

December 10, 2009

Gilles Vézina  
Office de la Consultation Publique  
1550 rue Metcalfe suite 1414  
Montréal, Qc  
H3A 1X9

Dear Mr. Vézina,

The NDG Community Council is pleased to have the opportunity to present this brief on the topic of the redevelopment of the Namur-Jean-Talon Ouest to the Office de la Consultation Publique de la Ville de Montréal. The NDG Community Council is the Table de quartier for the neighbourhood of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce and has the mission of working with citizens and organizations to improve the quality of life in the area.

While we welcome the development of a new residential sector in Côte-des-Neiges, we share the many of the concerns that have been raised by Côte-des-Neiges community organizations including the *Corporation de développement communautaire de Côte-des-Neiges*, Project Genesis and the Mountain Sights Community Center regarding the proposed plan. We join with these organizations in calling for the following elements be included in the plan:

- That the housing built on the site include %40 social and community housing to respond to the real needs of the surrounding population.
- That the City of Montreal re-introduce a programme to acquire buildings on Mountain Sights street so that that they be transformed into housing coops or non-profit housing. This would protect the residents of Mountain Sights from the gentrification and rise in rents that would likely result from the redevelopment of the Namur Jean-Talon site.
- That the City of Montreal take the opportunity to acquire land that could be used for the development of social housing latter. This is especially pertinent as funds for social housing become available at such a slow pace that social housing developers are often not able to take advantage of development opportunities as they arise.

Thank you very much for taking these comments and concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

Leslie Bagg, housing community organizer for the NDG Community Council