Town of Mount Royal
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT Plan 2016-2020
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From left to right: Erin Kennedy, councillor district No. 3, John D. Miller, councillor district No. 4, Michelle Setlakwe, councillor district No. 5, Philippe Roy, maire, Joseph Daoura, councillor district No. 1, Minh-Diem Le Thi, councillor district No. 2 and Daniel Robert, councillor district No. 6
MAYOR’S MESSAGE

A garden city with a unique cachet and a green city par excellence, the Town now has its third local sustainable development plan. A full decade has passed since the first plan was published in 2007.

The Town of Mount Royal Sustainable Development Plan has much in common with the necessarily larger plan of the Urban Agglomeration of Montreal. And yet, Mount Royal has never waited for the regional plan to take action. The Town has long looked after its urban forest, carefully managed its various collections and been concerned about the quality of its air. A local sustainable development plan is a naturally adopted document for a municipality like ours. From the outset, all the Town councillors and I have been proactive about environmental protection.

It is in the Townies’ interest that enables us to have ambitious targets. It is your widespread enthusiasm for the environment and the responsible use of our collective resources that gives us wings and makes it possible, time and time again, to reach and even exceed our objectives.

From now through 2020, the 21 objectives set forth in this document will be our priority. Being able to count on your support, I have no doubt we will achieve them.

Philippe Roy
Mayor
Sustainable development is an internationally recognized concept. Sustainable development is defined as follows:

“Sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It contains within it two inherent key concepts: the concept of ‘needs’, in particular the essential needs of the world's deprived, to which overriding priority should be given; and the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment’s ability to meet present and future needs.”

To be sustainable, development must be economically effective, socially equitable and ecologically sustainable. It must be backed by a new form of government that promotes the engagement and participation of all community stakeholders in the decision-making process.
ORIENTATION 1: IMPROVE AIR QUALITY AND REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

OBJECTIVE 1.1
Reduce automobile dependency

- Develop a network of bike paths to connect the various activity hubs and ensure that it is complementary to public transit
- Adopt a Local Transportation Plan by 2020
- Make active transportation safer for citizens travelling from home to school and work
- Encourage children and their parents to use active transportation when travelling from home to school and work
- Install new bike racks in public spaces and next to municipal buildings

OBJECTIVE 1.2
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions produced by existing buildings and new constructions

- Reduce municipal building energy consumption by 5%
- Convert indoor lighting to T-8 lamps (compact fluorescents)
- Convert outdoor lighting to LED lamps
- Install geothermal systems in municipal buildings

OBJECTIVE 1.3
Increase the environmental performance of the Town’s conventional vehicle fleet

- Purchase hybrid vehicles for Public Security
ORIENTATION 1: IMPROVE AIR QUALITY AND REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

OBJECTIVE 1.4
Encourage electric transportation use

- Assess the Town’s needs and the costs associated with installing charging stations for electric cars in municipal building parking areas
- Increase the number of parking spots reserved for carsharing vehicles
- Develop sustainable mobility hubs

OBJECTIVE 1.5
Wood heating

- Conduct local awareness campaigns and provide information to the effect of wood heating on health
- Carefully monitor compliance with regulations concerning wood heating emissions

OBJECTIVE 1.6
Enhance the quality of residential areas

- Continue implementing local traffic-calming measures
- Integrate active transportation and greening initiatives whenever roadwork reconstruction is planned.
- Allow permit parking near train stations
ORIENTATION 2: PRACTICE BETTER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
(HOUSEHOLD WASTE DISPOSAL MANAGEMENT)

OBJECTIVE 2.1  
Optimize water management practices

- Manage water consumption used for lawn maintenance by applying the municipal By-law
- Apply By-law No. 1419 applicable to drinking water supply
- Continue with maintenance works on the water supply system financed through programs to reduce system leaks
- Develop multifunctional infrastructures which will minimize negative impacts in case of flooding
- Apply By-law No. 1443 applicable to protecting buildings from sewer back-ups

OBJECTIVE 2.2  
Encourage rainwater collection, retention and infiltration at the source

- Encourage rainwater recovery by distributing barrels to reduce the amount of runoff water entering the sewer system
- Include retention basins for new buildings to reduce the amount of water entering sewers
- Continue selling Ecofitt (low-flow plumbing devices) to Town residents
- Reduce water consumption in municipal buildings by encouraging the replacement of some plumbing devices with low-flow devices
ORIENTATION 2: PRACTICE BETTER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
(HOUSEHOLD WASTE DISPOSAL MANAGEMENT)

OBJECTIVE 2.3  
Implement at-source reduction measures

- Set black-and-white printing as the default setting in municipal buildings (with colour printing used only when needed)
- Maintain two-sided printing and paper-saving initiatives in municipal buildings
- Return empty ink cartridges to the supplier
- Retrofit bottle-refilling units to existing water fountains
- Implement a by-law to ban the single use plastic bags.

