

Hello,

I hope you are well. I would like to voice my concern for the Pierrefonds-Ouest residential development that has been proposed. In order to complete this project, a significant portion of protected land will be taken over. These sections of l'Anse à L'Orme are valuable for a wide variety of reasons. A complex ecosystem - and one of the last of their kind on the island of Montreal - this amalgamation of forest, agricultural land and wetlands hosts a myriad of important plants and animals that call l'Anse à L'Orme home.

Although I understand that that certain sections of the park will supposedly remain untouched during and after the project's completion, the impact of a residential project such as this will nonetheless be devastating for the park as a whole due to the complex nature of the aforementioned ecosystems.

The park has historically been an important spot for both humans and animals alike. Citizens of the island of Montreal are lucky enough to be able to escape to this area and enjoy a selection of outdoor activities that cannot be enjoyed on most parts of the island. This includes hiking in the summer, and snowshoeing and cross-country skiing in the winter. l'Anse à l'Orme is a refuge for many people who need a break from the activity of the city, and offers the opportunity to relax during the week and on weekends in a more tranquil setting.

In addition to these aspects, the park is also a terrific educational opportunity for so many Montrealers. Not seizing the chance to educate both students and adults alike on ideas related to ecosystems, environmental policy, and climate change in their own backyard would be a shame.

I would propose that rather than converting some of the park into a residential development, the funding should be focused on truly taking advantage of the l'Anse à l'Orme's educational potential. Developing this would allow for a more environmentally-aware youth that will hopefully enjoy the park to its full advantage in the coming years.

Thank you very much for taking time to read my opposition to the project. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

All the best,
Philip Rich

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