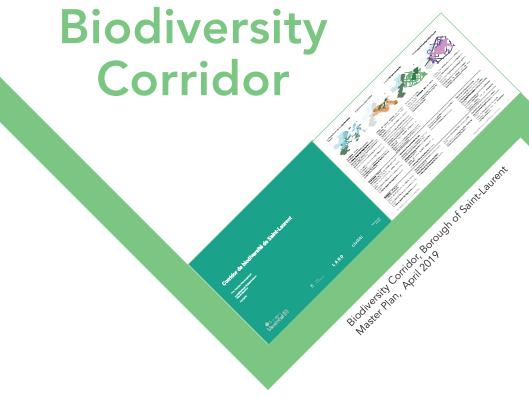


Borough of Saint-Laurent, Montréal



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

September 2017 The Borough of Saint-Laurent, Montréal, launches a national

interdisciplinary competition for a Biodiversity Corridor

April 2018 The winning team is announced:

civiliti, LAND Italia, Table architecture, Biodiversité Conseil

January 2019 The Borough proclaims itself "sustainable municipal territory"

May 2019 Official presentation of the Master Plan to the public



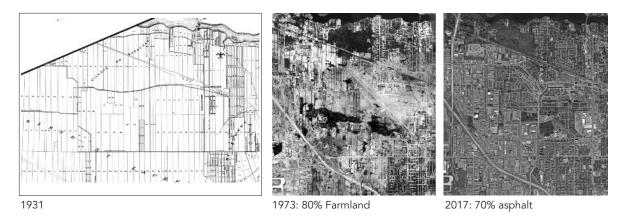
• 12 chapters and appendices



2020 2030 2040



Overall map of the island of Montréal, highlighting the Borough of Saint-Laurent north west of downtown Montréal and Mont-Royal Park



GEOGRAPHICAL AND HUMAN CONTEXT

Montréal experienced rapid growth in the 60's and 70's and Ville Saint-Laurent, as it was known at the time, was particularly affected by this change as it lost most of its plant cover. Proximity to an international airport and the implementation of a major highway system led to Saint-Laurent's rapid expansion and the transformation of its former agricultural lands into a sea of asphalt.

Today, over 70% of this 42.8-square-kilometer territory is devoted to industrial and commercial activities and made up of built structures or paved surfaces that are prone to the creation of heat islands. With 81% of its residents being immigrants or having a parent born in another country, Saint-Laurent's population of over 100,000 is one of the most multicultural in the City of Montréal. The Borough is one of Québec's main industrial and technological hubs with 4500 companies and 110,000 jobs.



SCOPE OF MASTER PLAN

The existing high-voltage power lines, which zigzag through the Borough following Cavendish, Poirier, and Thimens boulevards, constitute the 'backbone' of the project. The Master Plan's main proposal is the greening of the areas under the overhead power lines, allowing animals, birds, and insects to regain their lost habitat. Also part of this major intervention, is the introduction of new pedestrian trails and upgraded bicycle paths as well as activity or rest areas for Saint-Laurent workers and residents.

Two parks located near the intersection of Cavendish and Poirier boulevards, Marcel-Laurin Park and Philippe-Laheurte Park, will be the objects of substantial modifications. The Master Plan also includes the introduction of an overpass over Thimens Boulevard to link the Biodiversity Corridor with the Bois-de-Saraguay Ecoterritory along the shores of Rivière-des-Prairies.

