



GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MUHC Glen Campus: construction and road work

MINUTES

Meeting held on Thursday, October 28, 2010 (7 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.)

Committee members present

- Donna Allen (citizen)
- Garry Bernard (Bus Network Management Consultant, Development and Planning Department, Société de transport de Montréal)
- Charles Chebl (Senior Vice-President and General Manager, SNC-Lavalin)
- Mario Duguay (Division Supervisor, Development and Operational Services, Public Works Department, City of Montreal)
- Mathieu Durand (Police Officer, Service de police de la Ville de Montréal)
- Louise Fournier (citizen)
- Louise Labre (Division Supervisor, Bus Network Management and Public Affairs, Société de transport de Montréal)
- Anouk Laurent (citizen)
- Valérie Legris (Technical Officer, Traffic and Circulation, City of Montreal)
- Sharon Leslie (citizen)
- Pierre Major (Associate Director, Facilities Development & Construction, Redevelopment Project, McGill University Health Centre)
- Marie-Josée Mastromonaco (citizen)
- Luciano Michetti (citizen)
- Jody Negley (citizen)
- Nick Patulli (merchant)
- Wanda Potrykus (citizen)
- Derek Robertson (citizen)
- Pierre Tessier (independent moderator)
- Michel Therrien (Assistant Director, CDN-NDG Borough, Head of Communications, CDN-NDG Borough)
- Alain Trudeau (Project Manager, Project Management Office, City of Montreal)

Session opening

- Word of welcome from Pierre Tessier (independent moderator)
- Explanation of the committee's mandate and meeting objectives: The topics discussed must involve the work scheduled in the coming months.
- Explanation of the role of the moderator
- Adoption of the agenda

- Presentation of participants

At the request of Louise Fournier, a list of participants and their titles will be sent to committee members.

Description of the roadwork

Alain Trudeau explained the nature of the current and upcoming roadwork to the east of Décarie Blvd. between St-Jacques and De Maisonneuve. The reconstruction of the collector sewer will be carried out in three phases:

- Phase 1: Buried pipe under the viaduct (begins in November)
- Phase 2: Collector sewer (begins in November)
- Phase 3: St-Jacques / Décarie intersection (begins in December)

Alain Trudeau explained why this work must be done in winter:

- Less water in the pipes
- The excavation is 10 metres deep, and workers can take advantage of the winter period due to the ground being frozen.

Alain Trudeau explained the impact the work would have on traffic on Saint-Jacques and De Maisonneuve: Décarie Boulevard **north** will need to be closed to traffic, but Décarie Boulevard **south** will be open for local traffic only and for trucks exiting the Glen Campus. The reason for this change is primarily due to the construction trucks and cranes that will be in the east lane and part of the centre lane as work progresses in phase 2. These factors will hinder traffic and increase the risk of accidents.

An opening will be made in the median on Saint-Jacques at Prud'homme to allow residents to turn onto their street when driving east. Access to Mazda Gabriel on Décarie will be closed. STM buses 17 and 420 will be re-routed via Saint-Jacques and Girouard.

Discussion on road work

NAME AND QUESTION	ANSWER
(Donna Allen) Will water be cut off in the area at any time during the fall?	(Alain Trudeau) No, there are no plans to cut water during this project, as the work involves only the sewers and not the water mains.
(Donna Allen) Will pedestrians still be able to use the sidewalks on the east side of Décarie this fall?	(Alain Trudeau) During this period (fall), pedestrians will still be able to use the sidewalks. However, the situation will change next spring when the crews begin to reconstruct the underground infrastructures on the west side of Décarie.
(Luciano Michetti) There will be a lot of traffic on Girouard. How do you	(Valérie Legris) We will synchronize the traffic lights to assure the safety of both cyclists and

