

I am categorically opposed to any further development on green land anywhere on the Island of Montreal. Montreal is an over-developed island with far too much real estate stock being underused - yet gathering taxes. The building of homes is intended to attract more people to Montreal, only to then attack the next remaining spit of green land. This is insatiable and it is NOT "urban densification" and it is NOT what Montreal and Montrealers need. We are a sizable island, and in my 20 years here I've seen large amounts of agricultural land converted over into residences - money in the bank, once, and after that, mere rent servicing.

The land lay fallow for this very purpose, I have to presume, and the fact that nature reclaimed it and it is a much-needed and welcoming place for birds, animals, and amphibians who are endangered of going extinct on our island (NIMBY!) should be enough to protect it - it is an expanse of necessary habitat NOW and in the FUTURE. Let it flood, and let it remain as it is - and if there is a problem with flooding, as I read, engineer the buildings - not nature!

Montreal needs a moratorium on all greenfield development - this is essentially a Ponzi scheme of offering municipal services at an expense that surpasses the tax base and so triggers more development in order to meet the expenses, begetting more services. It is your financial and economic assumptions that are faulty, and you make natural ecosystems, that belong to THEMSELVES as well as us, pay the ultimate price! This is insatiable, and it is SO WRONG, especially when you see what is all along the 40 and all the areas that you call "infill," while buildings are low-occupancy. Obviously we want everything cheap from underuse. We have too much "stock" as it is.

Leave L'anse-à-l'orme alone. It already breaks my heart to see the mansions around the existing wetlands I see. Nature shouldn't need to be a Visitor Centre showcase in order to justify its existence and be otherwise seen as wasted development space. If only 10% of Montreal's greenspace is existing at all for the pleasure of park visitors, that only means 40% of green land has already been eliminated. Nature needs half, and most of it, without us, in order to thrive. And thriving with us, it is not.

Jane Sorensen