



XIII
INTERNATIONAL
WINTER ROAD
CONGRESS

QUÉBEC, FEBRUARY 8 TO 11, 2010



Québec 

SUSTAINABLE WINTER SERVICE FOR ROAD USERS

*ROAD HEATING USING HOT SPRING WATER
AS THE RENEWABLE HEAT SOURCE*

Hidenori Mogi

City of Sapporo, Japan

Chief, Snow Removal Planning Section,
Snow Management Office, Construction Bureau

Hidenori.mogi@city.sapporo.jp



OUTLINE

1. INTRODUCTION

2. LOCATION, CLIMATE AND SNOW REMOVAL OF SAPPORO

3. RENOVATION PROJECT IN THE JOZANKEI DISTRICT

4. NEW DIRECTIONS FOR ROAD HEATHING

5. CONCLUSION

Osaka

Nagoya

ABOUT SAPPORO CITY

- Overview of Sapporo

Topography

43 °N. latitude

141 °E. longitude

Population

1.9 million



CLIMATE OF SAPPORO

- Weather conditions

Avg. annual temp.
8.5 °C

130 winter days

48 frost days

Annual snowfall: 6 m



WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE OF SAPPORO

- Winter road maintenance

Length of roads maintained

5,400 km

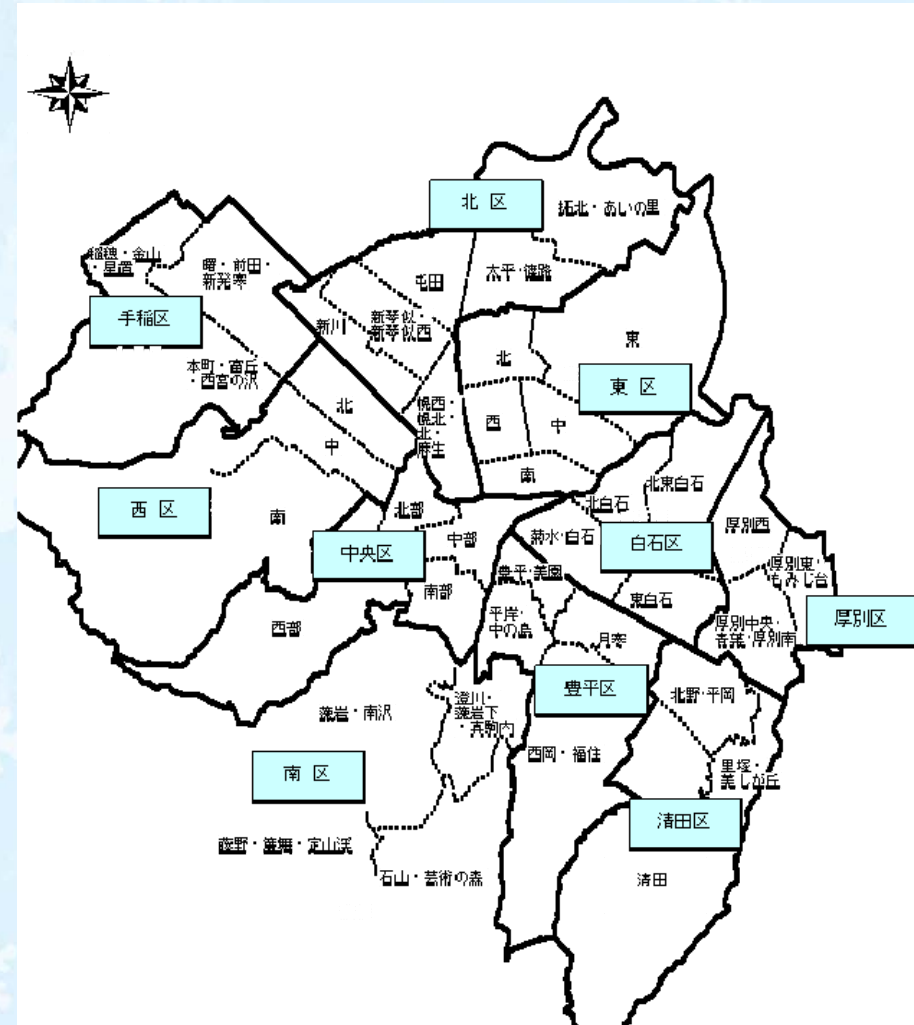
(trunk roads: 840 km)

