



GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MUHC Glen Campus: Construction and Roadwork

MINUTES

Meeting held Thursday, December 9, 2010 (7:00 pm to 8:45 pm)

Attendees

- Malaka Ackaoui (citizen)
- Donna Allen (citizen)
- Gabriel Azouz (merchant, Mazda Gabriel)
- 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)
- Alain-Marc Dubé (Director, Turcot project office, Ministère des Transports du Québec)
- Mathieu Durand (Police Officer, Service de police de la Ville de Montréal)
- Louise Fournier (citizen)
- Thomas Gagné (citizen)
- Elias Gassan (merchant)
- 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)
- Luciano Michetti (citizen)
- Gordon Nelson (merchant, Nelson Garage)
- Ian Nelson (merchant, Nelson Garage)
- Nick Patulli (merchant, KoSA Arts Centre)
- Nasar Omar (merchant)
- Jill Precesky (citizen)
- Derek Robertson (citizen)
- Mario Santangelo (merchant, Mazda Gabriel)
- Gail Tedstone (citizen)
- Pierre Tessier (independent moderator)
- Michel Therrien (Assistant Director, CDN-NDG Borough, Head of Communications, Borough of CDN-NDG)
- Alain Trudeau (Project Manager, Project Management Office, City of Montreal)

Session opening

- Word of welcome from Pierre Tessier

- Introduction of attendees
- Adoption of the agenda and addition of items to Other Business
- Adoption of minutes of previous meeting of Good Neighbourly Relations Committee (October 28, 2010)

At the request of Louise Fournier, a list was circulated to gather the contact info of the members.

Update on roadwork

Alain Trudeau updated the committee on the current and upcoming roadwork.

Phase 1 - Construction of a buried pipe under the viaduct: work has begun, and the developer has already started to excavate.

Phase 2 - Construction of a collector sewer: changes to traffic flow planned to take effect December 7 on Décarie Blvd. (closure northbound) between Saint-Jacques and De Maisonneuve have not yet been carried out due to significant snowfall and snow clearing operations underway.

Snowfall has also delayed the developer from launching work for a number of days. Closure of Décarie Blvd. has therefore been postponed to a later date and may even be pushed back to January 2011 due to the approaching Holiday period. Décarie Boulevard should therefore remain open in both directions during the Holiday period. A final decision is expected to be made during the week of December 13, 2010.

Phase 3 - Work at the Saint-Jacques/Décarie intersection: work is still planned for mid-January 2011.

Mr. Trudeau explained the changes that have taken place in the past month in the area:

- The median on Saint-Jacques at Prud'homme and Mazda Gabriel was cut open in early December to enable local residents and customers to access Prud'homme from the west. A temporary traffic light will be installed soon.
- The ramp to from Girouard to the A-15 south was closed on December 7, 2010, for safety reasons and to allow for two-way traffic on Girouard between Upper-Lachine Road and Sherbrooke. The two-way traffic flow became official on December 9, 2010.

Discussion on roadwork

ISSUE	ANSWER
(Nick Patulli) Request for better snow removal services for the Prud'homme, Crowley and Décarie area as well as the opening of the Upper-Lachine detour, notably to improve truck traffic flow (suggestions supported by	(Michel Therrien) Currently Prud'homme and Crowley are local roads and are not considered a priority for snow removal. To improve snow removal efficiency, these two roads will now be designated as collector streets and will consequently be considered as priority routes for

Mr. Nelson).	<p>snow removal operations.</p> <p>(Alain Trudeau) We believe that opening Upper-Lachine should only be done on occasion for specific reasons. If access is left open, it will attract through traffic, and the City wants to avoid this for public security reasons.</p> <p>(Valérie Legris) Also, the lack of a traffic light makes this access even more dangerous.</p>
(Gordon Nelson) Could we open the Upper-Lachine detour in a one-way direction only?	(Valérie Legris) It is an option that can be considered.
(Nick Patulli) Stated that he has lost almost \$50,000 in event revenue because of the announcement of the closing of Décarie Blvd.	(Alain Trudeau) The snowstorm prevented the developer from setting up on Décarie Blvd. However, we have signs advising that businesses are open during construction that should be installed on Saint-Jacques. The names of the businesses could be added to these signs (to check).
(Louise Fournier) If Décarie is not closed during the Holiday period, is it possible to open access to the A-15 south?	<p>(Alain Trudeau) We do not want to open access to the A-15 south, because we are trying to avoid constantly changing signage in the area.</p> <p>(Valérie Legris) We hope that people will become accustomed to this signage and above all respect it.</p>
(Louise Fournier) Will the Saint-Jacques ramp remain open?	(Alain Trudeau) Yes.
(Jill Precesky) Girouard is a residential street, but there is a lot of traffic on it. With all the trucks currently using it, it has become twice as dangerous. Is it possible to install a pedestrian crossing signal at the intersection of Girouard and Saint-Jacques and have a crossing guard at the Upper-Lachine/Girouard intersection?	(Michel Therrien) A pedestrian crossing light has been requested for the Upper-Lachine/Girouard intersection, and a crossing guard has also been requested for this intersection. All of this will be in place following the Holiday period.
(Nasar Omar) Stated that his revenues are currently down by 50 to 60%. He is wondering what he will do once Décarie Blvd. is closed. Will his	(Alain Trudeau) The City is aware that the construction is hurting business activities in the area. However, Mr. Omar's business will remain accessible, and his customers should use

