



**Reconsideration of urban  
design from a perspective of  
coordinative mechanism in  
local administration:  
A case study of Yokohama's  
urban design section**

Atsuhiko AOKI and Toshio TAGUCHI



## Beginning of Yokohama's Urban Design

# What is the Urban Design Office?

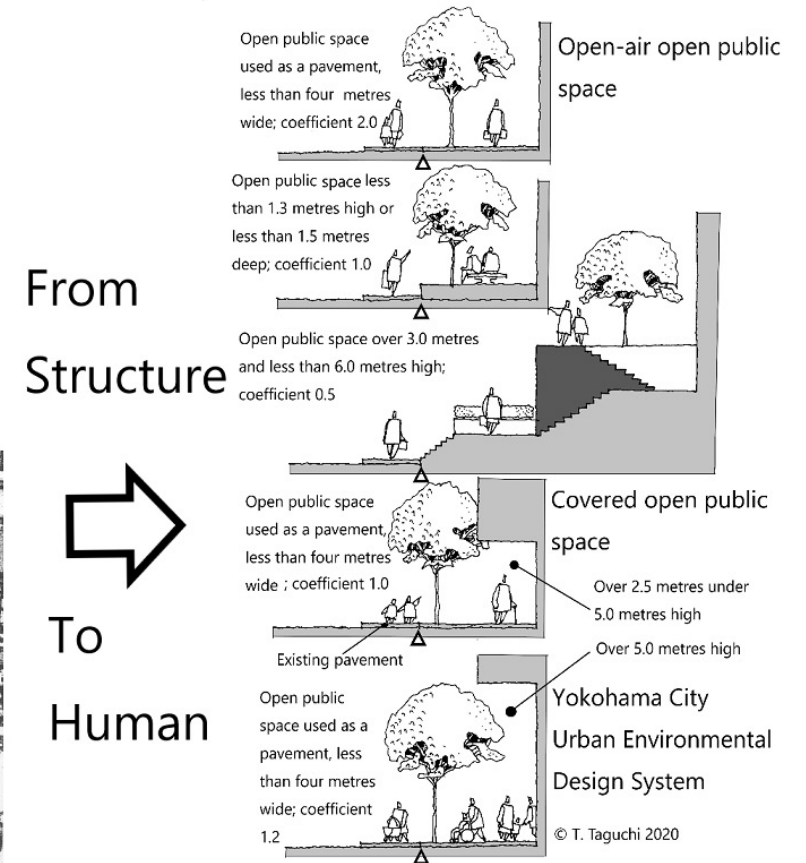
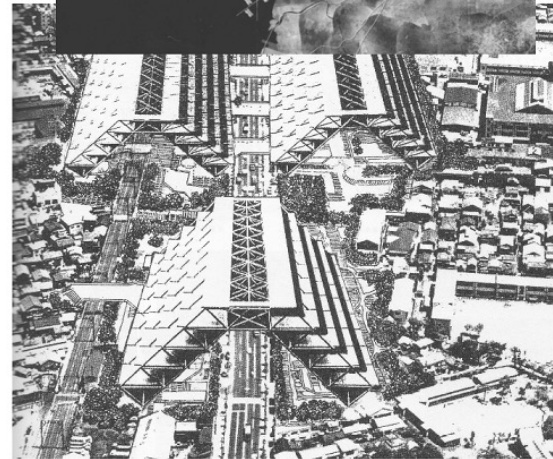
- Asukata Administration(1963-78) needed to resolve issues under high economic growth
  - Annual population expansion
  - Urban pollution
  - Motorization
- Cross-organisational coordination is necessary against a vertical divided system of public administration
- Urban design office(UDO) was set up in 1971 as part of the Planning and Coordination Office(PCO)



Akita Tamura(1926-2010)

