

# Chapter 1

## Taipei Overview

*The Han Chinese launched the development of Taipei in its open country during the reign of the Emperor Wanli of the Ming dynasty. As a matter of fact, documented records of such a development do not appear until after the 48th year of the reign of Emperor Kangxi of the Qing dynasty (1709). A Quanzhou native Chen Laizhang applied for a license to reclaim and cultivate Northern Taiwan. Han Chinese since then began moving to Taipei's open country in large numbers to settle the land. Danshui Harbor first opened to trade activities in the 10th year of Emperor Xianfeng (1860) due to the signing of the Beijing Treaty; hence the influx of foreign investors.*

*Taipei became linked to the world and embraced a new influx of economic interactions. Taiwan was ceded to Japan after Manchurian China's defeat in the Sino-Japanese War in 1895, and became a colony of Japan. During the period of occupation in Taiwan, the Japanese government undertook a series of construction projects to govern the Taiwanese more systematically, therefore transforming Taipei into a political and economic nexus.*

*Upon Taiwan's retrocession in 1945, more construction and infrastructure development were in the offing. The National Government relocated to Taiwan in 1949, and moved quickly to expand Taipei's industrial and commercial base, allowing the city to experience urban structural advancements by leaps and bounds. On July 1st, 1967, Taipei was upgraded to a municipality directly under the jurisdiction of the Central Government, thereby consolidating its status as the nation's capital.*



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*Taipei was originally home to the Ketagalan tribe, and later was taken over by the Han Chinese. Taipei's ancestors labored and toiled to pass on their legacies to the generations to come; with its unique geography and the historical changes it underwent, Taipei has bequeathed abundant treasures and a rich heritage that have withstood the test of time.*

## Part 1 Geographical Overview

### 1. Topographical Summary

Taipei City is located in the northern part of Taiwan Island, including the northeast of the Taipei Basin and the neighboring hill area. It is completely surrounded by Taipei County. On the north and east sides are hill area and the Jilong Valley where it adjoins Danshui, Sanzhi, Jinshan, Wanli, Xizhi, Shiding, and Shenkeng; on the west and south sides, the Danshui River and its tributaries, the Xindian River and the Jingmei River, conjoin Taipei with Xindian, Zhonghe, Yonghe, Banqiao, Sanchong, Luzhou and Wugu. The northernmost extent of the city reaches up to Little Peak south of Zhuzi Volcano, which marks the borders between Beitou District, Sanzhi and Jinshan Townships; the eastern edge is the border between Nangang District, Xizhi and Shiding; the south rim marks the border between Wenshan District and Xindian City; the Guandu Notch faces Beitou District and Wugu as the City's westernmost edge. The length from north to south is around 27 km, and the width from east to west is around 18 km; the circumference of the city border is 216 km and the total area is 271.7997 square kilometers; it is the city with the largest area on the island.

Taipei's terrain is higher on the northeast and southeast parts, consisting mostly of volcanoes and hills that occupy more than half of the city's area. The northern Datun Volcano region is high and vast. The terrain is low and flat and is mostly basin/river valley topography between the north and south hill district, tilting slightly towards the northwest.

In Taipei City, the Jingmei River, Xindian River and Danshui River travel along the south and west rims; the Jilong River and its tributaries, the Shuangxi River, Ziming River (Sulphur River) and Beitou River, cut through the city, merge with Danshui River at Guandu and flow into the Taiwan Strait at Danshui. The riverbanks were the prime trading areas in Taipei City's early days, such as Mengjia and Dadaocheng, which were once vital business towns and the cradle for cultural development.



● One can still see the rice paddies by Zhishanyan in the 1930's



●Overlooking the Taipei Basin

## 2. Topographical Segments

Taipei City's terrain and geological structure can be divided basically into 3 topographies: volcanoes, hills and a basin. Mountains occupy 8.49% of the total area, while the basin occupies 86.33%, and rivers occupy the remaining 5.08%.

### (1) Volcanic Areas

The volcanic region in the city is part of the Datun Volcano Chain. It consists of a few cone- and bell-shaped andesite volcanoes. The most significant ones are: Qixing, Shamao, Xiaoguanyin, Datun, Miantian, which are all extinct volcanoes, but still display certain post-volcanic activities.

### (2) Hill District

Most of the sedimentary rock-formed hill district is located on the southeast end of the city. Such hills belong to the Taiwan western dash fault upland; due to the western location on the north end of the island, the altitude is low with insignificant undulation, and is therefore categorized as a hill instead of a mountain. The Taipei Hill District is divided into south and north at the Jilong River valley, the northern part is Neihu Hill, and the southern part is Nangang Hill.

#### A. Neihu Hill

It refers to the area south of the Shuangxi River Valley to the Jilong River Valley, which forms the west gate of the Great Wulun Mountain. It has a monocline structure of east-north-east towards west-south-west. The major mountains are Wuzhi Mountain, Lingtou Mountain, Zhongyong Mountain, Yuanjue Peak, Jinmian Mountain, Jinan Mountain, and Jiantan Mountain. The ridge diminishes in height from north to south and from east to west, eventually merging into the Taipei Basin.

#### B. Nangang Hill

It refers to the hill district from south of the Jilong River Valley to north of the Qingtan River Valley, including Nangang and the area west of Fushi Mountain. The southeast peak, Cige Mountain, at 678 meters, is the highest; all the other mountain peaks are under 300 meters high. The better-known mountains are Muzhi Mountain, Dailaokeng Mountain, Jingmei Mountain and Toad Mountain; the terrain descends from east to west.

