

McGill University Health Centre Montréal







GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MUHC Glen site: Construction and Roadwork

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS Meeting held on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 (7:00 pm)

# Committee members in attendance:

CITY OF MONTREAL Sébastien Deshaies (Urban Planner, Public Works Department) Sonia Vibert (Project Manager, Urban Planning and Economic Development Division)

## MUHC

Pierre Major (Director [Interim], Redevelopment, Planning and Real Estate Management)

# MODERATOR

**Pierre Tessier** 

## AMT

Karine Côté (Project Manager, Public Affairs) Frédéric Côté (Researcher, Network Development)

# NOTRE-DAME-DE-GRÂCE BOROUGH

Robert Gervais (Public Works Division Chief)

GROUPE IMMOBILIER SANTÉ MCGILL Chantal Sorel (Vice-President and MUHC Project Director, SNC-Lavalin)

SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN Emmanuelle Rondeau (Communications/Marketing Director)

CITIZENS AND MERCHANTS

Nasar Omar Malaka Ackaoui Donna Allen 9 other citizens present in the room

- The session begins at 7:10 pm.
- The moderator calls the meeting to order and welcomes everyone in attendance.
- Round-table introductions.

ISSUE	RESPONSE
(Peter McQueen) Is there anyone from the MTQ or the STM present in the room?	(Pierre Tessier) No, they cancelled their attendance towards the end of the day.

Adoption of the meeting agenda and the minutes from the previous meeting.

ISSUE	RESPONSE
(Peter McQueen) Does anyone have information regarding the work schedule on Saint-Jacques?	(Pierre Tessier) We will see if anyone here can answer that question.

#### Presentation of municipal work

Presentation made by Sonia Vibert and Sébastien Deshaies

I am acting as interim until Alain Trudeau is replaced. I have three points to cover this evening. I would first like to add to what Alain Trudeau presented during the last committee meeting, and then I would like to discuss the railway bridge, as well as the impending tendering process.

Presentation of ongoing work on the de Maisonneuve/Décarie intersection: Last time we met we showed pictures of the project and explained why we need to close Upper Lachine road. We also discussed the implementation of bike paths. We did our best to answer all of your questions, we know some questions remain unanswered, but please keep in mind that this is a work in progress. We are currently in the planning phase and in the process of gathering data.

Railway bridge: A critical step was carried out 2 weeks ago. The large steel superstructures were delivered by the contractor and six span bridge structures were also delivered and installed over the course of three nights, according to schedule. The work was extremely well planned. We now have a new bridge. The next step is to move the railway lines onto the new bridge. The project is not done; we still have several steps to complete.

Call for tenders, lot 6A: We are currently in the midst of preparing several calls for tenders. One was launched last week for lot 6A, which is the finishing lot for Décarie Boulevard, i.e. for sidewalks, pavement, road marking and landscaping. We hope to start the work in June or July. Considering the new tendering regulations, there are still a number of steps to carry out once the tendering process has begun.

There is also Electricity lot 6C, which is a lighting and traffic signals works package. We just received the final plans and quotes this week; we plan on launching the call for tenders one week from now. These two lots will be carried out simultaneously. We also need to install street lamps to light the new boulevard and traffic lights to direct circulation across both intersections that will be created to access the MUHC entrance.

With respect to construction work, we have just finished installing the overhead structure. The following step is to transfer the bypass railway lines to the new bridge in collaboration with the AMT and Canadian Pacific. If everything goes well, this portion of the work will be completed in April. We are in the process of finalizing last minute details with the help of our partners. Once the rails are transferred onto the new railway bridge, we will be able to tear down the railway bypass, build the water and sewer infrastructures to the south and north of the bridge and temporarily pave the way to reopen traffic. We have 8 to 10 weeks of work left; we are currently finalizing the construction timeline while taking the weather into account. If things run smoothly, we should be able to reopen this summer: by end of June or mid-July. I will have a better idea of the specific timeline next time we meet.

