

Policies Regarding the Transformation and Honoring of the Paper Cranes (Final Compilation)【Summary】

(Compiled by the Policy Review Committee for Transforming and Honoring the Paper Cranes/February 2012)

◎ Concept (Underlying principles)

Creating shared thoughts for peace and passing them along as a new vision

We are promoting policies to transform and honor the spirit of the paper cranes, so that the peace wishes dedicated to their creation may reach beyond local boundaries and enter the hearts of many people around the world, expanding the circle of support for nuclear weapons abolition and giving rise to a shared, global vision towards world peace.

◎ Objectives

Measures to transform the paper cranes will be carried out following the below general objectives, in line with comprehensive consideration of the purpose, means, and utility of each activity, allowing for revision and renewal of measures as necessary.

Convey and transmit the message of peace

- In line with Hiroshima's mission after its revival from ruins after the atomic bombing, we hope to resurrect the paper cranes as a tool for peace promotion. Through their creation, the cranes are imbued with peace thoughts of people from all around the world, which we hope to transform and spread as a universal wish for world peace.
- Making full use of their beautiful colors and shapes, we hope to use the cranes' visual impact to express the peace spirit entrusted to them in an effective and easily understandable way, passing along the experience of the atomic bombing to future generations.

Create a circle of hearts transcending borders and social position

- We aim to promote an understanding of the broader meaning of peace at the individual and interpersonal levels. This includes encouraging values such as treasuring people who are close to oneself, exchange activities towards peace, and measures related to ESD (Education for Sustainable Development).
- As a city who knows past suffering, we wish to make the best use of our history and contribute our experience towards the establishment of international cooperation and contribution activities from a modern standpoint.
- In order to help deliver courage and strength to all members of society, we aim to increase opportunities for active social participation for disabled persons such as through providing employment support, as well as offering messages of encouragement to the elderly.

Create new brands and tourist resources specific to Hiroshima

- In order to heighten the expressive power and impact of all our peace activities, we plan to recruit citizen submissions for a logo representing Hiroshima's paper cranes, which will then be utilized as a visual representation of Hiroshima's peace measures that we hope will permeate into society. In addition to this, we plan to promote the participation of enterprises that value corporate social responsibility.
- We are aiming to strengthen Hiroshima's educational tourism appeal, creating hands-on experience programs for children and school excursion groups which allow them to participate in transforming the paper cranes.
- We plan to hold symbolic events of great visual impact in order to highlight the importance and intensity of our wish for peace. These will include exhibitions highlighting the tremendous volume of paper cranes our city has been gifted, and the ceremonial burning of paper cranes accompanied by a prayer for lasting world peace.

◎ Guidelines

In promoting the above measures, after clarifying the extent and general outline of each procedure, it is important to consider practicality. This includes creating an environment where Hiroshima's citizens and many others can contribute, as well as creating a framework that ensures economical sustainability.

Promotion of citizen-led measures

- In order for increasing numbers of citizens to share the thoughts behind the folding of the paper cranes, it is important for paper crane transformation to become rooted as a citizen activity. To this end, we hope to promote citizen proposals for new measures, solicit citizen participation in their planning and enactment, and distribute paper cranes to organizations whose activities are in line with the above concept.
- We plan to expand the circle of activity at the citizen level by collaborating with schools as part of the peace education curriculum, by striving to stimulate local activity and opportunities, such as the “One Community Hall, One Nation” movement during the Asian Games, and by creating a network of currently active organizations.
- As we wish for this movement to progress mainly through the hands of the citizens, we will recruit volunteers to work towards project implementation and management, and call for free contribution of opinions.
- In order to promote regional exchange and increase participation of disabled persons in society, we will be cooperating with employment support centers for persons with disabilities and other associated organizations to include disabled persons in paper crane transformation projects.

Creation of a framework for sustainability

- By selling crane paper and recycled paper crane products, as well as charitable origami paper, we will develop a framework for using the paper cranes themselves as a source of funding for peace-related projects. In addition to this, we will create a fund from donation money attached to the crane contributions.
- By actively undertaking activities that stimulate the economy, such as holding events and selling recycled paper crane products, we aim to raise citizen awareness and create a long-term, sustainable project.

Consideration of the sentiments of the paper cranes’ contributors

- For projects of a delicate nature such as honoring the paper cranes through ceremonial burning, careful attention will be paid to the manner of implementation, so as to act in consideration of the wishes of the atomic bomb survivors and the children who donated the cranes.

