

Submission Abstract

Nansha District, P.R China (Population: 197,200, Category D)

Nansha is a district under the jurisdiction of China's third largest city, Guangzhou. It is located 50 kilometers away from the south of Guangzhou and about 38 nautical miles from Hong Kong and 41 nautical miles from Macau with a total area of 527 square kilometers, of which 339 square kilometers are land. With registered permanent residents of 197,200 and the population density of 581 people per square kilometer which is only 3.8% of the population density of downtown area of Guangzhou, it enjoys the lowest population density in Guangzhou.

Enhancement of the Natural and Built Landscapes

1. The green coverage rate is constantly rising, from 32.5% to 41%.
2. Flood embankments become “green lanes” for public recreation and sports use after being given a green makeover.
3. Every community must be equipped with leisure facilities; small amusement parks are built within all villages.
4. Take advantage of rivers to built wetlands park, to provide ideal breeding grounds for birds, insets and fishes.

Arts, Culture and Heritage

1. The government has fixed funds for heritage management and the development arts and cultures.
2. All ancient trees are registered and a dedicated person is assigned to take care of each tree.
3. Government and civil organizations are using celebrations to push the inheriting of intangible heritage.
4. Historical heritages witnessing the history are set as patriotism education bases. Rebuilt destroyed historical buildings according to history materials.

Environmental Best Practices

1. Nansha sets "eco-preferred" as the basic development policy from the founding of the city.
2. 9% of local revenue is invested for environmental protection.
3. The government pays attention to promote new technologies and new energy source so that Nansha's energy consumption per GDP declines rapidly.
4. Relocate and transform heavy polluting businesses.
5. The government gives strict guidance on reducing carbon emission to its employees, and promotes low carbon lifestyle to the public.

Community Participation and Empowerment

1. Build Nansha's government website into a platform for the public to get involved in governmental affairs. All communities have similar websites.

2. The community's own management group- the owners' committee is supported by the government to become the community's decision making organization.
3. Communities select people's representatives, hold votes for model citizens and select 1-2 representatives with 3 years term.
4. Every project relating to the city development and people's livelihood issues will need to enter the process of citizen hearings, and residents who participate in the hearings are recommended by the communities.

Healthy Lifestyle

1. Municipal libraries, cinemas, concert halls and other cultural activities sites are set out according to 300 to 500 meters coverage settings, citizens can enjoy municipal cultural facilities within a 15-minute walk.
2. Parks and libraries are open for free. Bus fares are low and theaters have free and half price days.
3. The government hires experts, scholars to open weekend lectures, with contents involving economics, history, learning, etc
4. Set up 8 volunteers' base in libraries, social welfare centers and other locations, so people can enjoy convenient services.

Strategic Planning

1. Increase the overall green coverage rate to 50% by 2015.
2. In response to the national policy of Nansha port development, Nansha will put environmental impact of the strategic planning as the key direction, invite experts from around the world to help with Nansha's planning process, so to reduce the impact of port's development on the environment.
3. Nansha will become China's low carbon urban development model and the base for constructing "New Guangzhou".
4. Conduct extensive research into alternative energy sources. By 2015 all the lamps on street will be replaced by solar powered street lamps.
5. In addition to upgrade all the river banks to withhold once in a century flood, Nansha at the same time develops a once in every two hundred years flood threat warning and hedging plan.