# Discussion period: Municipal work

ISSUE	RESPONSE
(Donna Allen) Where are the two hospital entrances with traffic lights located?	(Sonia Vibert) On Décarie, facing Crowley and at the mid-point between Crowley and Saint-Jacques.
(Nasar Omar) Will the work on Décarie be done before or after the bridge is ready?	(Sébastien Deshaies) We will finalize construction on the railway bridge and then start working on Décarie.
(Peter McQueen) Will Upper Lachine road be closed as of 2014?	(Sébastien Deshaies) We will not be closing Upper Lachine for now.
(Peter McQueen) Do you know if the MTQ plans on demolishing the Saint-Jacques overpass once Décarie is reopened in July?	(Sébastien Deshaies) According to the most recent information, the work is scheduled to begin in September or October; I am not 100% sure.
(Nasar Omar) Will traffic be reopened on Décarie once the bridge is done; I heard both bridges were going to be taken down at the same time.	(Sébastien Deshaies) If everything goes well, construction should be done by the time Saint- Jacques gets demolished.
(Nasar Omar) Will the work on Upper Lachine start at that point in time?	<ul><li>(Sébastien Deshaies) No, there won't be any construction on Upper Lachine for a while.</li><li>(Sonia Vibert) There will be some punctual work done on Upper Lachine to finalize the bridge's retaining walls. So, we will be installing temporary road blocks on the south span of Upper Lachine road.</li></ul>
(Peter McQueen) Will this construction work be done while Saint-Jacques is still open?	(Sébastien Deshaies) I cannot speak for the MTQ but according to the most recent information, yes. (Sonia Vibert) We have communicated our
	expectations in terms of traffic to the MTQ, so they can allow us to finish working on Décarie before they start taking down the Saint- Jacques bridge.

## Presentation of work at the Glen site

Presentation made by Pierre Major and Chantal Sorel

An important equipment procurement plan is currently being implemented. We are investing 250 million dollars in medical equipment. The procurement plan is going very well; we are

coordinating the installation of a portion of this equipment with our partner GISM, for example, mechanical arms, modular walls, patient lifts and stationary equipment for the Research Institute. 90 % of these investments have been finalized; delivery dates have been coordinated so the equipment can be installed over the course of this year.

This project is not only a construction project, but also an effort to improve quality of care. We are taking advantage of the fact that the hospitals are being regrouped to improve the way we provide health services. For example, right now we have two neonatal intensive care units, one at the Children's Hospital and one at the Royal Victoria Hospital. When we move to the Glen site, those units will operate within the same space. Today, these units operate differently; which is why we are in the process of harmonizing practices so they can work together when it comes time to relocate. Over 70 other departments are participating in this exercise.

With respect to the second entrance to Vendôme metro, we are moving forward with our partners, the STM, ATM and MTQ. The STM has completed its feasibility study for the aedicule portion. The AMT is currently working on the tunnel that connects to the site underneath the rails. The goal is to submit our information to the government for additional financing next April.

Lastly, we have also started to plan the transfer of activities and our entry into service. Construction will be finalized in 2014 and services will be launched in 2015. The planning phase has begun. We need each department to be involved; this is a colossal task considering all of the equipment and teams must be relocated.

We currently have approximately 1500 workers present on the construction site, slightly less than last spring, because most of the work is now being done inside the buildings rather than outside. We also had a very difficult winter. Despite that, we have managed to complete the work initially set out. We are on schedule.

Another key point to note is that we have dismantled the last 3 remaining cranes. Dismantling the construction cranes involved installing mobile cranes outside of normal working hours. A monitoring protocol was therefore implemented to ensure we made as little noise as possible. We had 14 cranes to begin with and the last 3 remaining ones have now been taken down. What is also important to note is that the last batch of concrete will be poured on Block G, which is the parking lot facing the hospital. This is the last time we will be casting as much concrete at the same time. We still need to pour a few batches of concrete inside the radiation therapy area and for the potted plants located in front of the site. This is good news.

We have completed 60 % of the work. The most advanced sectors are Block A (Montreal Children's Hospital), Block E (Research Institute), Block B (Montreal Children's Hospital) in the neonatal intensive care unit and Block C (Royal Victoria Hospital), as well as the adult emergency rooms where paint has already been applied. Both parking lots should be ready for delivery next fall. Workers will then be able to park inside Block G. This will increase the number of available parking spaces on the construction site from 200 to 300. That should be ready for next fall.

As for landscaping, the work will begin next spring/summer. We will start planting trees towards the end of next summer.

The work schedule is still 7:00 am to 10:00 pm, except for snow removal which has to be done at night to allow workers to access the site in the morning. When it rains heavily, a subcontractor must come in to level the access road. He was previously doing this at night, but we have asked him to work during the afternoon to avoid interfering with working hours.

