

Appendix 2

Resolution to Protect the Natural, Historical and Cultural Value of Jingu Gaien

Jingu Gaien (Meiji Jingu Outer Gardens) was originally created in the Taisho period (1912-1926) as an integral part of the sacred forest of the Meiji Jingu Shrine, which was built in dedication to the deceased Emperor Meiji. In honor of the legacy of Emperor Meiji, many people from all over Japan participated as volunteers in its creation. The trees planted by them at that time are now over 100 years old, providing precious open space for people's recreation rich in natural features and exhibiting historical and cultural value that is appreciated not only by Japanese people but also internationally. It can be considered to be an early example that is compatible with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals that we advocate today. It also serves as an evacuation site for local residents of the broad surrounding area in the event of a disaster.

However, the Jingu Gaien redevelopment project recently permitted by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government has a number of issues of grave concern, including the cutting of thousands of trees, the re-construction of a baseball stadium threatening to kill some of the beautiful ginkgo trees, and eventually to destroy the ginkgo promenade, negative visual impacts to be caused by new skyscrapers, and the possibility of people suffering from stronger "building winds".

To protect the present wonderful scenic beauty and rich natural features of Jingu Gaien, together with its economic value benefitting the surrounding area, too, as well as its venerable historical value, we strongly request that the ginkgo promenades of Jingu Gaien be designated and protected by the national government of Japan as a Place of Scenic Beauty under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties and that the redevelopment project of Jingu Gaien be fundamentally reviewed and duly revised.

December 2022

Diet Members Caucus for the Protection of
Nature, History, and Culture of Jingu Gaien

Hajime Funada, Member, House of Representatives of Japan
Leader of the Diet Members Caucus



Diet Members Caucus for the Protection of Nature, History, and Culture of Jingu Gaien

神宮外苑の自然と歴史・文化を守る国会議員連盟

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