### (3) Basin District

Taipei is a formative basin; a fault surrounds the bottom of the basin, forming a distinctive border; the shape rather resembles an isosceles triangle. The tip of the triangle faces towards northwest, with the Danshui River flowing out of the basin from that opening. The bottom of the triangle extends from east-north-east towards west-south-west; the eastern tip connects to the Jilong River Valley, while the western tip conjoins the Dahan River Valley, and Xindian River Valley merges to the bottom in the center of the triangle. At the bottom of the basin, the Jilong River snakes forward freely, while the Dahan River and the Xindian River flow in an obvious reticular pattern. The above 3 rivers converge in the middle of the basin, then flow through the Guandu Notch and stream down into the Taiwan Strait at Danshui. The base of the basin is quite flat, and tilts in a northwesterly direction from the southeast. The basin plain, in which Taipei City is nestled, starts from the east bank of the Xindian River and Danshui River; it reaches the aforesaid volcanoes and the foot of the hill district. The whole area extends south from Jingmei, north to Guandu and east to Nangang. The contour of the foothill around the edge of the basin plain is relatively lumpy and ragged; in places it has the shape of a protruding peninsula or a concave inner harbor. Little island-shaped hills are not unusual, such as Qilian Hill and Jiantan Hill that wedge into the plain; Yuanshan, Zhishan Cliff, Gongguan Mountain on the other hand are all isolated hills. The river terrace formed

by ancient Taipei Lake still exists; in general the terrace faintly dips toward the center of the basin, which reveals the water level during the oceanic denudate.

### 3. Climate Overview

Deeply affected by the geography, the climate also shows obvious spatial variations, and at times the variations can be quite drastic. The temperature lowers as the altitude increases; the variations in winter are greater than in summer.

With data provided by the Central Weather Bureau from the Taipei Observation Station in 2006, the Taipei Plain serves as an example for this chapter; we compiled the information as shown below:

Annual accumulated rainfall: 2,288.4 millimeters

Most rainfall in a single day: 134 millimeters (2006/06/09)

Annual total rainy days: 167 days

Annual average temperature: 23.77°C

Highest temperature: 37.8°C (2006/08/30)

Lowest temperature: 8.8°C (2006/01/07)

Annual relative humidity: 76.1%

Taipei's weather is susceptible to latitude, altitude, terrain and monsoon factors; the climate in Taipei is generally warm in winters and hot in summers; it rains throughout the four seasons and is commonly warm and humid.

## Part 2 Taipei's History and Development

### 1. Ketagalan Inhabitation

Taipei City is situated in the center of the Taipei Basin in Northern Taiwan. According to geological studies, the Taipei Basin was a large swamp in ancient times; and after years of sedimentation, it gradually developed into a basin. In Yu Yonghe's "Great Sea Journal", the author states: "after entering Guanda Notch (namely Guandu Notch), it suddenly widened up into a boundless, infinitely large lake that stretched more than ten kilometers (Chinese km = 1/2 of western km) and surrounded by high mountains; the whole area covered more than a hundred kilometers, and there was a plain in the center." It was the Taipei Basin that Yu was referring to. The Taipei Basin before the Han Chinese settlement was the inhabitation of the aboriginal Ketagalan Tribe, who made a living by gathering, fishing, hunting, and shifting cultivation (slash and burn agriculture).

### 2. From Dutch/Spanish colonies back to China during the Ming Dynasty by Zheng Chenggong

Junk boats sailed along the coastlines of the Taiwan Strait in the 16th century, and there the boatmen engaged in trading and fishing in the Jilong and Danshui regions. In 1622, the Dutch invaded Dayuan (now Anping, Tainan); while in 1626, the Spanish occupied Jilong and Danshui, built fortresses there and commenced missionary and business activities. In 1661, Koxinga, the charismatic military leader, Zheng Cheng-gong, landed at Luer Gateway (Luermen), besieged Fort Zeelandia, expelled the Dutch and reclaimed Taiwan. In the following year, Zheng officially made

Taiwan his base and set up the Chengtian Government (Palace); Wannian and Tianxing counties were set up; Taipei was part of Tianxing County at the time. Zheng stationed the naval and army forces from Huangan Prefecture in Danshui, and later implemented a land development system. The troops were sent up along the Danshui River to plough the Guandu-Beitou areas. Even now, we can still see some historical sites in these places.

### 3. Development During the Qing Dynasty

In the 22nd year of the reign of Emperor Kangxi (1683) of the Qing dynasty, Taiwan was reclaimed as part of Qing territory. The following year, the Taiwan Government was established. Zhuluo, Taiwan and Fenshan counties came into being as administrative units; since then, immigrants from Fujian and Canton Provinces increased in large numbers. In Emperor Kangxi's 48th year (1709), after Chen Laizhang's development group petitioned for a license from the government to work in the Dajiala area (now Xinzhuang and Dalongdong), more and more Han Chinese moved up to Northern Taiwan. During the Qianlong period, starting with Potato Street (where the trading of potatoes between the Han people and the aborigines went on, hence the name) in Mengjia, where the Xindian and Danshui Rivers joined, Taipei began to develop into a political, military and business center. During Emperor Jiaqing's reign, the slogan "Tainan first, Lugang second, Mengjia third" indicated Mengjia to be the third largest harbor city in Taiwan. During Emperor Tongzhi's reign (1862-1874), Dadaocheng sprang up with a thriving tea trade; tea from Taipei became famous in the international market. In the 10th year of the reign of Emperor Guangxu (1884), Taipei's government was officially set up. In Guangxu's 13th year (1887), Taiwan was formally made into a province. The first governor was Liu Ming-chuang; during his tenure in Taipei, he modernized Taiwan, planned and built up Taipei City's infrastructure, including railways, streets and roads and schools. The Taipei Government Precinct was devised as the city's administrative district, while Dadaocheng was developed into a business district, and the current Guide Street area was planned as a foreigners' community. Such a city arrangement provided for a sound and modern foundation for Taipei City.