OBJECTIVE 2.4  
Implement recovery and reuse measures

- Divert construction, renovation and demolition (CRD) waste to processing facilities
- Implement food waste collection for municipal buildings and/or complexes
- Implement a cigarette butt collection program
- Hold meetings with property owners and/or tenants in the industrial, commercial, institutional (ICI) sector to discuss the Town’s collection programs and requirements
ORIENTATION 2: PRACTICE BETTER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
(HOUSEHOLD WASTE DISPOSAL MANAGEMENT)

OBJECTIVE 2.4
Implement recovery and reuse measures (continuation)

- Reduce the amount of household waste that is collected:
  - Compost distribution, hazardous household waste collection and shredded document
  - Paper bags for leaves
  - Compact fluorescent program
  - Christmas tree collection
  - Battery, cartridge and cell phone recovery

- Publish a household waste disposal guide to inform residents about the Town’s environmental initiatives and best practices in environmental protection
- Use organic cleaning products in municipal buildings
- Install semi-underground containers
- Implement waste collection, biweekly or triweekly, on public property where traffic volumes are high
- Implement collection in all municipal buildings, biweekly or triweekly
- Adopt a by-law to ban single-use water bottles at meetings and other municipal activities
ORIENTATION 3: ADOPT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT BEST PRACTICES IN THE INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL, INSTITUTIONAL (ICI) SECTORS

OBJECTIVE 3.1
Update municipal support programs to stimulate certification

- Promote green building constructions and renovations in accordance with recognized standards (LEED, BOMA BEST and others)
- Include environmental requirements in municipal specifications and By-laws

OBJECTIVE 3.2
Promote environmental certification programs in the industrial, commercial, institutional (ICI) sectors

- Raise awareness about available certifications and increase their visibility using flyers and the Town website

OBJECTIVE 3.3
Encourage urban forests in industrial and commercial areas

- Encourage major landowners to plant trees on public grounds
- Encourage major landowners to build greener parking lots with permeable surfaces
- Introduce new regulations with stricter criteria concerning the inclusion of greenery in industrial and commercial areas
ORIENTATION 4: BETTER PROTECT BIODIVERSITY,
NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS AND GREEN SPACES

OBJECTIVE 4.1

Capitalizing on green infrastructures and their environmental benefits for urban areas

- Ensure that a green belt surrounds private lots being renovated or landscaped
- Implement a by-law promoting the planting of trees on private land
- Effectively manage the urban forest more to improve its health and durability
- Develop an Urban Forest Plan
- Identify areas suitable for planting and plant trees on public land
- Update the Tree Policy
- Include construction specifications to better protect existing public and private trees, thus engaging responsibility to sub-contractors
- Implement maintenance, irrigation and monitoring programs for young trees located along streets four years following planting
- Apply the new By-law and procedures to protect existing public and private trees on construction sites

OBJECTIVE 4.2

Improving environmental management of green spaces

- Manage green spaces in an environmentally sound manner
- Maintain the Pierre Elliot Trudeau Rose Garden in a fully sustainable manner, using effective natural ecological substances with no pesticides
OBJECTIVE 4.2

Improve environmental management of green spaces (continuation)

- Promote environmental management to encourage residents and inform them of the Town’s best practices
- Implement landscaping features that promote biodiversity on public land
- Ensure the presence of beehives in locations throughout the Town
- Promote plant pallisades or other green infrastructures on public land
- Increase the visibility of fine herb gardens throughout the Town

OBJECTIVE 4.3

Promote greening and the reduction of heat islands

- Ensure that new landscaping projects include a significant proportion of perennial plants to decrease the percentage of annuals
- Update existing urban planning By-laws to require a minimum amount of greening on newly built or renovated properties
- Regulate the cutting down of trees on private property by applying the municipal by-law
- Improve landscaping and green cover located in the industrial park
- Create green roofs on municipal buildings
- Adopt regulatory measures concerning white and green roofs
- Ensure that back yards are kept as green spaces by applying the municipal By-law for real estate renovation or reconstruction projects
OBJECTIVE 4.3
Promote greening and the reduction of heat islands (continuation)

- Develop a greening plan for the Bates-Ekers area
- Maintain efforts to manage the emerald ash borer
- Introduce white concrete pavement for parking lots
ORIENTATION 5: IMPROVE COMMUNICATION WITH TOWN RESIDENTS

OBJECTIVE 5.1
Keep Town residents informed of municipal environmental projects

- Create a blog or newsletter presenting the Town’s various environmental projects and ensure regular publications
- Create incentives to encourage ecological houses within the Town
- Raise public awareness about the importance of organic waste participation
- Encourage healthy eating in municipal buildings by including provisions to the Town’s upcoming Municipal Food Policy
- Create a contest for the best landscaping and most beautiful tree

OBJECTIVE 5.2
Hold eco-friendly events

- Set up Green Patrol and Blue Patrol booths and activities for day camps
- Encourage residents to direct their eaves troughs toward permeable surfaces to reduce the amount of runoff entering sewers
- Improve the Green Line’s visibility
- Set up information kiosks for herbicide and pesticide-free gardening best practices
- Hold annual environmental information sessions for residents
- Hold an Earth Day activity
ORIENTATION 6: ENSURE ACCESS TO HEALTHY HUMAN-SCALE SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

OBJECTIVE 6.1
Fight inequality and promote inclusion

- Implement the Municipal Action Plan for Seniors (MADA)
- Obtain training for intercultural relations and community diversity management
- Offer internships to young people to promote social and professional integration (UMQ – Simple Plan)

OBJECTIVE 6.2
Preserve heritage and promote culture

- Improve local cultural activities
- Implement a New Cultural Policy

OBJECTIVE 6.3
Improve municipal services, equipment and infrastructure access

- Subscribe to universal accessibility when building or renovating municipal buildings
- Apply universal accessibility principles when holding municipal events and activities