



1). This is a cutter face of a slurry shield machine that was used to drill a tunnel (aqualine) underneath the Tokyo Bay to connect Kawasaki City in Kanazawa prefecture to Kisarazu City in Chiba. It was constructed to ease traffic — taking this route will diverge the cars travelling through the metropolitan area and decrease the drivers' commuting time by roughly 40 minutes. This has improved sustainability by reducing green house gas emissions (since the cars have less distance to cover over a smaller time), created jobs and gains tourists with the great view a parking area located in the middle (umihotaru) provides, and marks a point of innovation in civil engineering.



2). The photo was taken at Kamakura City in Kanagawa prefecture. The area attracts tourist with several types of attractions, some of them being hiking, surfing, scenic trains, cave and temple walking, and local foods. Although the famous tourist spot is famous for allowing visitors to feel a sense of relaxation, the congestion of people during the weekends may cause problems leading up to the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.



3). Ogouchi dam is a water storage dam in Tama, Tokyo. The place is located around 1 hour by train and a 20 minute bus ride from the station. Ogouchi dam started its construction from before the war and was completed in 1957. It currently serves as a water reserve in case of droughts and is known for being the largest of its kind in Japan. There is also a hydro power plant nearby – owned by the Tokyo Metropolitan Bureau of Transportation – that provides electricity for the areas surrounding it. As this year’s rainfall has been minimal compared to previous years, Tokyo may begin to use water stored here soon.



4). These are solar panels plastered onto Environmental Energy Innovation Building in Tokyo Tech. The building presently reduces Carbon Dioxide emissions by roughly 60% and is able to provide all of the energy that the building requires. As there aren't many labs that are able to self-supply nearly all of their electricity requirements, Tokyo Tech prides itself on having this building on campus. As the image could roughly portray, there are 6 types of solar panels — 4570 panels in total — that are all able to change its angle in order to produce the most effective amount of electricity. The angling will also create a wind pathway, serving as a cooling mechanism for the building.



5). A small park in the residential area around Midorigaoka, Tokyo, has a slide, seesaws, and a small open space. I visited the area with other Georgia Tech Summer Program members during the day at around 1800. Although we passed several dog walkers, businessmen, small kids, and yoga ladies, we didn't pass any teenagers. The reason could be the small shopping districts nearby, afterschool club activities, part time jobs, or cram schools. As this area is presumed to be a high income neighbourhood, the cost of education may also play a part in moving people out of the area — a possible challenge to sustainability in the future specifically for this location.



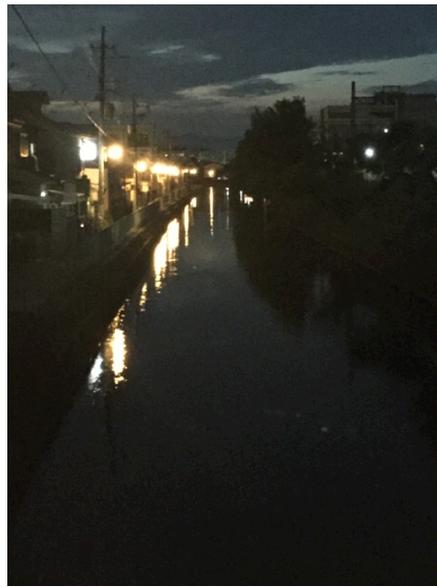
6). A board showing several events or notices for Meguro, Tokyo, where a few of my friends and I visited to look for local assets. One of the notices tell of an upcoming concert organised by the local fire department orchestra. After the terrorist attack at Ariana Grande's concert in Manchester, there seems to be more concerts like these, where the audience and the performers pretend as though there is an attack or a natural disaster during the concert.



7). A small garden/farm located in one of the streets in Midorigaoka had no labels, so we were unable to determine who the farm belonged to. Whoever owned this piece of land – whether it is the community itself or the local Junior School located nearby, they are growing a large number of sweet potatoes. This is the only ‘farming area’ that we found in our walks throughout the residential neighbourhood (except within the Junior School). We also found that many houses had small gardens, suggesting the community’s interests in growing vegetation.



8). The picture depicts the inner sea that we passed between our travels from Okayama to Takamatsu in Kagawa prefecture. Takamatsu is surrounded by the Inner Sea and several small islands, which makes the major transportation around the area boats and cars. The small shopping street close to the JR station in Takamatsu city offers small selection of products, different from what I am used to from living in Tokyo or Osaka. Overall, the inconvenient transportation methods and the smaller selection of merchandise may cause population to move to larger cities. However, the city is increasing in population, possibly since many of the migrants want to remain close to the islands that they grew up on.



9). Kyoto is a historical city dense in tourists and young people. The picture shows a river that is right beside *Fushimi-Inari*, a tourist destination that ranked number one in Japan for having the highest number of tourists with other nationalities. Although being one of the major cities in Japan (it also used to be the capital before Tokyo) Kyoto does well in balancing new shops and attractions and cultural preservation.



10). This image shows the Aqua Walk mall, a large scale mall that makes Ogaki city look as though they are not facing a problem of population decrease. The main modes of transportation around the area are cars and buses to go around the city, and the train to come to Ogaki city or to travel to Nagoya on a 30 minute train ride. Although the city seemed to be a nice area to live in, the lack of job opportunities (which is one of the main concerns the Ogaki North High School students mentioned) may need improving.