

High-tech report

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A JOINT PUBLICATION OF CHINA DAILY AND STATE-LEVEL WEIFANG HI-TECH INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE



Left: A parent picks up her child after school at Weifang Hi-Tech Zone's New Epoch School, a key construction project finished this year. Right: A night view of the Weifang Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone. The zone has put forward measures to upgrade its environment. PHOTOS PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY



New govt services more convenient

By ZHUANTI
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Han Peng, a resident of the Weifang Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone, got his business license from a storage box in the zone's government service center at noon on Oct 28, when all service staff members were off duty. "I was just trying it. But the storage box service is very convenient and saves time," Han said with a big smile.

Han was applying for a business license for his small shop. He visited the government service center in the early morning on Oct 28, and found a long queue at the counter.

"I was concerned that I would not have time to visit the bank in the morning," Han said.

Then, working staff suggested he use the new storage box services.

"They gave me a piece of paper with instructions so I would know how to use the box," he said.

Han entered his personal information and requests and put all the documents in the storage box, then left to visit a bank.

When he was still at the bank, he received a text message from the government service center that his application had been approved and that he could pick up his business license from the storage box at any time.

Ding Yugang, a staff mem-

ber at the government service center, said: "We developed the storage boxes for busy government departments such as the market supervision bureau and property registration center to increase their working efficiency and help residents to save time."

Ding said the storage box service system, first introduced by the zone in Shandong province, will notify staff about the case soon after applicants put documents into the storage boxes.

The working staff process the application, put documents back into the boxes once completed and send messages to applicants to pick up their documents.

For applications that need more information, staff will follow the same procedures to inform applicants to collect their application and provide further documents.

Wang Yan, from the government service center, said that the storage box services not only shortened people's wait time, but also promoted the use of the online appointment system.

Chen Jiancheng, director of the government service center, said: "The internet plus government services is a development goal of the local administration. It will save enterprises and local residents time, and improve working efficiency."

Guo Yajing contributed to this story.

Zone hopes for local livability to attract investors

Area focuses on advantageous industry for expansion, Tang Zhihao reports.

Economic development and living environment enhancement will carry equal weight throughout the Weifang Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone's development process.

The zone has put forward measures this year to upgrade the city's environment so residents can enjoy a higher quality of life in the region.

That is the management's response to more than 5,000 complaints last year about the city's environment.

The city's image upgrade project was launched in June this year to improve citizens' environment.

The city's plan included efforts to curb street vendors without licenses, illegal billboards and unauthorized transportation of construction waste.

Wang Yonglian, a resident of the zone, said that local residents are happy to see changes including a better vehicle management system, extended roads and cleaner streets without street vendors.

Leading city planning organizations are participating in the city's construction processes. Apart from taking on large-scale environmental improvement projects, the city has developed a joint action and joint punishment mechanism to effectively curb city management problems in

everyday life. More than 10 government departments will work together to deal with problems under this system.

Nearly 7,000 problems have been solved under the mechanism, according to local authorities. The city has developed a management platform to record problems identified in city management processes, and then send those problems to responsible government departments to increase response speed.

The zone invested 560 million yuan (\$81.36 million) in 41 livelihood enhancement projects in seven areas this year. About 312 million yuan went into educational projects, 139 million yuan into social security and 90 million yuan into the medical service sector this year, according to local government.

The living environment in the zone plays a significant role in attracting global businesses to settle in the area, supporting regional economic development.

The Shengrui Transmission Parts Production Industrial Park development project was promoted in

560m yuan

the Weifang high-tech zone's investment in livelihood enhancement projects this year

the zone this year. Many businesses have visited the city recently to evaluate the project's potential. Businesses also paid attention to the zone's environment

and supporting facilities.

"Businesses assessed our innovative projects, industrial development and living environment when meeting with us," said Wang Liang, director of the Comprehensive Services Department of the zone's investment promotion bureau.

During the first three quarters of 2016, 135 high-tech projects were registered in the zone. A total of 21 projects with individual investment higher than 50 million yuan have broken ground in the development zone.

"We have to consider urban development work a key task of government in this new era. We need a blueprint that incorporates our history, culture and key features of the city," said Chu Baojie, Weifang's director of communication and Party chief of the zone's working committee. "We need to broaden our horizons, innovate our support systems and take more responsibility so we can

develop a city that can well adapt to future trends."

The development zone has developed error tolerance mechanisms so responsible officials are more comfortable putting their new ideas into practice. It also has mechanisms to punish those officials and government staff members who do not maintain an active working style.