Sidewalk snow removal

2,900 km

Annual snow removal budget

\$143 million or €102 million



39 blocks of each United
Neighborhood Association

WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE OF SAPPORO

- During city-wide snow removal
 - About 1,000 machines operate.
 - About 3,000 people work.
 - The cost is \$1.2 million
(€85 thousand).
- Amount of snow hauled
about 8,000,000 m³



WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE OF SAPPORO

- Anti-freezing measures

Spreading of de-icing agents or sand

Road heating systems

Energy source	Number of systems	Coverage (m ³)
Electric	366	166,411
Gas	75	32,511
Other	2	7,995



ROAD HEATING SYSTEM RENOVATION PROJECT

- The Jozankei hot spring district

A popular retreat

25 km southwest of downtown

270 m above sea level

2.5 °C colder than downtown

Steep and narrow roads



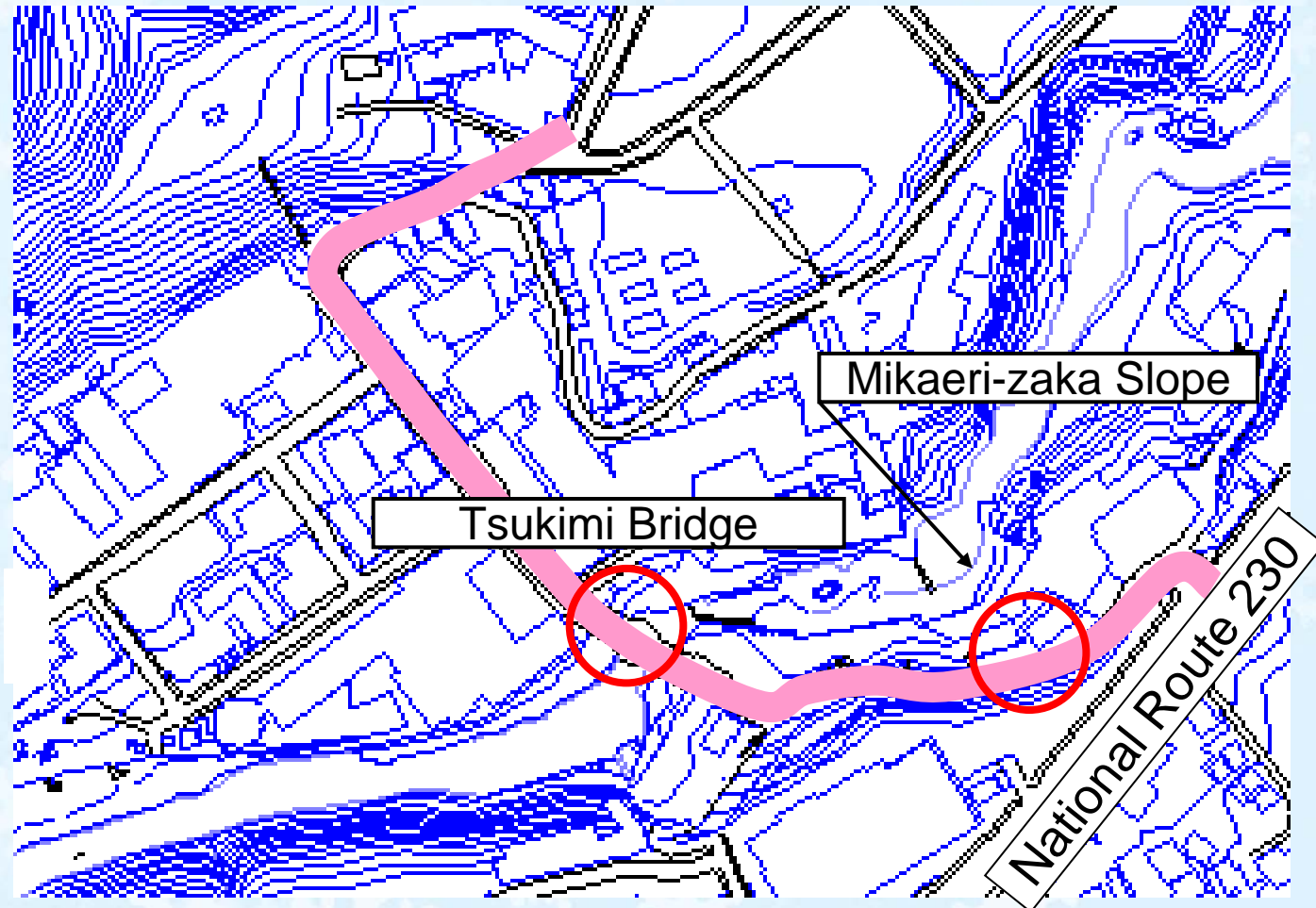
- Japan's first road heating system using hot spring water

