

885 **M. VIATEUR CHÉNARD commissaire :**

Thank you.

890 **LA PRÉSIDENTE:**

Thank you very much. J'appellerais maintenant Madame Caroline Nabozkiak, s'il vous plaît.

895 **Mme CAROLINE NABOZNIAK:**

900 Bonsoir, Madame la présidente, Messieurs les commissaires. I'm here as a resident of Shaughnessy Village, which is the area concerned, where the park is going to be, so basically I have been here long enough, I have been in the area. I'm a property owner, I'm a resident. I have been there for over 30 years, so I have seen the evolution of the area, but from the time I have moved there, it's a very strong, it has a very strong residential communal flavour, and this has been there since before I started and, I really don't know, but other people who come from other areas, in inner city areas, say it's quite unique the residential flavour that we have. And I know that there were times that, with the move of the forum, things got a little quiet, but we're not against development.

905 We were really happy, before the Séville Condo projects took place, to hear that we were going to have more residents in the neighbourhood. We have been happy as residents in the neighbourhood and we know that having residents makes for a very secure and safe downtown. And we have been told by the police often that our neighbourhood, even though it is downtown, there are so many other neighbourhoods in the island of Montreal that are far less safe than  
910 downtown. Why is it? You've got people coming out, but you've got people living there.

Our idea was, when we heard about these projects coming to pass, that we would continue, we would just ameliorate the communal energy that was there and we have also a flavour in the neighbourhood, it's a Victorian flavour. So you walk through, it has often been pointed out how

915 beautiful the neighbourhood is, so we were also hoping that any projects would take into account the beauty of the neighbourhood.

Unfortunately, the Séville Condo project was a real disappointment. I mean you can look at those buildings go all along, look in Lachine, every Prével building is just as ugly as that one. So it did not, that was one aspect, they did not take into account the flavour of the neighbourhood. There were many derogations with regard to height, et cetera. We were not prepared for those kinds of derogations.

925 One of the things that we thought when we had these residential projects, they were already lacking social services, social installations, public services in the neighbourhood, so our expectation was that with that would come all of those services that we are sorely lacking. No, they didn't.

930 It's not just the Séville Condo projects; if you look in all of McGill, you've got one block after another block, after another block, with no services and then we are told we are this quartier des Grands Jardins. Well, Grands Jardins privés, but pas des Grands Jardins that we can use ourselves. So this has been, while we are happy to have more residents, it's the view or the aspect of the city, somehow there has been no sense of creating a community, it's just blocks.

935 Once the fire took place in 2010, it appeared to us that there was an opportunity to at least have one thing that we are missing, is some green space that could be used for outdoor recreational purposes. I mean it's a really beautiful area, as I've heard one gentleman talk tonight, it really is quite stunning. So it was: oh, there is a perfect opportunity, the land is there. There is no other land, unless we take down a building or two, the land is not there, but this land now exists. And I didn't know until tonight that it had a history of being a garden and green space, et cetera.

940 We have made representations over the years. From the time of the fire, the citizens

945 have made it very clear to our city representatives and to their team what it is that we are looking for, that we would like this to be preserved for purposes of outdoor recreational services. And apparently a study was done but we don't know how and what, and mayor Coderre said no for all sorts of reasons that, to me, would serve to negate any kind of a condo project, we can't have the park there.

950 I just would like to mention that I heard with the other submissions, there seems to be a suggestion that maybe some of the other spaces we have, which are very few indeed, such as Cabot Square possibly being transformed to serve this purpose, it's unthinkable. We need that square as well. We don't have, we have hardly any outdoor spaces, and that is a beautiful square. It has been beautifully redone. It makes for a good passageway, I always walk through Square Cabot when I am going someplace, but I also like going there. Why? We have Repercussion Theatre, Shakespeare-in-the-park, we have *des journées d'autochtones*; we have all kinds of things  
955 happening there. The city has really tried to use the square for animation, and I really appreciate that, so it cannot be used, we need that as well. So this, to me, I see that as an unthinkable idea.

