

LivCom Awards

Whole City Awards/Class A Community (Population below 20,000)

Riverside Pearl's Rebirth in Water – Limen Village-ZhongZheng Community

Abstract

ZhongZheng Community of Limen Village is at the center of Xizhi District, New Taipei City, Taiwan, with a population of 1,129. Situated near Keelung River, it is the first developed commercial hub of Xizhi District. When water transport was flourishing, the Keelung River brought wealth to many Xizhi residents and left rich historical cultural heritage.



In recent years the community has been hit by numerous typhoons and floods and the community and its cultural heritage have become a muddy mess. However, these trials put the community members together to work for the community and instilled in them the notion of ‘Do not cry for me for I shall stand again!’ A series of rebuilding and reorganizing work have been planned. The community environment has been improved as disaster-prone vulnerable areas have been reshaped in a variety of ways to make them tougher living environments. Community members offer themselves as volunteers to make our beautiful environment greener on a long term basis and also plan for the diverse development of our community to make it more livable.

- **Nature and Cultural Scenery Improvement**

Renovate the important but flood-hit harbor and riverside avenues. Make them greener and set up canopy along riverside avenues to build a beautiful ‘green corridor’, a backyard garden for the community. Improve community environment scenery. Sustain an eco-friendly environment with diverse species. Build an eco-park and a humanistic community, a livable community.

- **Artistic and Cultural Heritage**

In order to preserve our unique township cultural recollection, the community

members actively retrace our history through art pieces such as ‘time scroll’ and ‘water-back-leg totem’ to inform the next generation of the inner forces of our neighborhood and leave impressions.

Work on cultivating future cultural advocates. Start ‘Plain Painters Club’ and give free lessons to illiterate and untrained elderly to paint based on their memories and in a way record their lives. Paintings will be collected, printed and published.

- **Best experience in practicing environmental protection**

Through the participation of the dwellers, the community has implemented many innovative eco-measures such as the ‘neighborhood little forest’ which revitalized the ecology and is assigned to be taken care of by a particular body. This beautifies and provides the community members and visitors with a comfortable and lively environment.

ZhongZheng Community is the ‘low carbon promotion center’ of Xizhi District and has been actively promoting ‘little eco-classes’ to spread eco-knowledge and ways to reduce carbon emission and save energy. The volunteers share experiences in eco-rehabilitation and maintenance. Eco volunteers also help out in recycling on a weekly basis to turn trash into gold, and contribute their part in the sustainability of the community environment and the Earth.

- **Community participation and assignation of power**

Use full association organization to participate in community building and welfare involving. Cooperate with village office and government policy and conduct task meetings with community volunteers, discuss with experts on solving community problems and maintain the community with group force.

Community member participate in community building, community hygiene, eco protection and other volunteer activities. Participate actively in national and regional environmental protection, beautification/green community evaluations and has obtained many awards, including ‘national model community’ three times in a row.

- **Healthy lifestyle**

The community encourages its members to plant organic crops and provides a variety of courses so that members could jointly contribute to the community, thereby creating desirable livelihood and reaching the goal of a livable community.

- **Setting Strategies**

In the future we will continue to work on and set plans for our community on a long-term, holistic basis. We will gather everyone’s strength to achieve the goal of a low carbon, sustainable community.