● Chen Laizhang development group's contract to develop Taipei



● Shifang Street within Taipei City during the Qing Dynasty (today's Hengyang Road)



● The Governor's Building of the Official Governor of Taiwan commissioned by the Qing Dynasty



● The first Taiwan Governor of Taiwan, Liu Ming-chuan

#### 4. The Japanese Colonial Period

In the 21st year of the reign of Emperor Guangxu, in 1895, Japan invaded Taiwan and set up the Taiwan Sotokufu (Governor-General House) in Taipei City. Between 1899 through 1901, or the 32nd and 34th years of the Meiji Period, the Japanese expanded the streets in Taipei City and improved drainage. In Meiji's 38th year, or 1905, they demolished the Taipei City walls built during the late Qing Dynasty, and built roads based on the old foundation, formed Mengjia, Chengnei and Dadaocheng into three districts and expanded the total area of the Taipei Administrative District. In 1920, or the 9th year of the reign of Emperor Dazheng, the Taipei State Governed City was established; its administrative district extended beyond the aforementioned 3 districts to include Daan, Zhonglun and Songshan in Taipei's eastern suburbs.

#### 5. Development after Taiwan's Retrocession

In 1945, Taiwan went back to a Chinese government, and was defined as a province-governed city. In October of the same year, the Japanese Municipal Office was abolished, and the city government was then launched, with 10 administrative districts in place. In the administrative hierarchy, borough is placed under district, and neighborhood is under borough. In 1949, the central government relocated to Taiwan; and in 1950, local autonomy was implemented on the county and city levels. For the first time Taipei city elected its city councilmen; the city council was founded and set the groundwork for democracy. On December 31st, 1966, in light of the fact that it had already served as the temporary wartime capital, and had developed into the major hub of politics, military, culture and economy for Taiwan, in July 1967, the president officially declared Taipei as the Executive-Yuan-governed municipality. A year later, on July 1st, 1968, Jingmei, Muzha, Nangang, Neihu, Shilin and Beitou, six suburbs were subsumed into Taipei City. At that time, Taipei had sixteen administrative districts.

On March 12th, 1990, readjustments were made to Taipei's administrative districts; twelve districts were set up, namely, Datong, Zhongzheng, Wanhua, Zhongshan, Shilin, Beitou, Songshan, Nangang, Neihu, Xinyi, Daan, Wenshan, which remain in effect up to the present.



● The Three-Line Road — also the current Zhongxiao West Road by the Taipei Main Station in the 1930's



● Taipei Municipal Office of the Japanese Colonial Period (today's Executive Yuan)

## The Origin of the Name — “Taipei”

The name “Taipei” was first mentioned during the end of the reign of Emperor Kangxi and the beginning years of Emperor Yongzheng. Lan Dingyuan’s Zhuqianpu Journal includes the following statement: “Zhuqianpu stretched out for hundreds of kilometers, no one was seen in the course of a day’s travel. Barbarians haunted this place, and travelers were fearful when passing through the region. However, a fortress was built along the path of freshwater; the land was flat and extremely fertile; should it be ploughed, there would be thousands of hectares of productive fields. ‘Taipei’ would be greatly beneficial to people.” The ‘Taipei’ referred to meant the area north of Zhuqian located in Northern Taiwan.

In 1857, the imperial envoy governor, Shen Baozhen, established the Taipei Government in Mengjia (a general term used for Taipei’s main municipality at the time), and set up the ‘Taipei Yamen-Government Office’ (located in the current Zhongzheng District); Taipei has been an administrative district since then. In 1884, in the 10th year of the reign of Emperor Guangxu, construction of the Taipei Fortress was completed. The so-called ‘Taipei City’ belonged to Danshui County according to the administrative division of the time; Mengjia, Dadaocheng and Chengnei are generally called the Three-City Street; its county jurisdiction is the present Zhongzheng District.

During the Japanese Colonial Period, Sotokufu (the Governor-General’s House) announced municipal organization for Taiwan. In 1920, based on the organizational statute, Taipei State Governed City and Taipei Municipal Office were founded. The name of “Taipei City” thus officially came into being.



●The North Gate during the Qing Dynasty — the only first-class protected historic site whose original lookappearance maintains intact



●The Minor South Gate in Taipei during the Qing Dynasty



●The West Gate being torn down

## Part 3 Demographic Makeup

1945 marked the Taiwan Retrocession, and in the following year, a national census was conducted. The population then was 271,754. In 1968, Neihu, Nangang, Muzha, Jingmei, Shilin and Beitou, six suburbs were subsumed into Taipei City. The population at the end of that year was 1,604,543. By yearend 2006, the population reached 2,632,242 (males 1,282,691; females 1,349,551); compared with 2005, the total population increased by 15,867 (males increased by 3,178; females increased by 12,689).

### 1. Demographic Distributions

Taipei's population is distributed amongst Songshan, Xinyi, Daan, Zhongshan, Zhongzheng, Datong, Wanhua, Wenshan, Nangang, Neihu, Shilin, and Beitou — a total of 12 Districts. Due to the varied topography, economic development and time of development, the population is unevenly distributed. Taipei's population is mostly concentrated in the Daan, Shilin, Neihu, and Wenshan districts.

#### (1) Population Density

By yearend 2006, the population density was 9,684 people per square kilometer. According to the administrative division, Daan District has the highest population density of 27,652 people per square kilometer, whereas Beitou district has the sparsest.

#### (2) Births and Deaths

The crude birth rate in 2006 was 8.06‰, an increase of 0.06‰ over the previous year; the crude death rate was 5.34‰, or 0.2‰ lower than the previous year. Social environment and economic development have affected people's willingness to have children. The increasingly flagging birth rate leads to an aging future population and a labor shortage. In the most recent decade, the elderly population has continued to grow; to avert the problems of an aging population and improve the birthrate so as to encourage reasonable population growth is an issue that Taipei currently faces.

