

September 5, 2008

To: MTQ (dtim.commentaires@mtq.gouv.qc.ca)

RE: la Falaise St- Jacques & Turcot Complex/Public Comments and Concerns Regarding Design Process

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find enclosed a map describing the potential of a network of interconnected large greenspaces and natural spaces in Montreal's Southwest. It was produced by **Patrick Asch** of **Héritage Laurentien** for the **Droit de Passage Vert** movement. It is important that people are allowed to enjoy greenspaces in an area that has very few. There are many heat islands in this region which can be 8 degrees Celsius hotter than the available greenspaces such as the Falaise. Many chronic diseases such as cancer and heart ailments are encouraged by the lack of greenways, natural spaces, etc. The Turcot Complex must not worsen this situation. For further information please contact **Dr. Stéphane Perron**, MD, MSc, CSPQ, FRCP(C). Médecin spécialiste en médecine communautaire, **Secteur environnement urbain et santé, Direction de santé publique de Montréal - Centre.**

The Turcot redevelopment plan must include access-ways for pedestrians, bikes, and flora and fauna. For example, there should be at least two crossings from the Lachine Canal to the St. Jacques Escarpment so that the Falaise be not as isolated and cut off from the rest of the Southwest and NDG. One access-way could be near Decarie and the other a little East of Cavendish joining up with the old road that links Pullman with St. Jacques.

Even if the Dorval Air-Rail Shuttle does not use the CN Right-Of-Way and use the CPR line instead, the concept of having room for four tracks is a sound idea. Future High Speed Rail between Montreal and Toronto would need those additional tracks.

However, placing the CN Railway and the highway so close to the Escarpment will increase the problems of noise in this Eco-Territory and its isolation and lack of access. This can at least be mitigated by the construction of a berm from construction material separating the CN Access Road/Rail/Road Complex and the Falaise. Between the naturalized buffer and berm portions of the old St. Pierre River could be recreated along with an interconnecting greenway for bikes, pedestrians, joggers and fauna. Interestingly there is a remnant or spring of the St. Pierre River near the base of the old Grand Trunk Railway Access Road that links Pullman with St. Jacques. It is currently infested with Blue-Green Algae. It could be renaturalized and revived.

Yours Sincerely,

Avrom Shtern,

Green Coalition

Créer une trame verte au sud-ouest de Montréal

Plus de 400 hectares d'espaces verts mis en réseau

Le terrain de golf Meadowbrook et la falaise Saint-Jacques...

Les derniers sites pouvant devenir des habitats riches et diversifiés au sud-ouest de Montréal

Meadowbrook

(peut devenir des champs et forêts)

Parc René-Lévesque
(parc urbain)

Mont-Royal et parc Summit

(espaces verts) (espaces verts)

Falaise Saint-Jacques
(habitat forestier potentiel)

Angrignon Park
(parc urbain, habitat forestier)

Aqueduc de Montréal
(parc urbain, corridor vert potentiel, habitat aquatique)

Canal de Lachine
(parc urbain)

Terrains de l'hôpital Douglas
(corridor vert potentiel)

Parc des Rapides
(parc urbain, habitat aquatique)

Vieux Port, île Sainte-Hélène
(parcs urbains)

Champs proches de l'autoroute Bonaventure
(champs par dessus dépotoirs)

Milieus boisés de l'île des Soeurs
(habitats forestiers)

Concept par
Héritage Laurentien

Fond de carte : Ministère des
Ressources Naturelles du Québec

Creating a network of green spaces in south-western Montreal

A 400 ha network created in one of the sectors with the least green space in Montreal

The Meadowbrook golf course and the Saint-Jacques escarpment...

The last areas in south-western Montreal that could become an ecologically diversified habitat

Meadowbrook

(potential field and forest habitat)

René-Lévesque Park

(urban park)

Mount-Royal and Summit Park

(green spaces)

M.U.H.C

(green spaces)

Saint-Jacques Escarpment

(potential forest habitat)

Angrignon Park

(urban park, forest habitat)

Montreal Aquaduct

(urban park, future green corridor, aquatic habitat)

Lachine Canal

(urban park)

Douglas hospital Grounds

(potential green corridor)

Des Rapides Park

(urban park, aquatic habitat)

Old Port, île Sainte-Hélène

(urban parks)

Fields near Bonaventure Highway

(fields over garbage dumps, field habitats)

Nun's Island forests

(forest habitat)

Concept by
Héritage Laurentien

Base map source: Ministère des ressources naturelles du Québec