

Name: Yoshinobu Kanazawa

Place of Birth: Japan

Sex: Male

Nationality: Japanese

### **Education**

1989 Master of Civil Engineering, Tokyo University

1987 Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Tokyo University

### **Professional Qualification**

Consultant Engineer (Construction)

### **Professional Experience**

2011 General manager, Business Development Headquarters, JR-West

2009 Manager, Planning Section, Hiroshima Branch, JR-West

2007 Manager, Construction Department, JR-West

2004 Seconded Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism from JR-West

2001 Chief, Himeji Branch of Osaka Construction Office, JR-West

1996 Track and Structures department (Civil Engineering and Disaster Prevention), JR-West

1994 Civil Engineering Section in Construction Department, JR-West

1993 Seconded Kansai International Airport Corporation, JR-West

1989 Joined in the JR-West

Entering Work Section in Construction Department, JR-West

## Outline of the Announcement of Next Station 2013

### Theme: Development of Attractive Cities from Stations

Announced by: Business Development Headquarters, West Japan Railway Company

#### 1. Background

With the theme “symbiosis with local communities” set as part of our medium-term management plan, our company is making efforts to upgrade the value of each station and line from the viewpoint of local communities. In Japan, cities have historically evolved around stations. In recent years, however, central downtown areas are becoming hollowed out in some areas due to progress in motorization, urban sprawl in downtown areas, or other reasons. For these areas, compact city development centering on stations will be required in light of the progressive depopularization of society and environmental issues.

#### 2. Basic Procedures

Against this background, we are providing services to enrich people's lives by enhancing various urban functions at and around stations in cooperation with municipalities, business operators, and people in local communities. Specifically, we are making efforts to develop sustainable cities by grouping urban functions, such as medical and welfare facilities, commercial facilities, housing and child care facilities, and cultural and social interchange facilities, centering around stations as well as promoting the renovation and rebuilding of station buildings and squares, consecutive grade separation projects, establishment of new stations, and transportation infrastructure development such as areawide improvements around stations.

#### 3. Example Actions

##### (1) Enhancement of commercial facilities along with station building renovation (Okayama Station)

The station was rebuilt on a bridge and paths were created, which made it easier for people divided into the east and west sides to get around. Additionally, commercial facilities were established making use of the empty land created by the station building renovation. As a result, the station has become more lively.

##### (2) New potential created by the establishment of a new station (Sumakaihinkōen Station)

To coincide with the opening of the station, infrastructure such as shopping centers and housing facilities was enhanced on the sites of former company housing. Now, the station serves as the core of Suma city.

##### (3) Enrichment of commercial and social interchange facilities in a consecutive grade separation project (Himeji Station)

The consecutive grade separation project has eliminated the division of downtown areas and achieved smooth north-south traffic. With the rebuilding of the station building with consideration

taken for the view of Himeji Castle and development under the elevated structure, the station has been made more functional as a base of the central downtown area and facilities have been enhanced befitting a gateway to this tourist city.

- (4) Enhancement of commercial/medical facilities along with the rebuilding of the station building on a bridge (Nada Station)

The station was rebuilt on the bridge in conjunction with the building of paths to make the facilities more convenient and free of impediments. Additionally, upgrading of commercial and medical facilities has made the surrounding areas more attractive to people.