### 2. Composition of the Population

The age composition of the population vitally affects the social economy; it indicates the patterns of required labor resources, population development trends and the direction of welfare.

#### (1) Age Distributions

Generally speaking, the more people with working ability, the lower the dependency ratio; the larger the labor force engaged in productive activities, the greater the benefits towards economic advancement. As of yearend 2006, the younger population (between the ages of 0-14) was 434,361, the working adult population (between the ages

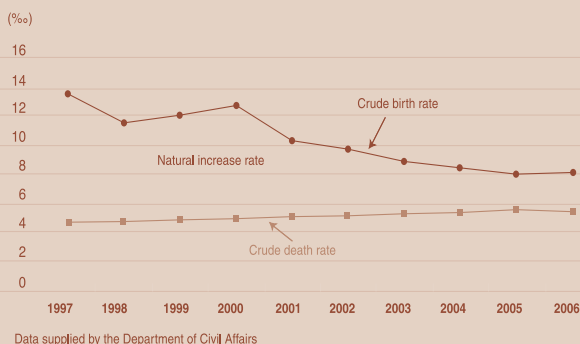


Figure 1: Growth Rate Population of City in the Recent Decade

of 15-64) was 1,891,448, while the elderly population (above 65) was 306,433; the dependency ratio was 39.17%, which was 0.5% lower than the previous year.

## (2) Marital Status

In 2006, the number of married couples was 16,930, with the crude marriage rate was 6.45 ‰; the number of divorced couples was 6,930, and the crude divorce rate was 2.64 ‰; compared to the previous year, the crude marriage rate increased by 0.6 ‰, while the crude divorce rate decreased by 0.12 ‰.

Table 1: The Age Composition of the Population for Taipei infor the Most Recent 10 years

Year	Population between the ages of 0-14	Population between the ages of 15-64	Population with the age above the age of 65
1997	20.81	70.14	9.05
1998	20.30	70.48	9.22
1999	19.93	70.63	9.44
2000	19.64	70.69	9.67
2001	19.27	70.79	9.94
2002	18.77	70.97	10.25
2003	18.19	71.23	10.58
2004	17.71	71.37	10.92
2005	17.11	71.60	11.29
2006	16.50	71.86	11.64

Data supplied by the Department of Civil Affairs Unit: %

## Population Correlation Rate

**Crude marriage rate:** within a particular time-frame, the percentage of married couples against the total population over the same period.

**Crude divorce rate:** within a particular timeframe, the percentage of divorced couples against the total population in the same period.

**Crude birth rate:** the successful birth number against every one thousand of the total population in the same year.

**Crude death rate:** the death number against the total population number in the same year, namely, the death number of every one thousand people.

**Dependency ratio:** a simple estimation of dependants against working age population.

## (3) Education Level

In the first stage of education reform in 1968, a census was conducted for people above 6 years of age; out of the entire Taipei population, only 8.31% had received a tertiary education. Due to the implementation of the 9-year Compulsory Civilian Education System, the education level generally improved. After the Census Registration Law was modified in 1997, the basis of education level was amended to the population above the age of 15. By the end of 2006, 41.13% of the population above 15 years of age had received a tertiary education or above. In general, the literacy rate was 98.88%.

## (4) Ethnic Distributions

Taipei City consists of 4 major ethnic groups: aborigines, Minnans (south of Hokkien Province, China), Hakkas, and residents from other Chinese provinces. Only aborigines are specifically marked on registration for households; there are no special distinctions for Minnan, Hakka or people from other provinces. However, the majority of Taipei's population constitutes people from Minnan and other provinces.

In recent decades, a significant number of Hakkas have progressively relocated to the Taipei region; while there are no specific Hakka communities, they mostly inhabit apartment complexes south of the Songshan Airport, Sanzhangli, Liuzhangli, Wufenpu, Hejiang Street and Wuchang Street.

There are currently 12 aboriginal tribes: Amis Tribe, Atayal Tribe, Paiwan Tribe, Bunun Tribe, Rukai Tribe, Puyuma Tribe, Tsou Tribe, Saisiat Tribe, Yami Tribe, Thao Tribe, Kuvalan Tribe and Taroko Tribe. In 2006, the aboriginal population in Taipei City numbered 12,059. Amongst the tribes, Amis Tribe has the most people, while Thao and Kuvalan have the smallest number of residents. Aborigines are concentrated in Neihu District, Wenshan District, and Nangang District.



● National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall

#### (5) New Immigrants and Foreigners

Due to economic advancement and a comprehensive transportation system, a growing number of major international conferences and exhibitions are regularly being organized in Taipei, which provides a big incentive for people from overseas to come to Taipei to study, engage in research, trade and set up residence in the city. At the end of 2006, there were 54,826 foreigners, marking a drop of 823 people compared to the previous year; of this number the majority are from Indonesia, at 15,711, followed by the Philippines at 8,580, and Vietnam at 8,532.

In addition, marriages between residents and Mainland Chinese or foreigners have also been increasing. At the end of 2006, 29,003 of local Taipei's residents married recent immigrants; amongst them, the majority of people were spouses from Mainland China, with a figure of 26,341; this group was followed by Vietnamese spouses at 1,188 and Indonesian spouses, with a total of 356.

## Part 4 Political Systems and Administration

In accordance with the laws of the Republic of China, Taipei City implemented its own autonomy system. Except for the judicature, defense and diplomacy, the city has a rather high degree of autonomy; the city belongs to the Executive-Yuan, and is one of the two Executive-Yuan governed municipalities in Taiwan. It now serves as the hub of the politics, economy and culture of the Republic of China; it is also the capital of Democratic China and the most prosperous region; businesses and industries are well developed with full economic, cultural, transportation and administration facilities. In 2006, Taipei was honored with the Intelligent Community Awards 2006, and recognized as the World's Largest Wi-Fi Network City.