ROAD HEATHING SYSTEM RENOVATION PROJECT

- Renovation project

Length: 650 m
Width: 12.5 m
(roadway: 6.5 m)
(sidewalk: 3 m×2)

Pitch difference
20 m
Steepest gradient
10%



ROAD HEATHING SYSTEM RENOVATION PROJECT

- Chronology of Jozankei's road heating system

- 1966: Road heating is installed on Jozankei Chuosen St. (the first road heating in Japan).
- 1984: The system is converted to a heat pipe system (complete overhaul).
- 1998: Renovation is requested by the local community.
- 2004: Talks with local residents start.
- 2008: The improvement project starts.
- 2010: The project is scheduled to be completed in this year.

ROAD HEATHING SYSTEM RENOVATION PROJECT

- The hot spring

A natural spring: 600 ℓ/min

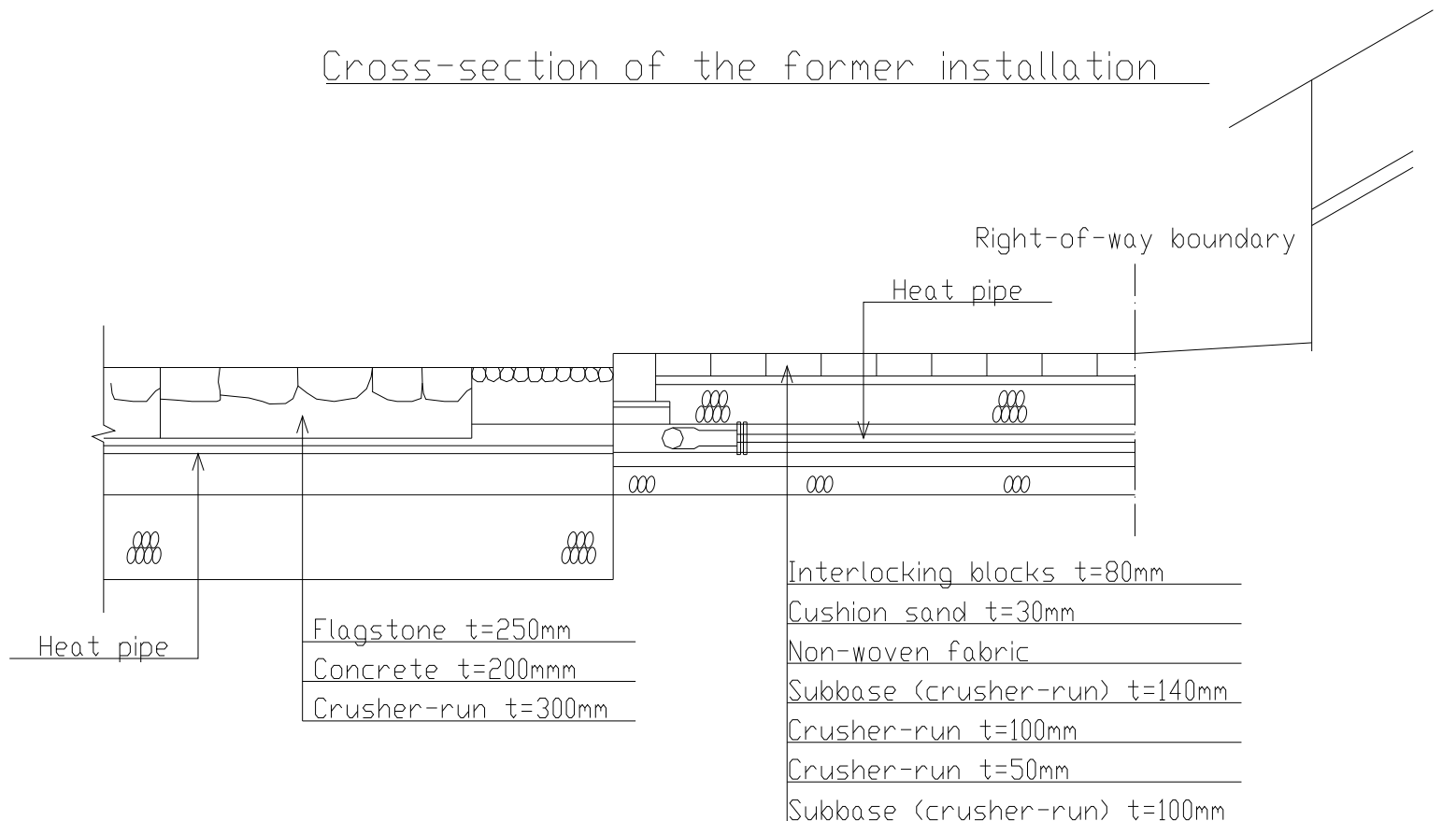
Temp.: 80 °C

- Design conditions

Snowfall density	3 cm/hr
Air temp.	-10 °C
Snow density	50 kg/m ³
Wind velocity	3 m/sec
Heat load	207 W/m ²