◎ Implementation

Based on the results of trial implementations and opinions and ideas submitted by citizens, we present a concrete plan below that exemplifies how projects shall be implemented, as well as their intended effects and points of consideration.

| Project | Summary | Intended Effects | Points of Consideration |
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| Turning the cranes into recycled paper products | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissolve and resurrect paper cranes into items that allow many people to share and transmit the message of peace, which will be sold or donated to willing recipients and children around the world • Use for thank-you letters to contributing organizations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By increasing the symbolic power of the paper cranes, thoughts for peace can be conveyed in a new shape and form. • Through various recycled products and implementation methods, it will be possible to expand a large variety of peace promotion activities. • Transforming the cranes into new products can serve as a hands-on project for school excursions, as well as a part of the peace education curriculum, passing on the experience of the atomic bombing to future generations. • As an effective use of resources, recycling the cranes will contribute to enlightenment on environmental issues. • Depending on the implementations, the various measures will bring contributions such as stimulating regional industry and creating employment opportunities for disabled persons. • Creating a fund from the sales of crane paper as a recyclable paper resource will help expand opportunities for peace-related projects, as well as guaranteeing a source of income for paper crane transformation projects. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before paper cranes can be recycled, procedures to remove string and fastening materials are often required. • As recycling requires significant costs, it will be necessary to secure a source of funding and the support of project collaborators. • It will be necessary to consider measures to ensure that recycled paper crane products are not treated with disrespect. |
| Ceremonial burning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respectful burning of paper cranes in ceremonies praying for peace | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the transformation of paper cranes, which have a tangible shape, into a precious intangible thought, we expect peaceful intentions to continue to spread worldwide. • Establishing a ceremony where paper cranes are burnt as a significant event associated with Hiroshima, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures must be conducted with careful consideration of the thoughts of the atomic bomb survivors, as well as children |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Year’s bonfires and campfires dedicated with peace thoughts, conducted through the cooperation of schools and communities | <p>the expressive strength of the peace message will act as an additional draw to tourists.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By involving communities, the entire city can create a large movement to raise peace consciousness through a collection of small measures. | <p>contributing the paper cranes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire-prevention measures will need to be considered, and procedures must be conducted in a way that does not cause disruption to the neighborhood. |
| Displays | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display paper cranes in areas where many people gather – public facilities, lodging facilities, business and commercial establishments, and transport nodes, such as airports and stations • Display at schools, municipalities, and organizations who wish to display them in Japan and abroad • Exhibit for a fixed period of time in a display booth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The message of peace can be spread not only to Hiroshima’s citizens, but to the many people around the world who have no chance to come to Hiroshima. • With paper cranes displayed in a variety of places, Hiroshima can create a new image of itself as a peace city, leaving a strong impression in people’s minds, and increasing their chances to think about peace. • Establishing a symbolic event that carries both a strong message and a visual impact will act as a boost both to tourism and transmission of peace thoughts. • Exhibition in a paper crane display booth will increase chances for people to come in contact with the message and thoughts of the paper crane donors. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After the displays, the handling and removal of the paper cranes will be the responsibility of the authorities managing the display. • The paper crane exhibition at the former Bank of Japan Hiroshima Branch, displayed with the long-term preservation of paper cranes in view, requires reconsideration in compliance with the wishes of the paper crane donors. |
| Commemorative gifts, donations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute or sell in small bunches as commemorative gifts and souvenirs to tourists and attendants in the Peace Memorial Ceremony • Gift paper cranes to nations and cities around the world, schools, and visiting VIPs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By letting the paper cranes in their original shape deliver to a countless amount of people, the peace message will spread worldwide in a visually significant way over a long period of time. • As souvenirs that purchasers can present to their family and friends, the paper cranes can help people connect with each other in thoughts for peace. • The peace message can transmit to people who are unable to visit Hiroshima. • Additional opportunities for exchange will be created with the organizations receiving donations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that the cranes are not treated disrespectfully, it is necessary to consider the eligibility of the receiving agency, as well as the possibility of charging for reception of the paper cranes. • In order to make the paper cranes into commemorative objects, some processing effort is required. • Multiple contributions, as well as deliveries to distant places will require significant postage fees. |
| Other processing methods, use of ashes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurrect into something other than reused paper products for use as souvenirs or monuments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reusing the cranes in this way is an environmentally responsible use of resources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practicality of processing the cranes will need to be considered, such as required technological/ industrial methods and costs |
| Incineration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incinerate any remains from exhibitions, and non-recyclable paper cranes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large amounts of paper cranes can be processed at once. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures must be conducted with careful consideration of the thoughts of the atomic bomb survivors and children contributing the paper cranes. • It will be important to emphasize that the events are being held based on the concept of respecting and honoring the cranes. |
| Events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use paper cranes in various ways in memorial ceremonies wishing for peace | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The large amounts of people participating in events will receive the spirit of peace and increase their chances to think about, and act towards peace promotion. • By contributing to Hiroshima’s culture and attractions, new events will promote regional revitalization, increasingly drawing tourists and school excursions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A large cost and effort will be required for a short-term event. |
| Contributor database | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record paper crane contributions in videos or photographs and display in an online database along with the donors’ names | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording the contributor information alongside the thoughts dedicated to the paper cranes will be a new way to express respect and gratitude to the contributors. • By making it possible for anyone, anywhere to see the contribution information, the messages of peace entrusted to the paper cranes can be shared on an even larger scale. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entering all contribution photographs and videos into the existing database of donor names and messages will require significant effort. |