

View along Suzhou Creek in Putuo District




PUTUO IN SESSION

Putuo looks at development, past and future

Officials review successes, plan new improvements

Xu Wei

The first session of the 16th Putuo District People's Congress was held at Putuo District Library on January 10. Zhou Minhao, director of Putuo District, reviewed the work and efforts made by Putuo over the past five years.

The financial revenue of the district had increased from 6.16 billion yuan (US\$896 million) to 10.4 billion yuan. The "One Axis, Two Wings" development layout has taken shape with mature facilities, promising business projects and an increasing number of high-tech enterprises.

Science-based and innovation-driven industries had been rapidly developed with the support of funding, public service and policies. Infrastructures of Metro lines, bus lines, highways had also been improved.

Environmental protection was underway to build modern, eco-friendly hubs for living and working. Over the passing years, an area of 1.5 million square meters of green lands had been added in the district.

The district's greenery coverage rate had increased from 23.86 percent to 26.66 percent.

Public services in employment, education, health, culture and sports had been improved with more facilities, professionals and activities. The



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district had successfully hosted a lot of big cultural events including the Internet film festival, a program of the annual Shanghai International Film Festival, Suzhou Creek Art Festival, Shanghai International 10k Race and the annual dragon boat race on Suzhou Creek.

Views from deputies

A total of 260 deputies attended the session on January 10. They also exchanged their views on the efforts and future development of Putuo based on the report on the work of the government presented by director Zhou.

Wu Min, one of the deputies from the Changshou area in the district, was impressed by Putuo's efforts to encourage

local residents to get involved in the public affairs of the community, as well as in elder care.

The pattern is a new model of care service and it has turned out to be effective.

Over the years, Putuo has introduced small endowment service enterprise and social organization to look after senior citizens who are suffering diseases, pain and loneliness.

Such care is now affordable for the elderly who can get help at their own home or in the building of their residential community.

Many deputies also offered their suggestions for the future development of the district.

Huang Jianping, a deputy from the Zhenru area, said that Putuo needs

to improve its cultural influence and brands. Distinctive cultural traditions and charms of Putuo should be explored and highlighted.

Shi Yunxia, a deputy from the Caoyang area, was concerned about the safety of age-old wooden structure housing. She advised the government to renovate the houses that pose fire risks and preserve the houses' historical architectural styles.

Guo Hui, a deputy from the Shiquan area, suggested setting detection devices of pesticide residue at the district's major wet markets for food safety.

Additionally, he hoped that residents could also buy fresh vegetables and meat within the residential communities over the weekends.



Growth plans for next five years

Joyce Xu

The first session of the 16th Putuo District People's Congress was a big success with the district reviewing its efforts over the past years and outlining new development plans for the future.

According to the report on the work of the government presented by Zhou Minhao, director of Putuo District, on January 10, the district will speed up the building of a science-based and innovation-driven transition practice area and a modern, eco-friendly community for living and working.

Despite challenges, new opportunities lie ahead for the district to propel regional entrepreneurial development and develop ecological business hubs.

Economic development will not be achieved at the cost of environment. Instead, the district will put more efforts into environmental protection, low-carbon economy and the construction of greeneries and landscapes for a win-win development mode.



Economy

In the following five years, Putuo plans to provide more professional financing and management support for enterprises, especially high and new technology startups. The enterprises will be offered convenient and more economical financial services. Industrial structures will be upgraded covering the sectors of commerce, finance, IT, lighting and service. Local industrial and business clusters will continue to be enhanced. Diverse functions of the clusters will be developed such as science and technology innovation, ecological business, and merger and acquisition.



Environment

Putuo District is considering building more than 1 million square meters of new green spaces to prevent and reduce air and water pollution. Around 2.6 million square meters of old houses in the district will be renovated. The facilities and ecological environment of the residential communities of the district will be largely improved.



Infrastructure

The district will also make more rational use of its construction lands. Some vacant lands will be reserved for future development. Infrastructure will be improved including highways, bridges and public areas.