# **Discussion period: Work at the Glen site**

ISSUE	RESPONSE
(Peter McQueen) Minister Gaudreault stated that financing was not available for the second metro entrance, which contradicts what you have said today. Any comments?	(Pierre Major) I don't know if he said there wasn't enough money, I do know that he explained how much something like this would cost and that the project represented a challenge. We are working with our partners to have this done as soon as possible. In our opinion it is essential to have an effective connection to public transport.
(Peter McQueen) When will the first passageway be ready, the one going through the existing tunnel?	(Pierre Major) It will be ready for the site's grand opening. We are currently working on some temporary measures in case the second passageway isn't ready in time.
What kinds of measures are being taken?	A special meeting will be held on the matter during which we will present further details.
(John Burcombe) Are bicycle accommodations already being developed? I hope the bicycle racks will be chosen carefully.	(Chantal Sorel) The site is designed for bicycle transportation. With respect to bicycle racks, I am not aware of the details yet, outside or inside.
(Donna Allen) As far as hospital equipment is concerned, are you going to install an effective information system?	(Pierre Major) Close to 80 million dollars is going towards our new information system software. We will be improving on several areas: operating rooms, emergency rooms, care units, etc. We are also currently determining which tools will be put in place to guide patients towards the appropriate sectors; we will be sharing that information as it is confirmed.
(Maureen Kaylee) Right now there is a hospital card for each MUHC site, will those cards be fused into one?	(Pierre Major) We are working on that, but it is a complex and lengthy process.
(Kevin Gallagher) Is the project still moving along as scheduled?	(Chantal Sorel) Yes. In certain areas we are ahead of schedule, in other areas we are slightly behind schedule, which is normal for a project of this scope. We are working in

ISSUE	RESPONSE
	collaboration with our partners and doing everything we can to maintain momentum.
Will everything be completed at the same time?	Yes, that's the goal. We have an obligation to open all the sectors at the same time.
How much will parking cost?	(Pierre Major) We are still working on the answer to that question.

#### **Update on the construction of the Shriners Hospitals for Children - Canada** Presentation made by Emmanuelle Rondeau

Our construction project will begin in April with the excavation process as soon as the ground allows it. The foundations and concrete slab will be laid down by the summer in order to reach ground level by fall. The corner stone ceremony will be scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>. More details will be available next time we meet. We have also deployed an investment plan for medical equipment and furniture. We have a team working in close collaboration with the Montreal Children's Hospital to harmonize clinical practices. We are a smaller institution than the MUHC so our patient medical files are already electronic. Our transfer plan is set for the summer/fall of 2015, as soon as the MUHC building has received all of its patients.

## Discussion period: Work at the Shriners Hospitals for Children - Canada

ISSUE	RESPONSE
(Donna Allen) Will there be an indoor passageway linking both hospitals?	(Emmanuelle Rondeau) There will be two physical connections: one on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor and a second one in the basement for merchandise because we do not have a separate receiving bay from the MUHC.

#### Discussion period: any other business

ISSUE	RESPONSE
(Peter McQueen) Any news on the sewer work being conducted in the neighbourhood?	(Sébastien Deshaies) With respect to the work being done on Northcliffe, I believe the tendering process is complete, the results will soon be sent to the Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) so that we can receive our certificate of good conduct. We will then be able to award the contract. I will have more information by then. The work could begin by the end of the summer. (Sonia Vibert) The plan called for the work to

ISSUE	RESPONSE
	begin this summer, but the AMF process has delayed schedule (adding one to three months). The plan is to keep from hindering both east-west arteries at the same time; to avoid work being done simultaneously on Sherbrooke and de Maisonneuve.
(Peter McQueen) What potential solutions are being considered for pedestrian and bicycle level crossings at the Vendôme train station? This could also provide a temporary solution.	(Frédéric Côté) The level crossing option was discarded for security reasons. For more information, you would need to refer to Canadian Pacific who manages level crossing requests.
(Nasar Omar) Why are the workers on the railway bridge construction site allowed to park on Décarie when I don't have permission to park my vehicles there?	(Sébastien Deshaies) The contractor is supposed to park on the portion of the construction site that was allocated to him. Your request has been duly noted.
(Peter McQueen) How many parking spaces will you be adding for workers on the construction site?	(Chantal Sorel) We will be adding 100 parking spaces. But those parking spaces are not for the workers who are currently parking on Décarie. The workers from our construction site do not park on Décarie.
Why not add more parking spaces?	We are going to need space in the parking lot for equipment and deliveries, as well as for the worker's village.
(Donna Allen) Will there be parking spaces on Décarie once construction is complete?	(Sonia Vibert) Yes paid parking, on the west span. The traffic plan is still being developed. We are aware of the boulevard's commercial nature.

• The meeting was adjourned by the moderator at 9:11 pm.

 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Salon Glen, 5100 Blvd. de Maisonneuve West.