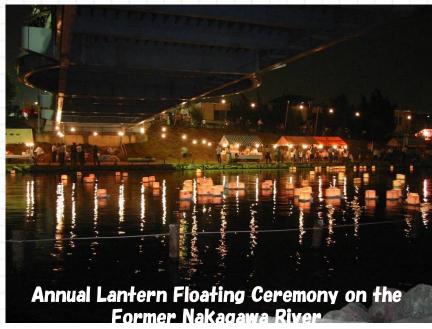


"Gatherings" on Rivers in the Kōtō Ward









Overall Concept to Attract More People to Waterfront Environment in Tokyo

東京の水辺空間の魅力向上に関する全体構想









平成18年2月

Improving attractiveness of waterfronts through cooperation among relevant bureaus in the Tokyo-Metropolitan Government