EXISTING CONTEXT, POTENTIAL, AND GENERAL GUIDELINES

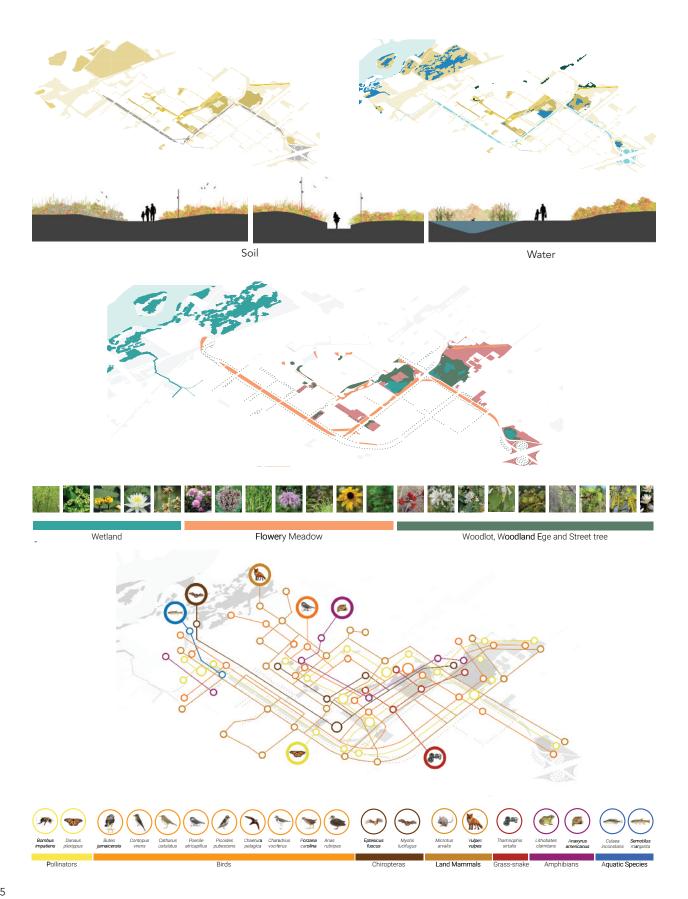


Cultural and Social Network Strengthening

Parcours piéton hors trame de rue

Social and Cultural Fabric

LAYERS OF ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTIONS

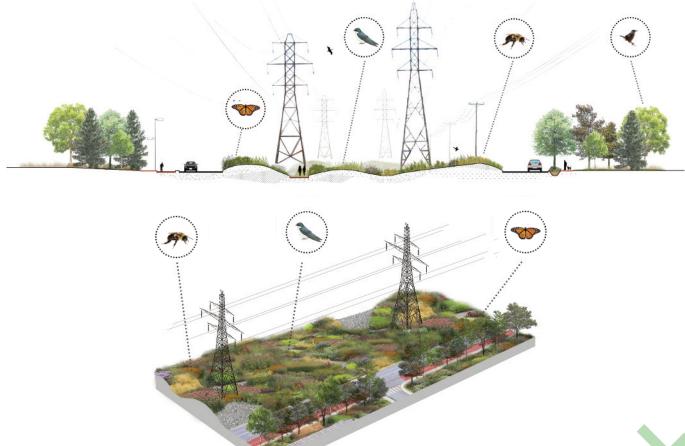




CAVENDISH BOULEVARD

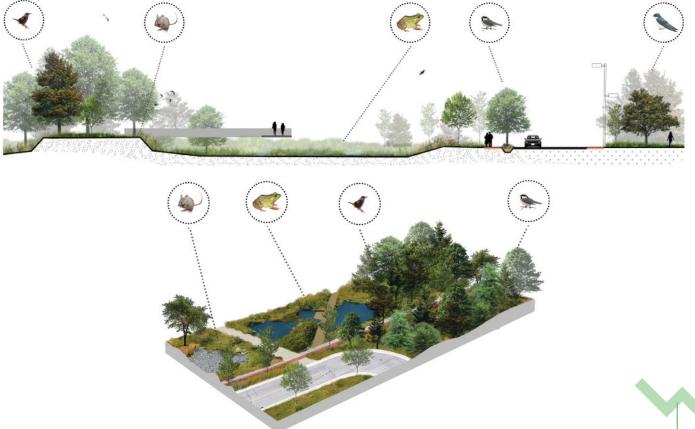


The perspective shows how the wasteland under the existing overhead power lines will be transformed into flowery meadows. Topographical features will be introduced to enliven the grounds and break the monotony of the existing landscape. Borough residents, their families and workers from nearby businesses will finally be able to benefit from these new green spaces.