business continue to be accessible?	Prud'homme and Crowley to get there.
(Donna Allan) What will be done about collections?	(Michel Therrien) Changes to collections will be made soon. The details remain to be confirmed by the borough.
(Gordon Nelson) Will the sidewalks under the viaduct be open?	(Alain Trudeau) Yes.
(Sharon Leslie) Raised the issue of safety problems at the intersection of Sherbrooke and Décarie for the A-15 north access. The stop light is too short, and some drivers are simply turning on the red light.	(Valérie Legris) The City is aware of this situation, and a team is working on the problem to make permanent changes, which notably include lengthening the time of the green light.
(Derek Robertson) Highlighted the good communication efforts with respect to notices and newspaper advertisements, including those in The Gazette (statement was supported by Mario Santangelo and Louise Fournier). He hopes that the names of the businesses will be mentioned in the upcoming communications. He added that snow removal is a priority.	

Glen Campus construction update

Charles Chebl explained that installation of the piles (more than 5 000) is 25% completed for the entire project and that installation of the piles for the Research Institute building is 80% completed.

Two cranes have been installed and will be used for the construction of Block E. Two more will be installed for the construction of Block D. A total of 10 cranes will soon be in place.

Construction of the site offices is almost finished on the City of Westmount side, and temporary parking for employees is being set up. Workers are encouraged to use public transit to get to the MUHC site.

Teams are currently building a retaining wall at the main entrance facing Crowley, and access via Saint-Jacques will soon be possible.

Discussion on the Glen Campus construction

ISSUE	ANSWER
(Louise Fournier) Many trucks constantly drive up and down her street, and the reverberations can be felt in her house. She has also noticed that cracks are beginning to appear in	(Charles Chebl) A specialized company conducted a reading of all of the houses in the sector, and any recent cracks are unlikely to have been caused by the trucks or construction. (Pierre Major) A seismograph even measured

her home.	vibrations around the construction site; the strongest vibrations were recorded when trains were passing by.
(Sharon Leslie) There are many cars belonging to construction workers in the area. Could you do more to promote public transit and carpooling?	(Charles Chebl) Yes, that is our preference. (Dereck Robertson) It may be difficult, as the workers often have their tools in their vehicles.
(Mario Santangelo) Is it possible to allow parking on Saint-Jacques and the overpass above the A-15 until 4:30 pm?	(Information noted; a follow-up will be done by the City of Montreal)
(Jill Precesky) The trucks on Girouard drive much too fast. Can the drivers be made aware of this?	(Charles Chebl) Yes, we remind them on a daily basis of this.
(Sharon Leslie) Can the streets be better cleaned to help prevent the car wash from losing too many customers?	(Charles Chebl) Once the colder weather arrives, the streets will no longer be cleaned with water, which will help the car wash.
(Louise Fournier) Is the excavation work finished?	(Charles Chebl) No, there is still more excavation work to be done, but since much of the land excavated will be reused at the site, traffic should decrease considerably.
(Louise Fournier) The street cleaning vehicles are parked on De Courcelle close to a school with their engines running. Is it possible to make them more sensitive to the pollution issues?	(Charles Chebl) Yes, we will advise them.

Other Business

ISSUE	ANSWER
(Sharon Leslie) How are the committee meetings communicated; are they open to the public? What efforts are being made in this respect?	(Julie Paquet, MUHC) Good Neighbourly Relations Committee meetings are open to all citizens, merchants and journalists; they are communicated via e-mail to the list of committee members and via the MUHC Web site. We accept any new members who wish to join. Also, the MUHC has promoted the committee via its regular communication channels and has published a letter from Dr Porter in the major dailies and the

	local newspapers announcing the initiative.
(Sharon Leslie) Request made that the residents who are members of the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee be consulted on the upcoming dates for committee meetings.	(Johanne Emmanuel and Julie Paquet, MUHC) The calendar for the upcoming months was planned to ensure that all of the professionals involved be available to answer residents' questions. Unfortunately, it is impossible to manage an agenda for such a large group of people in any other way. Dates have been tabled for the next six months.
(Louise Fournier) Message from the Concertation inter-quartier (CIQ) about the renewal of the agreement with the MUHC.	(Pierre Major) We will take note of the comments, but this does not involve the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee. An answer is being prepared following the receipt of a letter sent by the CIQ.
(Gail Tedstone) Is there a forum where we can discuss issues related to the bicycle path and the green transport strategy.	(Pierre Major and Julie Paquet, MUHC) Parallel discussion held at the end of the meeting; the MUHC is a partner in the Green Neighbourhood initiative and recommends that the City also participate, given that the issue of bike paths falls under its jurisdiction.

Adjournment of the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. The dates for the upcoming meetings were distributed, and a reminder will be sent to everyone.