

Tokyo's old fish market area to be redeveloped

Tokyo's famous Tsukiji fish market site, empty since its **demolition** six years ago, is set for a major **redevelopment**. Property developer Mitsui Fudosan has proposed a 900 billion yen (\$5.7 billion) project featuring a **scenic** waterfront stadium, **skyscrapers**, office buildings, residential areas, and shops. This **ambitious** plan also includes a **biotechnology** research center and aims to attract both local and international visitors, hoping to compete with top waterfront areas in cities like Sydney and Singapore.

However, some Tokyo residents **oppose** the redevelopment, preferring the site to be turned into a garden. They are concerned about pollution and safety, especially during earthquakes. Despite these concerns, Mitsui Fudosan, along with a **consortium** including Toyota and various construction and media companies, plans to proceed, with construction starting next year.

The Tsukiji market's functions moved to Toyosu in 2018, but the outer area of the old market, known for its sushi and ice cream stalls, will remain. The new development will connect to ferries and subway lines, providing a **hub** for international conventions, trade shows, and tourism.

Critics argue that the redevelopment might harm the historical and cultural significance of the area, turning it into just another commercial complex. They suggest that the current model of scrap-and-build is not **sustainable** and call for a project that **preserves** more of the city's **heritage**. Despite the opposition, city officials assure that there will be opportunities for public feedback before finalizing the plans.

Vocabulary and Definitions

1. **Redevelopment**: The process of improving or renovating an area.
2. **Demolition**: The act of tearing down or destroying a building.
3. **Scenic**: Providing beautiful or pleasant views.
4. **Skyscrapers**: Very tall, multi-story buildings.

5. **Biotechnology:** The use of biological processes for industrial and other purposes.
6. **Consortium:** An association of several companies working together on a project.
7. **Critics:** People who express disapproval of something based on perceived faults or mistakes.
8. **Heritage:** Valued objects and qualities such as historic buildings and cultural traditions that have been passed down from previous generations.
9. **Sustainable:** Capable of being maintained over the long term without harming the environment or depleting resources.
10. **Ambitious:** Having a strong desire for success or achievement.
11. **Oppose:** To be against something; to disagree with a plan or idea.
12. **Hub:** A central point of activity or interest.
13. **Conventions:** Large meetings or conferences, especially for a specific profession or interest.
14. **Preserve:** To keep something in its original state or in good condition.

Simple Discussion Questions

1. What is the main goal of the Tsukiji fish market redevelopment project?
2. Why do some Tokyo residents oppose the redevelopment plan?
3. What will happen to the outer area of the old Tsukiji market?

True or False Questions

1. The Tsukiji fish market was demolished six years ago.
2. The redevelopment project will cost 900 million yen.
3. Some residents want the site to become a garden instead of being redeveloped.
4. The redevelopment will not include any residential areas.
5. The outer area of the old market will be completely removed.

Cloze Quiz

Tokyo's famous Tsukiji fish market site, empty since its _____ six years ago, is set for a major redevelopment. Property developer Mitsui Fudosan has proposed a 900 billion

yen (\$5.7 billion) project featuring a scenic waterfront stadium, _____, office buildings, residential areas, and shops. This ambitious plan also includes a _____ research center and aims to attract both local and international visitors, hoping to compete with top waterfront areas in cities like Sydney and Singapore.

However, some Tokyo residents _____ the redevelopment, preferring the site to be turned into a garden. They are concerned about pollution and safety, especially during _____. Despite these concerns, Mitsui Fudosan, along with a consortium including Toyota and various construction and media companies, plans to proceed, with construction starting next year.

The Tsukiji market's functions moved to Toyosu in 2018, but the outer area of the old market, known for its sushi and ice cream stalls, will _____. The new development will connect to ferries and subway lines, providing a hub for international conventions, trade shows, and tourism.

Critics argue that the redevelopment might harm the historical and cultural _____ of the area, turning it into just another commercial complex. They suggest that the current model of scrap-and-build is not _____ and call for a project that preserves more of the city's heritage. Despite the opposition, city officials assure that there will be opportunities for public feedback before _____ the plans.

Quiz Answers

True or False Questions:

1. The Tsukiji fish market was demolished six years ago. (True)
2. The redevelopment project will cost 900 million yen. (False)
3. Some residents want the site to become a garden instead of being redeveloped.
(True)
4. The redevelopment will not include any residential areas. (False)
5. The outer area of the old market will be completely removed. (False)