

Grand parc de l'Ouest project

Frequently asked questions

Question:

What does this project entail?

Given the consequences of climate disruptions, Montréal is multiplying its efforts to offer resilient and sustainable living environments. Natural habitats maintain biodiversity and enrich citizens' quality of life. In 2004, the Ville de Montréal adopted the Policy on the Protection and Enhancement of Natural Habitats to preserve wooded areas, habitat mosaics and humid and water environments. In 2015, after attaining the objective of protecting 6% of the territory, the target was increased to 10% during the revision of the Land Use and Development Plan for the Montréal urban agglomeration. In addition to ensuring the sustainability of ecosystems, the protection of natural settings offers the Montréal population new sites where they can come into contact with nature. These sites also contribute to the attractiveness of the city.

The present by-law on the establishment of the Grand parc de l'Ouest is intended to create a territory that connects the Anse-à-l'Orme, Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard, Bois-de-la-Roche, Cap-Saint-Jacques and des Rapides-du-Cheval-Blanc nature parks, including sectors of interest (Morgan Arboretum, Angell Woods, right-of-way of the 440, Écomuseum, McGill McDonald Campus, John Abbott Campus, etc.). The Grand parc de l'Ouest aims to ensure the health of the natural settings and the implementation of an urban outdoor network. Valorized in an integrative and global perspective, this space will connect the green belt that borders the Lac des Deux Montagnes. Enhancing the large park network can also consolidate the city's green grid and create an urban environment on the human scale that respects the environment.

Question:

What are the implications for citizens whose land falls within the limits of the park (of the map)?

In line with article 112 of the *Municipal Powers Act* (RLRQ, chapter C-47.1), expansion of the limits of nature parks has no concrete effect as long as the Ville de Montréal has not signed agreements (acquisition, lease or other) with the owners of the land in question, be they private owners or public organizations.

Question:

Can owners of land included within the limits of the park continue to develop or do work on the land?

Absolutely. The delineation does not change any aspect of the prevailing urban planning by-laws. This delineation notably allows the Ville de Montréal to acquire, sign agreements and exercise its pre-emptive right. Day to day, nothing will change for owners and citizens.

Question:

Can an owner obtain a permit or is everything blocked?

The delineation does not preclude the issuance of a construction or renovation permits, for example, which comply with the regulation in force.

Question:

Have the zoning by-laws changed?

No, nothing has changed.

Question:

Does this map have the same effect as that of ZIS?

Absolutely not. The map of the Grand parc de l'Ouest is a vision statement. The by-law on the establishment and designation of the Grand parc de l'Ouest will ensure the integration of lots identified within its limits, which will then allow the city to pursue measures to ensure their conservation, and full or in part.

Follow-up question:

**Does the Ville de Montréal plan to do any development there?
If so, what?**

Once agreements are made with the owners, the Grand parc de l'Ouest will be accessible to all citizens, and the implementation of the REM will be an important lever to make this vast natural space easily accessible to all citizens of the agglomeration. Public consultations will take place in fall 2019 to allow citizens to express their hopes for their new large park.

Follow-up question:

What is the timetable for development of the park (projected start and end dates of work)?

Citizen consultations: 2019

Development scenario: starting in 2020

Implementation: 2021-2030