

【My Appreciation for the Fruitful Year】

Hello, I'm Masao Omori, Mayor of Okayama.

2017, the year of the Rooster, has been fruitful as the city has showed the paths in various fields. For example, we formulated the former mid-term plan showing the concrete development of the new comprehensive plan, which will be the compass of municipal administration. Also, the Outline of Education was set focusing on improving academic ability and stopping and solving problematic behaviors. Furthermore, a pedestrian precinct along Nishigawa Canal Walk Avenue has become a regularly held event led by the private sector.

For myself, I was able to win the second term as Mayor of Okayama at the mayoral election in October this year thanks to the support of many citizens.

Citizens' trust in the form of more than 80 percent of the votes is perceived to be a certain evaluation for what I have done so far and an encouragement to further promote policies.

As I have been working hard for four years in the first term, it is absolutely grateful to hear citizens saying 'Okayama City is moving forward'. However, I am aware there are still some policies which have just begun to bud or have not yet come out. In coming four years, I need to have them bloom to show concrete results.

I wish all of you a healthy and happy new year, and look forward to your continued encouragement and support in 2018, which are vital to the further prosperity of Okayama City.