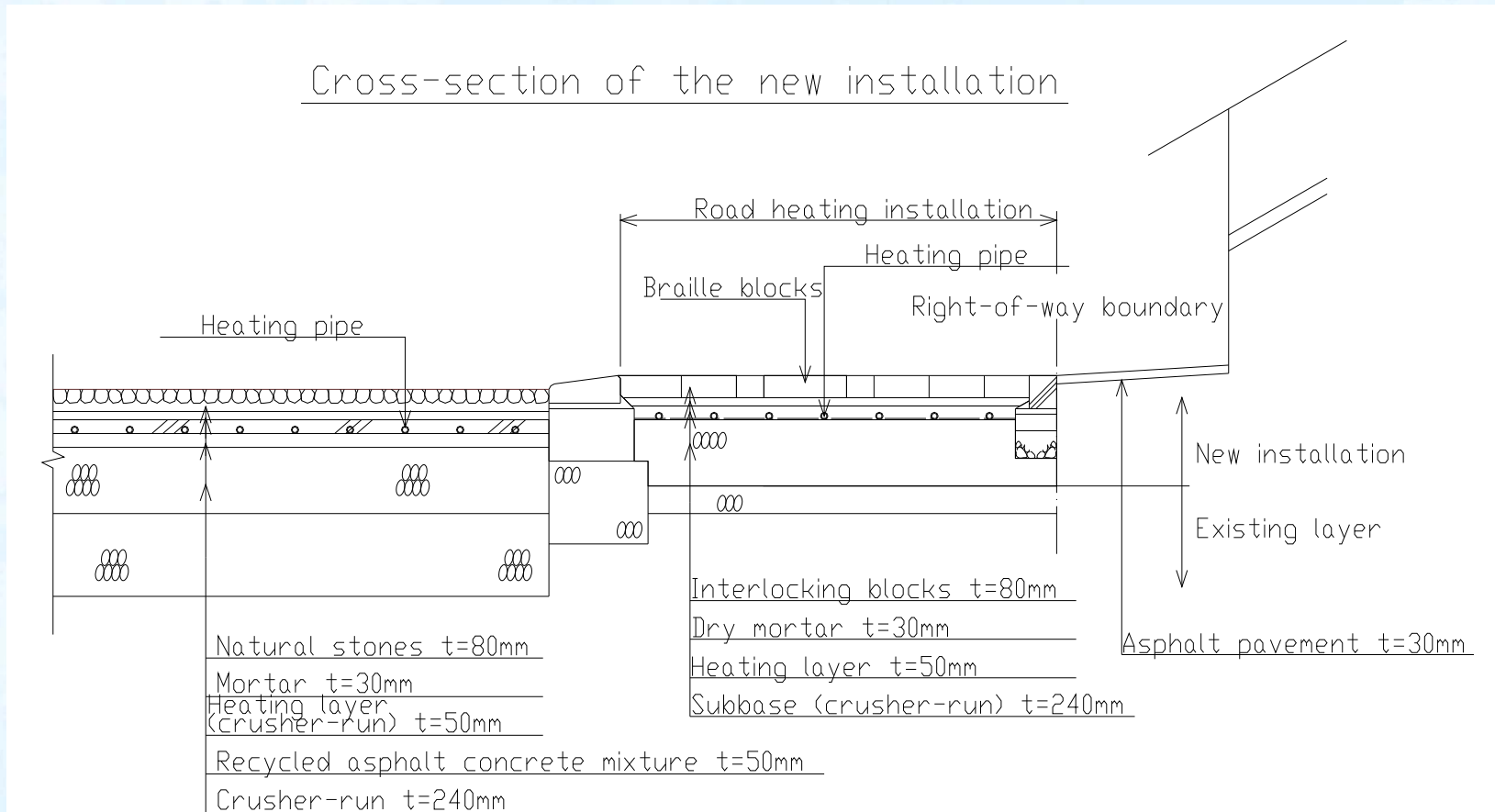
ROAD HEATHING SYSTEM RENOVATION PROJECT

- Cross-section (before renovation)



ROAD HEATHING SYSTEM RENOVATION PROJECT

- Cross-section (after renovation)



ROAD HEATHING SYSTEM RENOVATION PROJECT

Polybutylene pipes



Completed phase



ROAD HEATHING SYSTEM RENOVATION PROJECT

- Landscape planning

The project was discussed with hotel owners for 3 years.

Rectangular granite flagstones
are to be used.

Street lamps are to create
a Japanese spa atmosphere.

Trees that epitomize Jozankei
are to be used.