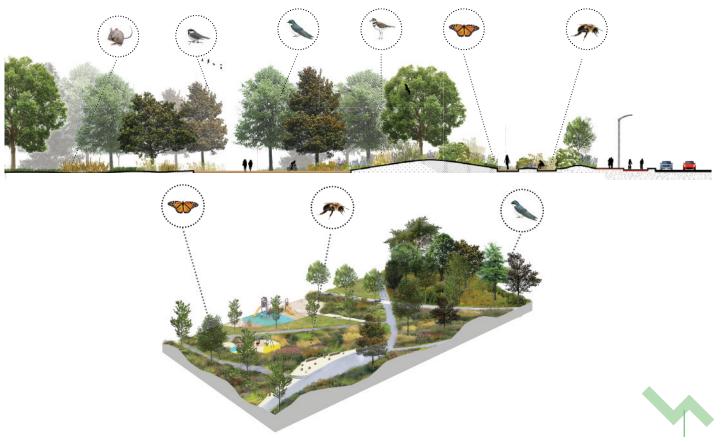


A wet bioretention basin will be implemented in Philippe-Laheurte Park to ensure better connection between nearby wetlands and an existing dry retention basin. This particular area offers great potential in terms of habitat for small animals and birds attracted to this territory. New pathways and unobtrusive viewing structures will allow citizens to learn about ecology as they watch the surrounding nature without directly interfering with it.



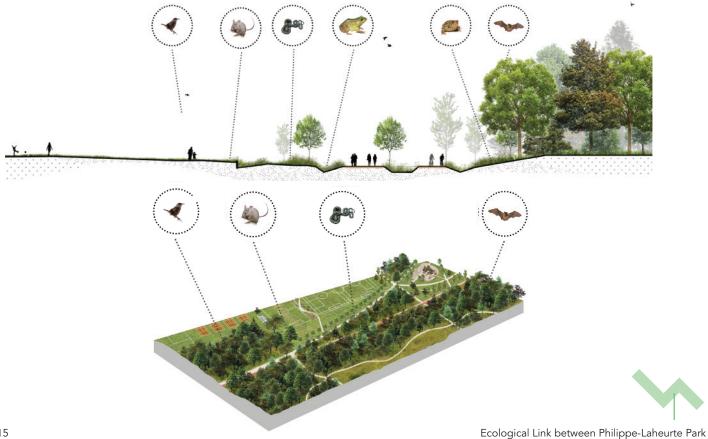


The Master Plan proposes an entrance to Philippe-Laheurte Park off Cavendish Boulevard. Existing playground facilities will be kept and consolidated with the introduction of park furniture and modified topography. Species of plants, similar to these sown under the Cavendish Boulevard power lines, will help create a visual and biological transition in this hybrid environment. Visitors will be able to easily access the nearby wooded area from this entrance point.





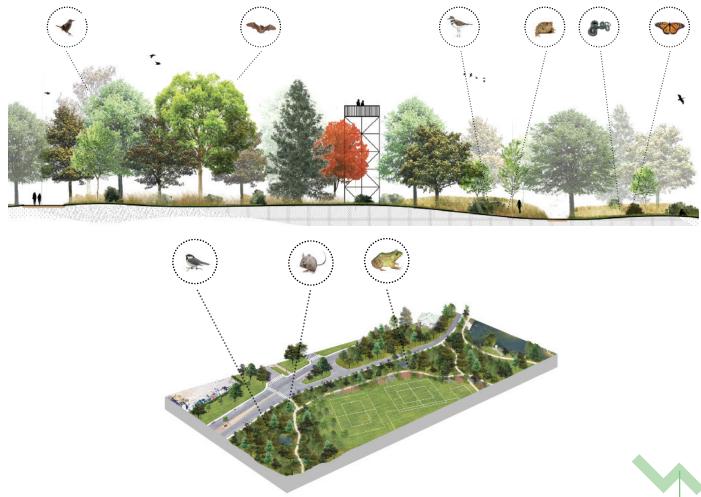
A segment of Raymond-Lasnier Street will be shut down to vehicular circulation allowing for free movement between two separate sectors of Philippe-Laheurte Park. The existing street will eventually disappear to be replaced by a pedestrian path, much less threatening to small animals. The park, which will double in size, presents a particularly high potential for biodiversity. Visitors will have access to an observation tower, which will help them grasp the importance of protecting nature in an urban environment.