plan to keep traffic flowing?	pedestrians.
(Sharon Leslie) Will the changes and the synchronization of traffic lights be done prior to the beginning of phase 2?	(Valérie Legris) Yes, but we must first request the proper authorizations.
(Luciano Michetti) Will Girouard be one-way southbound or two-way at Sherbrooke?	(Alain Trudeau) We are looking at the possibility of changing traffic on Girouard to two-way, but we need to first negotiate this with the Ministère des Transports du Québec because of the access ramp to Highways 20 W and 15 S.
(Sharon Leslie) Will traffic on Girouard be restricted to local traffic only?	(Valérie Legris) No, only Prud'homme and Crowley Streets.
(Louise Fournier) Is there a light for pedestrians at the intersection of Girouard / Saint-Jacques?	(Valérie Legris) No.
(Louise Fournier) What is the difference between a collector sewer and a sewer pipe? Will it resolve the backup problems?	(Mario Duguay) The collector sewer is much larger than a simple pipe and will somewhat resolve the sewer backup problems by facilitating the flow of wastewater.
(Alain Trudeau) In 2011, the crews from the Ville de Montréal will prepare the plans and specifications to carry out the reconstruction of the sewer pipes in the other streets in the area, notably to improve the local system on De Maisonneuve and Northcliff.	
(Louise Fournier) What is the roadwork schedule?	(Alain Trudeau) Crews will work during the day, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. However, during drilling (phase 1), it is possible that the crews may have to work in the evening due to CP Rail requirements that no drilling take place when trains are going past. But the crews will be underground and the work should not be heard.
(Louise Fournier) The work will make it difficult to park on Prud'homme. Is it possible to offer permits to allow people to park on Saint-Jacques and Décarie?	(Michel Therrien) There is currently no problem with parking, but we want to keep access to parking open behind the homes on Décarie, so the alleyways will be cleared of snow in the winter.
(Louise Fournier) Will the work disrupt bus routes 105 and 102 on Vendôme?	(Louise Labre) No, the work will have no impact on these routes.

(Nick Patulli) Is it possible to open up access between Upper Lachine and Crowley more quickly?	(Valérie Legris) We are currently waiting for the installation of traffic lights on Upper Lachine to enable us to open this access. The installation is expected before the work begins on the railway viaduct in spring 2011.
(Marie-Josée Mastromonaco) Who will advise the school buses that use Décarie / Prud'homme / Crowley?	(Alain Trudeau) The City will advise the school boards in question. (MJM will provide the contact info for the CSDM)
(Sharon Leslie) How can traffic be controlled on Prud'homme and Crowley?	(Alain Trudeau) It can't be, but the first time drivers transiting the area take Prud'homme to try to get to De Maisonneuve, they will find themselves back on Saint-Jacques and will avoid the area after that.
(Derek Robertson) Will "Local traffic only" signs be put up? And will the median on Saint-Jacques be opened up?	(Valérie Legris) Yes to both questions.
(Question from the room: Peter McQueen) Will the 105 bus route still be able to take Décarie towards De Maisonneuve during phase 1?	(Alain Trudeau) Yes.
(Question from the room: Peter McQueen) Will Saint-Jacques be closed during the work on this intersection (phase 3)?	(Alain Trudeau) Phase 3 work will be done at the centre of the Saint-Jacques / Décarie intersection, so there is no question that traffic will be disrupted, but the intersection will not be completely closed. We will use the local papers to widely publicize this situation and make the public aware of it.
(Sharon Leslie) Will the alternatives be implemented and the info campaign deployed before the beginning of the disruptions?	(Alain Trudeau) During phase 1, we will put out information in preparation for phase 2 to advise the public to avoid this area.
(Sharon Leslie) Will Girouard be two-way in November?	(Alain Trudeau) The solution to detour traffic on Girouard northbound is already sufficient. However, it might be improved if Girouard was two-way between Sherbrooke and Upper Lachine.
(Jody Negley) Could drivers not go via	(Alain Trudeau) This option is no longer possible

the Turcot yards?	due to ongoing and upcoming work in the the Turcot yards.
(Louise Fournier) Drivers could be encouraged to use other routes, notably Cavendish.	(Valérie Legris) We will in fact use variable message signs (VMS) to encourage drivers to take other routes more to the west. We are also looking at the possibility of closing the Saint-Jacques exit from the 720.
(Pierre Major) We will make an opening in the retaining wall on Saint-Jacques to allow trucks to access the Glen Campus	

Description of work at the Glen Campus

Charles Chebl provided the following information. Excavation work is 60% complete. The temporary retaining wall along the railway line is finished. The building retaining wall will be finished within 2 weeks. The pile driving has begun. We brought in equipment from the United States to drive the piles. This equipment is faster and quieter (hydraulic).