The city environment has supported the city's internationalization processes over the past few years.

Roberto Ramirez, a software developer with more than 18 years of experience, partnered with Lovett Homes in the zone to develop software named Builders Access to assist in construction projects managing.

The system allows property developers to monitor and manage property development projects, from the purchase of land to aftersales services in overseas markets.

"I have witnessed the rapid development of the region. I have to get used to the life here," said Ramirez. "I have visited the development zone every year since 2010 and stay here longer each time."

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Weifang improves residents' lives with projects

By ZHUANTI

The Weifang Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone has carried out a broad range of 41 projects to improve residents' well-being, bringing them real benefits.

Apart from promoting residential upgrade projects, the zone's government continues to strengthen the collective economy, improve cultural life and boost the city's image in efforts to make people feel happy and safe.

Moving to new homes

For residents of the Zhongguan community, in the Xin'gang Economic Development Zone of the Weifang Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone, July 23 was a memorable day in their lives.

All 107 families in the community living in one-story houses moved into new multistory buildings.

"The community administrators have helped us calculate the benefits. We can enjoy better living conditions. The new properties also have high economic value," said Zhang Liangqi, a resident of the Zhongguan community.

Apart from the Zhongguan community, residents in the Masu community in the Xinchang Economic Development Zone are also expecting to move into new apartments.



A residents' dance group participates in a competition organized by the Weifang high-tech zone as part of its effort to enrich people's cultural lives.

"Xinchang is far from the center of the city. There is no central water, heat or gas supply to the shantytowns in the region. We have joined hands with communities and evaluation companies to finish measuring and checking for 130 families in five communities," said Cui Zhenying, a staff member of the Xinchang Economic Development Zone. "We expect to finish infrastructure construction work at the end of this year so that the residents can move into their new homes soon."

The residence upgrade is a key project promoted by the Weifang Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone's govern-

ment in 2016. In the first part of the renovations, local authorities upgraded 21 shantytowns in the region, which will benefit more than 1,300 families.

Enriched cultural life

The development zone has built cultural squares, screened free movies, organized free stage performances and traditional operas and given out free books to local residents to better use public cultural resources.

Li Guizhi, 52-year-old resident of the Fenghuang community, said that the government's efforts in building cultural compounds in the city have

provided practice spaces for lovers of Peking Opera.

The development zone has invested 2 million yuan (\$290,554) in updating cultural facilities in the region this year. There are now 59 cultural courtyards and 86 cultural squares in the zone.

The cultural promotion department in the zone has staged more than 130 free cultural performances in communities and trading markets. More than 60,000 residents have appreciated 24 performances in large squares, including People's Square in the zone.

"We will provide better equipment so residents can enjoy quality cultural services," said Sun Huanjin, communications director of the development zone's Party working committee.

Improved environment

The development zone also launched a citywide environmental improvement project in May last year. Local authorities have added 10,000 square meters of plant life and 200,000 sq m of grassy areas to the city over the past one and a half years.

Residents have seen big changes in the city's environment this year. All street vendors are required to move into agricultural markets. The open-air barbecue stands have been replaced by ventilated indoor businesses.

Briefly

Makerspaces go on national list

The Torch High Technology Industry Development Center of the Ministry of Science and Technology announced a third batch of national-level makerspaces in September. Two makerspaces in the Weifang Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone went on the list: CAS Lab in the Blue Wisdom Valley, and Makerspace of the Weifang Yanyuan High-tech Park of Peking University.

The two makerspaces were evaluated by the Ministry of Science and Technology based on their operating models, service quality and achievements.

Engine deal signed

Weichai Power signed a memorandum with Belarus-based Minsk Automobile Plant, also known as MAZ, at the end of September to build a diesel-powered engine production plant in Great Stone Industrial Park in Belarus. The total investment for the project will be \$50 million. The production base will be capable of producing 20,000 engines a year upon completion. The joint venture marks Weichai's significant progress

in overseas expansion under the guidance of the Belt and Road Initiative.

Goertek wins recognition

Goertek became the only company in Weifang recognized as a national technology innovation demonstration business in China in 2016. A total of 69 businesses in China obtained the same recognition this year.

Goertek is a leading acoustics company in China that focuses on the development, production and sales of electro-acoustic equipment and components, optical components and electronic accessories. The company developed a smart factory for wearable devices to demonstrate how smart technology can promote business development.

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