

## **CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS !!**

### **“Creating a green compact neighborhood supported by local inclusionary community”**

Architectural Institute of Japan (AIJ) will hold an International Architectural and Urban Design Workshop in July, 2012. We will call for enthusiastic students from all over the world to participate.

- Date: July 21(Sat) - 29(Sun), 2012
- Venue: Shimokitazawa, Setagaya ward, Tokyo, Japan
- Participants: Maximum 40 students
- Registration fee: ¥ 50,000 (≒\$620) (Incl. accommodation + social events)  
(accommodation fee will be subtracted from the registration fee for the residents in Tokyo area)
- Host: AIJ Town Building Support Committee/ Urban Planning Research Committee
- Instructors: Masami Kobayashi, Peter Bosselmann, Atushi Deguchi, Takashi Ariga, Naomichi Kurata, Hiroyuki Sasaki, Stefan Pellegrini, Anne Scheou, Koichiro Aitani, Hiroshi Koike

#### **Theme**

The Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011(no comma) severely devastated the Tohoku area of Japan with damages caused by a Tsunami and by radio activity due to the meltdown of the nuclear reactor at Fukushima. . These events seriously made the people of Japan recognize the vulnerability of modern cities and how we have over-trusted our modern technology. On that day in Tokyo, the entire transportation network broke down and the commuters had a hard time to get home. People in our large cities have deeply realized the importance of disaster protection for the everyday functioning of our communities, and the importance of sustainable community design

Setagaya ward of Tokyo, which accommodates 880,000 people, has commercial concentrations along an extensive public transportation network that serves vast residential areas and much open space in the hinterland. Though, there are various issues related to (1) transportation and living environment, which does not well respond to the increased aging society, (2) to the lack of public open spaces, (3) the declining cultural and natural assets caused by heritage tax, and to (4) conflicts between the development pressure and the existing neighborhood character. The Ward government is currently revising the “Setagaya City Basic Plan”, and new approaches to its vision for the future are being discussed. Detailed urban design studies are required to confront the problems mentioned.

Shimokitazawa, which is located at north- eastern part of the ward, is an unique neighborhood in Tokyo, loved by many young people with an attractive network of narrow streets, and its vital countercultural activities in many theaters and music clubs. Recently, the “continuous grade separation project” of Tokyo metropolitan government for the purpose of preventing traffic congestion caused by the railway and road intersections, is now in process, a new open space of 2.2km long and 30m wide will emerge after the Odakyu line goes underground. A new way of urban design strategy is required here.

In this intensive workshop, focusing on the comprehensive ward area and the specific Shimokitazawa area, we will investigate and design the urban environment for the following objectives: (1) designing for a local welfare society that is aging, (2) creating compact and inclusionary community with close relationship between working and living spaces, and (3) creating a sustainable, “Green” urban environment

Website: <http://www.aij-iaud-ws.org/>