Work scheduled for November:

- Pile driving
- Installation of 10 cranes
- Excavation completed before Christmas

Working hours are:

- There will be no construction work during the Holiday period from December 17, 2010, to January 3, 2011
- 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. for excavation work
- Daytime for retaining work, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. for pile driving
- If the pace is too slow, the work will continue later into the evening

Measures taken to reduce the impacts:

- No work done on Sundays (last Sunday was an error); and no work at night
- Installation of a sound level meter to monitor noise
- Cleaning of streets and sidewalks
- Mud/dust kept to a minimum
- Launch of an eNewsletter

Discussion on the Glen Campus construction

NAME AND QUESTION	ANSWER
(Sharon Leslie) There are a lot of trucks on Décarie northbound and it's	(Charles Chebl) Some materials must be transported to Laval, and northbound Décarie is

creating traffic problems in an area that already has a lot of traffic between Sherbrooke and De Maisonneuve. Bus 105 takes another route when there is too much traffic, and users are not always informed. Some must wait up to 25 minutes before learning that the bus has been re-routed.	the most obvious and shortest route. We looked at the possibility of using Highway 13, but it is faster via Décarie North.
(Derek Robertson) Why not send this earth to the Turcot interchange?	(Charles Chebl) Because it is not the right earth to use to build the interchange; it's clay. Some materials are also sent to the south shore.
(Pierre Major) There may be a possibility of improving the traffic lights at the Décarie / Sherbrooke intersection. (Valérie Legris has taken note)	
(Derek Robertson) Will trucks travelling eastbound be able to turn left on Saint-Jacques and cross the road to reach the Glen Campus entrance at the retaining wall?	(Charles Chebl) No, it will be an entrance for westbound trucks only.
(Louise Fournier) Many students walk through this area and cross the Sherbrooke/Décarie intersection. Is it possible to prohibit truck traffic at around 3 p.m. when school finishes?	(Charles Chebl) We will check.
(Louise Fournier) Why not use the route in front of the Home Depot for trucks (Glen Road)?	(Pierre Major) We already asked the City of Westmount, but we were refused, we cannot even use this road for workers' vehicles.
(Louise Fournier) The community has the mandate to ask the Ministre de la Santé about this issue. There is a law that can overstep a municipal zoning.	(Pierre Major) We are open to any help from the community.
(Donna Allen) Can the cleaning trucks reduce or turn off their jets when pedestrians are close by?	(Charles Chebl) We have already made this request, but we'll ask again.
(Louise Fournier) Can the cleaning trucks turn off their engines when they are stopped (lunch or breaks)?	(Charles Chebl) We have already made this request, but we'll ask again.

Miscellaneous

NAME AND QUESTION	ANSWER
(Sharon Leslie) Is it possible to have a PowerPoint presentation to facilitate the explanations during the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee Project?	
(Question from the room: Peter McQueen) How will citizens be informed?	(Pierre Major / Julie Paquet) meetings of the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee will be held monthly; they will be communicated directly to members and posted on the MUHC's website. A letter by Dr. Porter has been published in local and regional papers. Other public information sessions will be organized for the next construction phases.
(Jody Negley) Will the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee be involved regarding the access for South-West citizens?	(Pierre Major) We are currently discussing with the Ministère des Transports du Québec regarding questions that influence these access points, we will keep the committee informed.
(Louise Fournier) Is the Glen Campus project now completely approved?	(Pierre Major) Yes, it is final.

Meeting adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Invitation for the next meeting will be sent by email in the coming weeks and posted on the MUHC website.