MARCEL-LAURIN PARK



Marcel-Laurin Park is located on a large land parcel where several cultural, educational, and sports amenities can also be found. In time, the park could become a major biodiversity node where fauna and flora would cohabit with humans. Its limits could possibly be extended right up to the sidewalks surrounding the various institutions such as the Bibliothèque du Boisé, which was designed taking into account its proximity to the natural environment.

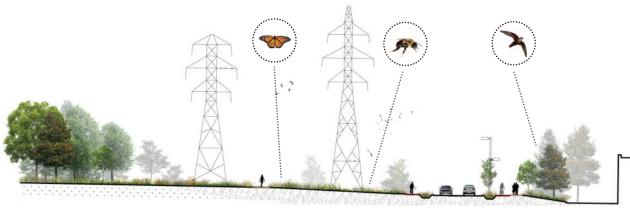


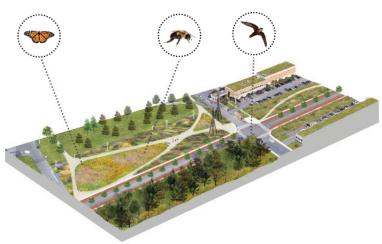
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POIRIER BOULEVARD



Poirier Boulevard is a crucial segment of the Biodiversity Corridor ensuring the transition between Cavendish and Thimens boulevards. The future linear park will connect with pedestrian paths located on either side of a nearby water reservoir thus giving visitors an additional access to Philippe-Laheurte Park.



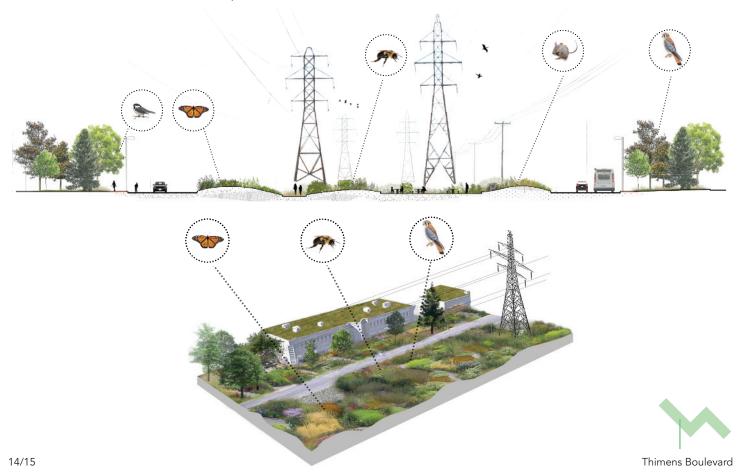




THIMENS BOULEVARD



One of three major linear landscapes, the park area along Thimens Boulevard is located in close proximity to several existing businesses. The area will be undulated offering visitors and workers sheltered spaces where they will be able to relax during lunchtime breaks or at any other time. Flowery meadows will change throughout the seasons, and provide birds and insects with new habitats.



OVERPASS THIMENS BOULEVARD



The Master Plan proposes a multi-use overpass, located at the end of Thimens Boulevard, above the railway line. This new amenity, at the northernmost part of the Biodiversity Corridor, will provide a "green bridge" for human and wildlife. It will also serve to link the Biodiversity Corridor to the Bois-de-Liesse and Saraguay nature parks as well as to the shores of Rivière-des-Prairies.