NEW DIRECTIONS FOR ROAD HEATHING

- Pervasion of studless tires



The emergence of very slippery road surface



The distant mountain range is visible without road dust

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR ROAD HEATHING

- Road surface conditions

Regular management

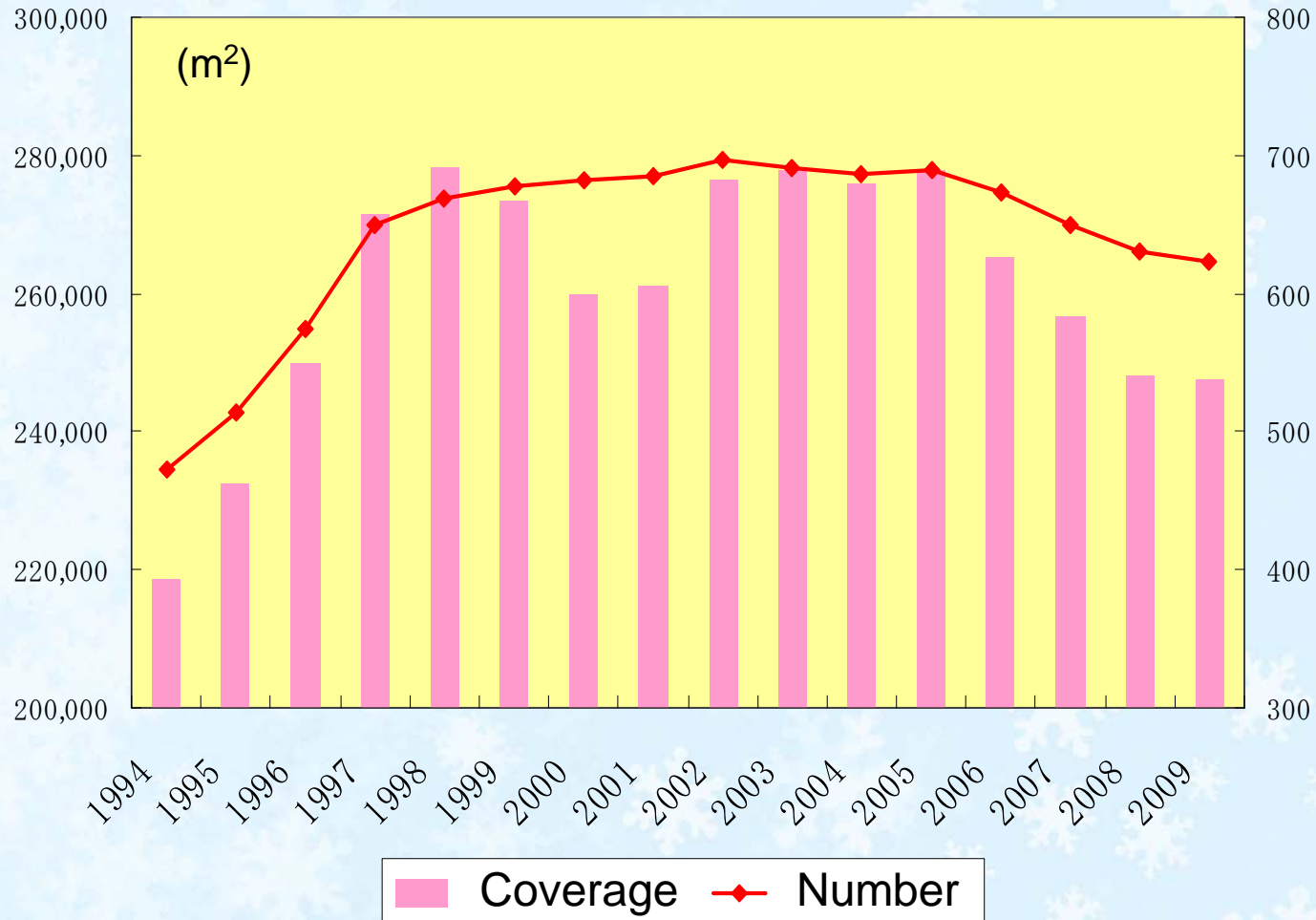


New management criteria:
Increased anti-freezing
application and more
frequent snow removal



NEW DIRECTIONS FOR ROAD HEATHING

Number of road heating systems and total coverage



CONCLUSION

- Reduction in heating costs is very important.
- Jozankei is an exception because a renewable, inexpensive energy source is used.
- We continue to develop safer, more effective winter road maintenance measures.



Attention!
No more road heating!