### 1. History of the Administrative System

Since the Japanese Colonial Period and after the R.O.C. Government moved to Taiwan, Taipei City has always been Taiwan's center of politics, the economy and culture. In 1945, after Taiwan's Retrocession, Taipei City had a 'city council directly under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government. In light of the increasing importance of Taipei City, in 1967, the status of Taipei was changed to 'Executive-Yuan-governed municipality,' and it remains so today.

#### (1) The Period of the City Council Directly under the Jurisdiction of the Provincial Government

After Taiwan's Retrocession in 1945, Taipei was governed by a 'city council directly under

the Jurisdiction of the Provincial Government’, the regime served as an ‘administrative body’, the city government was established and the head of the city was assigned by the central government. In 1946, the legislative agency of the ‘Joint City Council’ was re-established; it was formed with members of the joint city council elected by representatives of the residents. The city was divided into ten ‘districts’, each district was a distinct legal entity; district councils and associations of representatives were set up; residents from each borough elected district representatives, and the head of all tendistricts was voted by all district representatives. Local home-rule was implemented in 1950, the city government and city council were set up for Taipei City as administrative and legislative agencies. Each district no longer maintained a status as a “legal entity”; a district council was set up with no district representatives in place. District councils had become subsidiary agencies for the city government.

## (2) Era of the Executive-Yuan-Governed Municipality

In 1967, Taipei was transformed into an Executive-Yuan-governed municipality. The following year, 6 neighboring towns in Taipei County were subsumed into Taipei City; the number of administrative districts increased from 10 to 16. After the transformation, Taipei City became an administrative body; a city council and city government were set up under this administrative body, with members of the city council elected directly by citizens. Only the head of the city government (the mayor) continued to be appointed by the central government, instead of being elected by city residents. In 1990, for the convenience of management and resource distribution, the 16 districts in the city were reapportioned into 12. The system itself, however, was not changed. Until 1994, after the setup of the “Self-Governance Act for the Executive-Yuan-governed Municipality”, the city became a legal entity, and the mayor was elected by city residents; thus, Taipei had regained its local self-governing status. Though the law may have changed to some extent, Taipei City still retains its self-governing status as a legal entity and enjoys self-ruling authority to an immense degree.

According to the current Local Government Systems Act, the administration is divided into districts; for further management, the districts are divided into boroughs, and boroughs are divided into neighborhoods. From 1973 to the present, there have been 5 borough/neighborhood realignments; the most recent one was conducted in September 2002. At the end of 2006, there were 449 boroughs, and 9,477 neighborhoods.

## 2. Current Taipei City Organization and Responsibilities

The ‘Local Government Systems Act’ is the legal basis for Taipei City’s organization; Taipei City is considered a legal entity: the government is the supreme government, and there is no secondary government. The administrative agency, i.e., the Taipei City Government, and the legislative agency, i.e., the Taipei City Council, are each separately in charge of policy execution and decision-making. What follows is an elaboration of the rights and duties of the citizens of Taipei, the organizational structure/responsibilities of the Taipei City Government, the organizational structure/responsibilities of the Taipei City Council, and the correlations between the two agencies:

### (1) The Rights and Duties of the Citizens of Taipei

#### A. The rights of citizens are:

- a. Legitimate right of election and recall of locally elected public servants.
- b. Legitimate right of exercising initiatives and referenda in regard to self-governing issues.
- c. Legitimate right of utilizing local public facilities.

- d. Legitimate right to enjoy the benefits of local education, social welfare and health care.
  - e. Legitimate right of requesting access to local government information.
  - f. Rights endowed by other laws and the self-governing law.
- B. The duties of citizens are:
- a. Fulfilling the duty of honoring the self-governing law
  - b. Fulfilling the duty of paying self-governing related taxes.
  - c. Fulfilling other duties classified by other laws and the self-governing law.

(2) The Organization of the Taipei City Government

The administrative agency in charge of Taipei City, is the Taipei City Government; the city is headed by a chief, namely the mayor; the mayor represents Taipei City, supervises governmental

