

A Study on Experiments and Evaluations of Electronic Communication Systems as Citizen participation in community planning system and consensus decision-making support system

Ch. Hirotaka Suzuki : Assistant Professor, Graphic Science, Applied Mathematics, Fac. of Engineering, Osaka City University.

Mem. Takashi Kobayashi : Research Fellow, Keio Univ. Research Institute at SFC

Mem. Ayako Takahashi : Research Fellow, Keio Univ. Research Institute at SFC

[Synopsis]

The use of the electronic communication systems has spread in community planning and community consensus decision-making. We have explored the method of offering planning information on the Keio University at Shonan Fujisawa campus. We conducted the citizen participating experiment by the E-mail or the electronic conference room as methods of communication. The studies have clarified the availability of the Internet to community planning.

The result shows that the system, which supports the cognition to the plan information by citizens with little knowledge about city planning, is required in the participation using electronic media, such as the Internet. It showed that it was necessary to develop a policy reflection system that comes in the opinion obtained from the participants. And finally the system should be built as a system for checking agreement among the citizens.

This research is a joint research project with the environmental planning technology of Osaka City University and the environment information technology of Keio University. This research makes use of the electronic communication system in Yamato city, Kanagawa, Japan. The electronic communication system has the functions, which various electronic files required in order to recognize city space. And it has an information arrangement function, a voting function, etc. for supporting consensus decision-making in citizen participation process.

The result of our study clarifies consciousness of the citizen who participates in the electronic conference room, and collecting city information. The effects of this research are as follows. 1) To clarify participating action of the citizen who approaches the system 2) To evaluate the possibility of the agreement formation support by this system 3) To illustrate the subject of the electronic communication system management.