960 One thing that I am concerned about with this two towers, besides it dwarfing everything else in that neighbourhood, it's a very low-rise neighbourhood, but you're creating two huge silos with three floors of parking, a huge amount of parking. How are you going to help the energy, how is the project going to help the energy of the neighbourhood? The people are going to be, like I have seen in Toronto where you've got these huge towers in downtown areas and they do absolutely nothing, they do not live up to the vibrancy of downtown Montreal because people are going in and out with their cars. They are there beside the highway, they will not be traversing Cabot Square,  
965 they will not be adding to a flavour in the neighbourhood, to the energy of the neighbourhood, and this is not a good residential idea. Yes, bring in residents, but not in that manner.

Mayor Coderre has stated on various occasions, and even to me during question period

970 at the Borough Council meetings, that he is aware that we do not have enough green space. He is aware that we are missing public services such as libraries, a community center, et cetera. And he keeps insisting that the development at the Children's Hospital site will serve this purpose. Well, you know what, I would like to give the mayor a chance to fulfil that promise.

975 In order to do that, I would like to suggest that put a halt on the development of the Franciscan project, develop the Children's Hospital site, let's see what can be done there, let's see if those promises that he has made can they be fulfilled with the development at that site, because once that Franciscan land is gone, it's gone.

980 Do the Children's Hospital site first, give the citizens what they want; and also, the citizens were not able to express their wishes in a referendum, so also bring back that right to express their wishes. Put it on hold, develop the Children's Hospital site, let's see if we get our park and all of these other installations that the mayor himself has promised. Thank you.

985 **LA PRÉSIDENTE:**

Thank you very much.

**M. VIATEUR CHÉNARD, commissaire:**

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Assuming there is a community center and a public library on the Children's site, what will you do with the land, what sort of improvements, uses?

**Mme CAROLINE NABOZNIAK:**

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Where, which site are you talking about?

**M. VIATEUR CHÉNARD commissaire :**

1000 The central part.

**Mme CAROLINE NABOZNIAK:**

1005 The central part of what?

**M. VIATEUR CHÉNARD, commissaire :**

1010 Where the church used to be and everything, the central land, where the project is to be erected, yes.

**Mme CAROLINE NABOZNIAK:**

1015 You're talking about the project of the Franciscans?

**M. VIATEUR CHÉNARD, commissaire :**

Yes.

**Mme CAROLINE NABOZNIAK:**

1020 So assuming that we get the community center, et cetera...

**M. VIATEUR CHÉNARD, commissaire :**

1025 And a library I think has been promised.

**Mme CAROLINE NABOZNIAK:**

Okay, somewhere else is what you're saying?

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**M. VIATEUR CHÉNARD commissaire :**

At the Children's, that is what has been announced in the city's presentation.

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**Mme CAROLINE NABOZNIAK:**

Right, okay. So in other words, from my perspective, I would say leave the site green at the Franciscans. I actually like, I was listening to a lot of what Mr. Bourdages was saying and I would say that I'm very much in line with some of his proposals : not building up, not having large equipment, et cetera, I liked the idea. I often thought, I mean myself when I walk along there, it used to be a bit more accessible than it is now, but if one could do this green walkway just kind of above the *Falaise Saint-Jacques*. You know. sometimes I dream and I think how far east to the west could that go, and could we not be avant-garde and actually do some kind of a walkway there, but no, I would see leaving it green and available, but for recreational purposes as well. Like the mountain, you don't have too much equipment but you see people doing all kinds of things on the mountain.

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**M. VIATEUR CHÉNARD, commissaire :**

Okay, thank you.

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**LA PRÉSIDENTE:**

Thank you very much.

1055 **Mme CAROLINE NABOZNIAK:**

Merci.

1060 **LA PRÉSIDENTE:**

Alors, on s'arrêterait pour une quinzaine de minutes et on reprendrais avec Monsieur Watson et Madame Thomas.

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**SÉANCE SUSPENDUE QUELQUES MINUTES**

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**REPRISE DE LA SÉANCE**

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**LA PRÉSIDENTE :**

1075 Merci. Alors on reprendrait les travaux. J'inviterais maintenant monsieur Watson et madame Thomas.

**Mme CARLYE WATSON :**

1080 C'est madame Watson.

**LA PRÉSIDENTE :**

1085 Je m'excuse, c'est madame Watson. C'est parce que c'est sur notre feuille. Mesdames Watson et Thomas, je m'excuse.