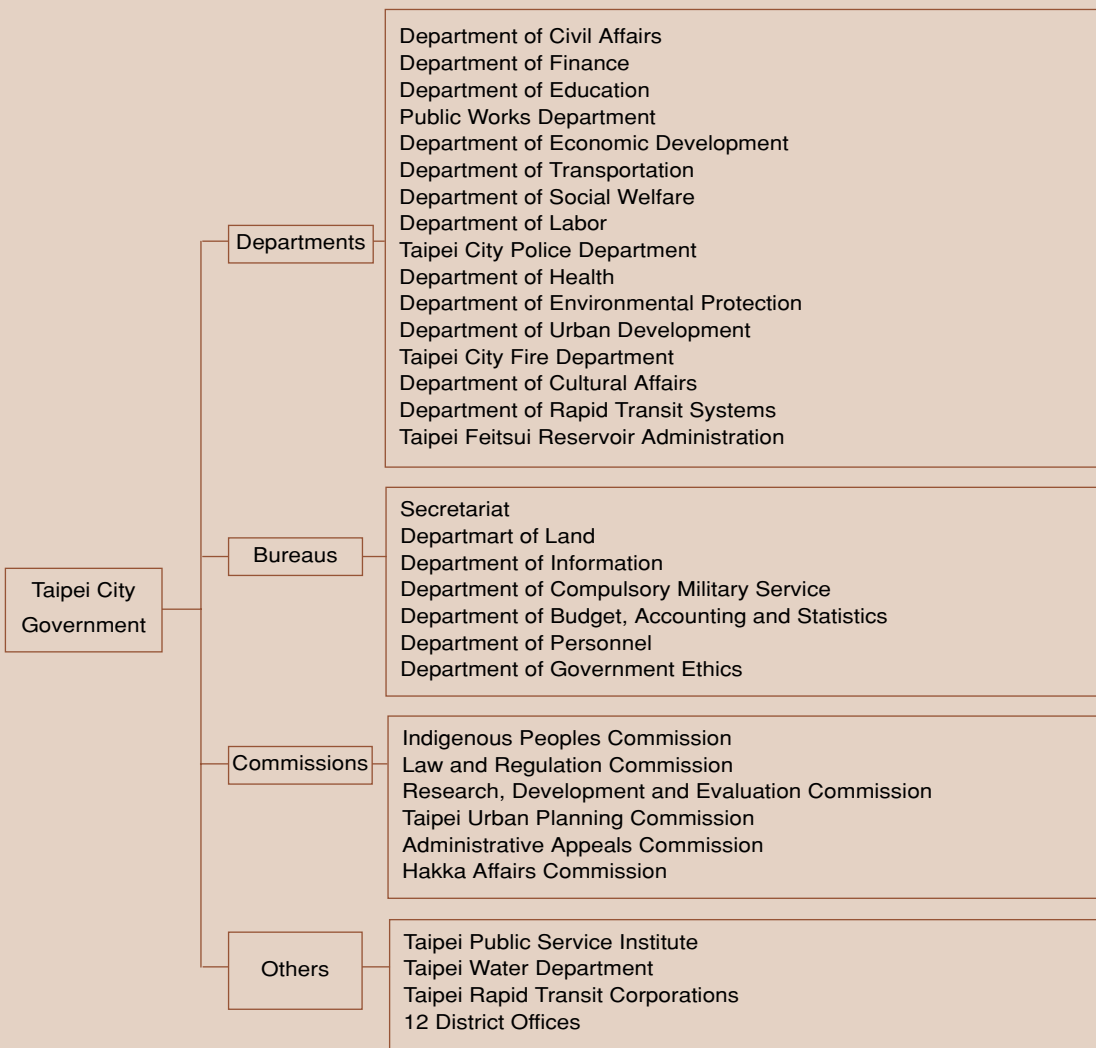


Figure 2: The Organization Chart of the Taipei City Government

tasks and is by law elected by Taipei citizens (the 3rd mayor elected by the citizens was Mayor Ma Ying-jeou, elected in 2002; on December 25th, 2006, Hau Lung-bin was elected the 4th Taipei mayor). The term of office of each mayor is 4 years, and an incumbent mayor may be re-elected for one additional term; there are two deputy mayors in place, they assist the mayor with all tasks and leave office with the mayor at the same time. A secretary-general is also in place under the command of the mayor and assists with governmental tasks. Under the government, there are a total of thirty-two level-1 bureaus, offices and commissions; each is in charge of civil affairs, finance, education, social welfare, construction, public works, police administration, fire, transportation, health, environment protection, urban development, compulsory military service, land administration, etc. Twelve districts are in place to handle complicated civil tasks; each district has its own district council, which is in charge of local tasks such as civil affairs, social affairs, military service, construction, economic development, and health insurance etc.

### (3) Duties and Operational Models of the Taipei City Government

As a legal entity, Taipei City is a local autonomous organization; it handles thirteen categories of self-ruling tasks: organizational and administrative/managerial-related tasks, financial affairs, social service items, educational/cultural and sports tasks, labor administrative affairs, urban planning and construction affairs, economic service affairs, health and environmental protection affairs, water affairs, transportation and tourism tasks, public security affairs, business operational and managerial tasks and other law endowed affairs.

In order to implement its duties, a ‘City Affairs Forum’ has been established comprised of the mayor, the deputy mayors, the secretary-general, the deputy secretary-general, the head of each supreme department, bureau, and commission; it is convened and chaired by the mayor. In the forum, the following issues are discussed and resolved:

- A. Taipei City Government proposes policy implementation projects, budget and fiscal year report.
- B. Taipei City Government addresses motions and reports from Taipei City Council.
- C. Autonomous ordinances related to Taipei City Government and its affiliated business organizations.
- D. Implementation of affiliated organizations’ policies and task assignments.
- E. Taipei City Self-Governance Act.
- F. Correlated issues between Taipei City Government and other organizations.
- G. Tasks assigned by the Mayor of Taipei City.
- H. Other important issues related to Taipei City Government.

Moreover, in order to implement the tasks effectively, the Taipei City Government is allowed to delegate tasks to its immediate subordinate agencies, unaffiliated organizations, civilian associations or individuals, depending on factual requirements.

Even though the city affair forums are supposed to be conducted in a collegiate form, as the head of the city, the mayor is the only person responsible for all outcomes; therefore, forums are rarely carried out in a collegiate manner, as only the mayor makes the ultimate decisions. Hence, the city council is an advisory body for the mayor to collect ideas and gain a consensus; it is by no means an executive body; the executive bodies are the supreme agencies and the twelve district councils of the city government.

### (4) Limitations on Exercising Authority of the Taipei City Government

Taipei City is a self-governing body; however, as one of the local self-governing units, it is by

no means independent of the Central Government. Therefore, in addition to autonomous tasks, the City Government also needs to execute missions mandated by the Central Government. In a similar vein, its autonomy is authorized by national legislation; it is not as independent as a state in a federal union. Therefore, should any tasks carried out by the Taipei City Government violate the constitution or other laws, the Central Government has the right to revoke, alter, repeal or terminate its implementation.