Public service

The social security system and public services like employment, education, culture, health and community will be improved.



Medical care

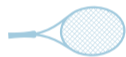
To ease the pressure on younger family members who are busy with their work and have little time to care for their elderly parents, the district will add 4,300 more beds at care stations and nursing homes in the following five years.

A wide range of services including day care, health care, special diets and entertainment will be offered to improve the quality of life for the elderly people.

Additionally 1,500 hospital beds will be added in the district.



Day care center



Culture & sports

An area of 100,000 square meters of public cultural facilities and 400,000 square meters of sports will be constructed.



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Boost for industrial and business clusters

Xiao Xu

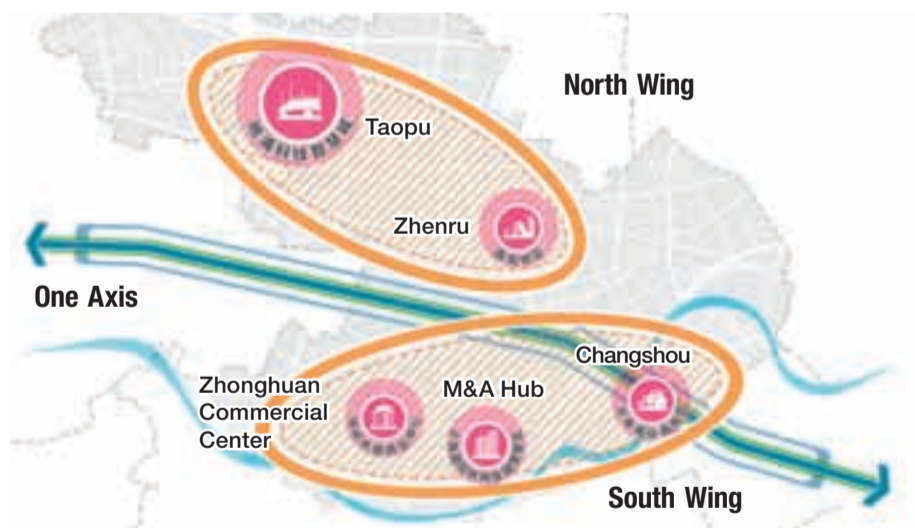
The first session of the 16th Putuo District People's Congress released specific and detailed development plans of 2017, an important beginning for the new term for government officials.

The district plans to develop its major industrial and business clusters. Putuo will further develop the "One Axis, Two Wings" layout that covers the areas of Wuning, Taopu and Changfeng.

The Wuning area will be built into a focal point for innovation and development as the district will continue to strengthen its ties and collaboration with local colleges, universities and research institutes. Regional high-tech industries will be supported with funding, consultants and a complete public service system. By the end of this year, 20 new high-tech enterprises are expected to increase in the area.

The construction of the Taopu Science and Technology Smart City will be entering an important stage this year. In addition to public facilities and landscapes, control and prevention of soil pollution will be conducted in the area. The development of Zhenru area, a sub-center of Shanghai, will be hastened. It will have collaboration with notable enterprises such as Bailian Group and Bright Food Group.

More financial capitals will be introduced to the Changfeng Ecological



The "One Axis, Two Wings" development layout has taken shape with mature facilities, promising business projects and an increasing number of high-tech enterprises.

Business Hub to support promising enterprises, projects and technologies. The Shanghai International Sourcing Center will be upgraded with a lot of new functions. This year, the Changfeng Community Service Center will also come into use.

Putuo will optimize and upgrade the industrial structure and bring new vitality to economic development. This year, the district plans to achieve a 7 percent increase in financial revenue. Favorable policies are available for the industries of intelligent manufacturing

and Internet companies.

The competence of state-owned enterprises will be improved through reform and transition.

Infrastructures of Metro lines, highways and Suzhou Creek flood control wall will be elevated. Ecological protection of river courses and urban greeneries will be strengthened. Additionally, public services of employment, housing, education, culture, health and elderly care will be further developed to provide more convenience for the local citizens.