# What is the Urban Design Office?

- In the 1960s, young people were hungry for “something new,” as was the case with the student movement
  - Shunsuke Iwasaki
  - Naoyuki Kuniyoshi
  - Toshi Taguchi
- Tamura Believed that urban design should be an integral part of PCO
  - PCO did not have fixed administrative duties
  - Staff members would use their expertise and experience to examine and respond to issues



Yokohama Style: Pedestrian Space

Kenzo Tange & Kiyonori Kikutake  
Metabolism Group: Super Structures



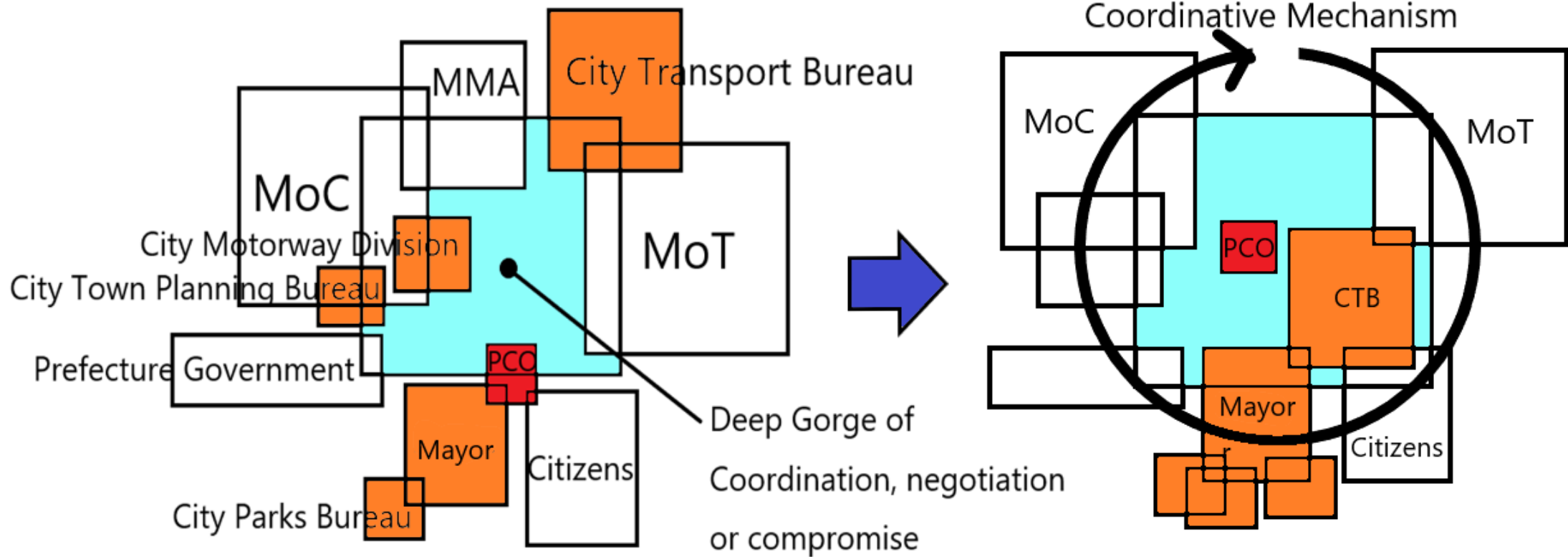
## How has the Urban Design Office changed?

- UDO was transferred to the City planning Bureau...that means?
- The secretariat of the Urban Beautification Council
- Conservation of historic landscapes(1980s)
  - Takeru Kitazawa
- Creative Experimental City movement
  - The Yokohama Design City Declaration(1988)
  - Barcelona and Yokohama City Creation(1990)
  - The Yokohama Urban Design Forum(1992)

But...The UDO could not encourage all actors to start a new movement



# Why Re-consideration of Urban Design?





**Akira Tamura Memorial  
A Town Planning Research Initiative NPO**

Thank you! Please get in touch!

- Atsuhiko AOKI  
a.aoki1021@gmail.com
- Toshio Taguchi  
taggame@jcom.home.ne.jp

<https://www.machi-initiative.com/>