Should any delegated tasks violate the constitution or other laws, the Central Government also has the right to revoke, alter, repeal or terminate its implementation. The application of constitutional interpretation by the Supreme Court Justice is allowed to determine whether a self-governed task violates the constitution, other laws and Central legislative policies; nonetheless, before any constitutional interpretation is made, the Central Government is not permitted to revoke, alter, repeal or terminate its implementation. It goes without saying that the City Government's duties are supervised by the City Council.

#### (5) The Organization of the Taipei City Council

The Taipei City Council is comprised of members of the city council, who are directly elected by citizens. Elections are held simultaneously in divisions within the 12 Districts and 6 constituencies; 51 divisional members of city council are elected; and in order to protect aborigines' rights, one aboriginal member is elected.

On the Taipei City Council, one speaker is in place (the 9th council speaker is Ms. Wu Bi-chu, she was re-elected on December 25th, 2006 as the 10th council speaker), elected by all members of the city council; the speaker represents the city council. One deputy speaker is also elected; one chief secretary and one deputy chief secretary are also in place. The chief secretary is under the command of the speaker, handles council tasks and supervises staff; the deputy chief secretary assists the chief secretary in all council tasks. Units and offices have been set up for various duties.

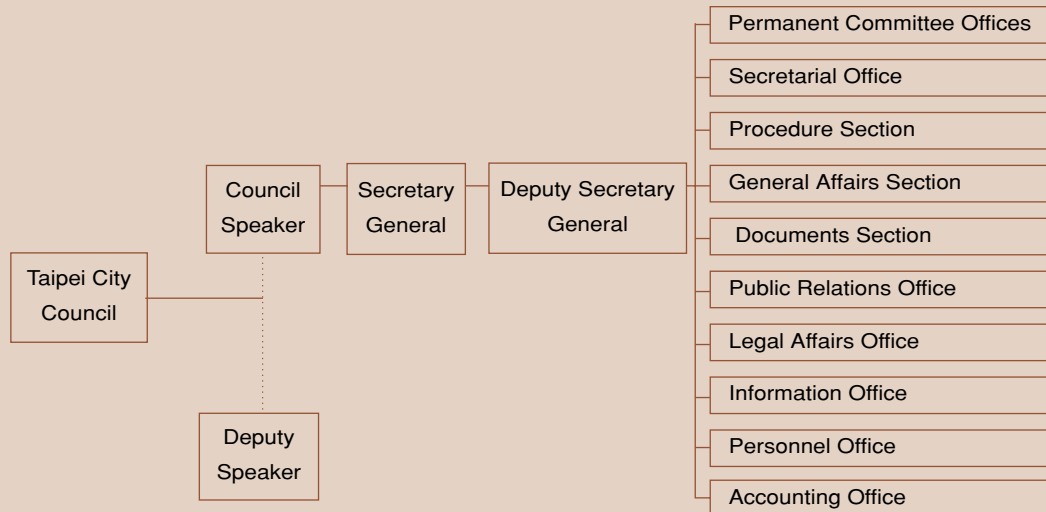


Figure 3: The Organizational Chart of the Taipei City Council

## (6) Duties and Operational Models of the Council

As a collegiate organization, all members of the Taipei City Council are entitled to the same rights and duties. Their duties are as follows:

- A. Adopting legislative policies for Taipei City.
- B. Working out a budget for Taipei City.
- C. Deciding special taxes, temporary taxes and additional taxes.
- D. Deciding how to handle assets for Taipei City.
- E. Settling autonomous policies for the Taipei City Government and its affiliated organizations.
- F. Providing resolutions to issues raised by the Taipei City Government.
- G. Deliberating the fiscal year report for Taipei City.
- H. Providing resolutions to issues raised by members of the Taipei City Council.
- I. Accepting petitions submitted by Taipei citizens.
- J. Other duties as prescribed by law.

The Taipei City Council holds meetings in a collegiate form; decisions are made through legal protocols based on a majority vote. For ensure smooth operations, the ‘procedural committee’ is in place to examine and approve agendas and other procedural issues. For professionalism and efficiency, the following seven commissions are in place: The Civil Affairs Commission, Finance and Construction Commission, Education Commission, Transportation Commission, Police and Health Commission, Public Works Commission, and the Law and Regulation Commission. They discuss relevant motions and send approved cases to the council meetings for vote. In addition, a ‘Disciplinary Committee’ is set up to handle punitive cases against members of the City Council; depending on the severity, disciplinary actions are taken in the following manners: verbal apology, written apology, reprimand and suspension of meeting attendance.

The following are the ways in which individual city council members exercises their specific types of authority:

- A. Authority for attending meetings and examining proposals (in all committees and meetings).
- B. Authority for interpellation, namely, during council meetings, the council members can invite the mayor and heads of supreme government agencies to stand for questioning.
- C. Authority for proposals: proposals must be brought up under a quorate agreement.
- D. Report hearing: listening to policy reports and projects.
- E. Speech immunity: members are not liable to the public for speeches and decisions made against council-related issues; such immunity however is not limited to speeches made against issues unrelated to council meetings.
- F. Identity protection, except for flagrante delicto, wanted criminals, during meetings, without the City Council’s permission, arrests or imprisonment of council members is not permitted.

The above rights are in place so that council members are able to fulfill their duties.

## (7) Limitations on Exercising Authority for the City Council and Its Members

The exercises of specific types of authority for the City Council and its members are not without limits; they are bounded by the following principles:

- A. When a self-governed decision made by the council violates the constitution or other laws, the decision is deemed invalid; the application of constitutional interpretation is allowed.
- B. Delegated issues that violate the constitution, other laws and central legislative policies are deemed invalid.
- C. Any decisions made for budgetary bills should not be in favor of an expenditure upsurge.

D. Interest avoidance: council members should avoid conflict of interests; they should not engage in examining and voting for proposals that benefit personal interests.

#### (8) Correlation and Operation between the City Government and the City Council

The correlations between the City Government and the City Council are legislated by law and system policies; in sum, the correlations are as follows:

- A. Supervising and being supervised: through examination and discussion, the City Council represents citizens to listen to the City Government's policy plans, budget and important policy implementation reports (2 administrative reports were raised in 2005); the City Council also supervises the questioning of city government officials.
- B. Checks and balances: the City Council limits the expansion of administrative authorities by legislation; the City Government on the other hand exercises its right of revocability to prevent the City Council from developing difficult legislation and decisions.
- C. Cooperation: the City Government sets up policies and designs administrative legislations as the foundation for deploying policies; the City Council represents the citizenry, it takes the welfare and needs of citizens into consideration, and deliberately examines and discusses proposals raised by the City Government (18 bills were passed in the 2006 fiscal year).

#### (9) The Operations of the Taipei City Government and the Taipei City Council

The operations of the Taipei City Government and the Taipei City Council are through the aforementioned legal protocols, such as: official policy implementation reports, project reports (4 project reports were submitted in the 2006 fiscal year), proposal examination, interpellation, coordination, hearings and reviews. In order to further improve efficiency, to better coordinate and to minimize divergences, measures adopted include:

- A. Unofficial contact between the head of each city government's agency and members of the City Council.
- B. Coordination made through political parties (the ruling party).
- C. Coordination made through political party meetings.
- D. Integrated coordination by the supreme government (the Central Government).

The above comprise the political system, its internal correlations and operations; the system is designed so as to protect the rights of citizens, manage the limitless expansion on administrative and legislative authority, and combine both types of authority to pursue the ultimate welfare for all the citizenry.

Since its establishment 122 years ago, Taipei City has experienced a myriad of political and historic evolutions; first it transformed itself from a traditional agricultural society to a large town of great political and economic importance, and eventually to the most prosperous region in the Republic of China. Through several eras of continuous change, the development of Taipei City thrived and grew to become a solid political foundation after centuries of history. At present Taipei has a legal entity status, and it enjoys enormous autonomy; the society is multi-faceted, all ethnic groups are integrated peacefully, humanity is profuse and the economy is highly developed. Through the rapid advancement of the society, the demography in Taipei has changed greatly; it has gradually phased into an aging society, similar to other developed countries. Taipei City boasts excellent humanity, history and environment; it will definitely become a beautiful, sparkling crown jewel on the East Asian Sea in the foreseeable future.

## Administrative Development

The Intelligent Community Awards is an honor mandated by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) of the World Teleport Association (WTA); Taipei was given the Intelligent Community Award, 2006.

The World's Largest Wi-Fi Network City is recognized by Ji Wire: the leading mobile broadband advertising network, delivering premium, location-driven advertising on Wi-Fi and WiMAX networks. JiWire enables the mobile broadband.

10 Administrative Districts: Songshan, Zhongshan, Daan, Guting, Chengzhong, Jiancheng, Yanping, Datong, Longshan and Shuangyuan

6 Townships and Villages: Shilin, Beitou, Neihu, Nangang, Jingmei and Muzha

16 Administrative Districts: Songshan, Zhongshan, Da-an, Guting, Chengzhong, Jiancheng, Yanping, Datong, Longshan, Shuangyuan, Shilin, Beitou, Neihu, Nangang, Jingmei and Muzha.

12 Administrative Districts: In 1990, adjustment was made to Taipei's administrative districts: Songshan, Xinyi, Daan, Zhongshan, Zhongzheng, Datong, Wanhua, Wenshan, Nangang, Neihu, Shilin and Beitou.

449 boroughs, 9477 neighborhoods: Songshan: 33 boroughs, 756 neighborhoods. Xinyi: 41 boroughs, 914 neighborhoods. Daan: 53 boroughs, 1027 neighborhoods. Zhongshan: 42 boroughs, 864 neighborhoods. Zhongzheng: 31 boroughs, 584 neighborhoods. Datong: 25 boroughs, 516 neighborhoods. Wanhua: 36 boroughs, 722 neighborhoods. Wenshan: 39 boroughs, 995 neighborhoods. Nangang: 19 boroughs, 432 neighborhoods. Neihu: 37 boroughs, 862 neighborhoods. Shilin: 51 boroughs, 985 neighborhoods. Beitou: 42 boroughs, 820 neighborhoods.

6 Election Divisions: First election division: Shilin & Beitou. Second election division: Neihu & Nangang. Third election division: Songshan & Xinyi. Fourth election division: Zhongshan, Datong. Fifth election division: Zhongzheng & Wanhua. Sixth election division: Da-an & Wenshan.

2 policy administrative reports: they were raised on April 7th and July 29th in the 7th and 8th periodic meetings, respectively during the ninth session of the Taipei City Council Conference. The past six-month results and the future six-month plan were questioned in the council accompanied by the mayor together with all heads of other organizations.

18 Bills Resolved: In 2006, Taipei City Government sent 17 legislative proposals to the City Council; for the year as a whole, 14 proposals were approved through a three-stage reading protocol; 3 were returned to the City Government. 3 bills were approved over 2003; 2 were approved in 2004; 8 were approved in 2005, and 1 was approved in 2006.

The 4 project reports were:

- (1) April 12th, 2006: Mayor Ma Ying-jeou visited Europe and the U.S to court investors and discuss issues related to metropolitan exchange activities.
- (2) May 15th, 2006: Deputy mayors Jin Fucong and Chen Yuzhang convened a meeting with the project task force to discuss policy implementation progress.
- (3) August 25th, 2006: A review meeting on the planning of Taipei's MRT network, and construction progress.
- (4) September 4th, 2006: Jin and Chen convened another meeting with the project task force to discuss policy implementation progress.