



MONTRÉAL'S NEW ENTRANCE BUILDING TO THE VENDÔME METRO STATION EARNS AWARD FOR SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

The new entrance building to the Vendôme metro station project in Montreal, Québec was awarded a Gold Envision Rating for sustainable infrastructure. Built in partnership with the Société de transport de Montréal (STM), exo and the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC); this project was designed to provide universal access to the Vendôme intermodal hub from the MUHC.

The project consists of developing a new entrance to the Vendôme metro station and a pedestrian link between Maisonneuve Boulevard, the Vendôme intermodal hub, and the MUHC. The new Vendôme station infrastructure, including the entrance, train station platforms, a pedestrian tunnel leading to the hospital complex, and walkways, are equipped with elevators and universal accessibility devices, such as enlarged motorized butterfly doors and swing gates.

The aims of this project are to:

- Improve traffic flow and capacity within the station to meet the increasing number of users.
- Connect the MUHC to the Vendôme intermodal hub.
- Make the station universally accessible.
- Improve the operational efficiency of the station.

COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

The project took a holistic approach to sustainability and sought to improve the metro user experience and improve the quality of life of local communities. The project team integrated project considerations with the community's objectives to maximize sustainability benefits within the project and surrounding area, resulting in multiple sustainability achievements, as described below.

KEY SUSTAINABILITY ACHIEVEMENTS

Improvements to community mobility and access to mass transit. Several stakeholders were closely involved with the project and provided meaningful input from the initial concept to the construction phase, including input regarding measures to mitigate the impact of construction on community mobility. The project was designed and constructed to provide universal accessibility at a multimodal hub, enhance pedestrian and cycle routes, and increase public safety. The project is in a dense urban context and considers the multiples modes of transportation (buses, metro, commuter train, bicycle, and walking) to and from the Vendôme metro station.

The project is part of a central transit node for local and metropolitan mobility. It provides a new public entrance for the metro and train station, and transportation amenities surrounding the Vendôme station have also been improved, repaired, or created by the STM in partnership with the city of Montréal. Bicycle racks have been added as have sidewalks and new bus shelters.

Extensive stakeholder engagement. From the project onset, the STM set up a communication program to engage stakeholders in order to consider their opinions, needs, recommendations, and suggestions. This engagement program consisted of:

- A project-specific website that provided updated information about the project to the public,
- A video explaining the aims of the project,
- A public consultation conducted by an independent commission during the design phase to collect local needs and concerns,
- A Liaison Committee that followed up on the proposals suggested by the community,
- Electronic newsletters that were disseminated to area residents and other interested parties.

Planning for climate change. Climate adaptation is central to the STM and local government plans and policies. STM participated in the development of Montréal's climate change adaptation plan. The 2015-2020 Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Agglomeration of Montréal includes an analysis of the territory's vulnerabilities, the associated risks, and the proposed adaptations for each identified risk. STM has analyzed the risks associated with the Vendôme metro station and has implemented adaptation measures for urban heat island and heavy rainfall issues.

Use of by-products. By-product synergies involve the identification and cost-effective use of unwanted materials. This concept is aligned with the principles of a 'circular economy' where nothing is waste. For this project, the project team pursued multiple initiatives to identify by-product synergies with third parties. These efforts made it possible for the team to integrate recycled glass powder from local waste collection into the concrete in the bus loop that forms part of the project. As a result of this project, the use of glass powder has been approved for future STM projects.

Jobs. The project created more than 1,100 jobs during design and construction. Once fully operational, a staff of eight will be employed at the facility.

Use of sustainable materials. The STM's procurement program for the Vendôme project includes several sustainability requirements that target both suppliers and products/materials. STM required the project's contractors to choose materials with recognized environmental attributes including emissions reduction, third-party certification, local origin, etc., and to provide documented evidence of these attributes. Approximately 36 percent of purchased materials for this project are certified "sustainable" by credible third parties. Forty percent of total materials (by cost) are regionally sourced, and over seventy-five percent can be easily recycled or reused when the project reaches the end of its useful life.

QUOTES:

Eric Alan Caldwell, Chair of the STM Board of Directors

"Today, the STM accepts our second Envision Award, having received our first for the Côte-Vertu garage project," says M. Caldwell. "This recognition reaffirms our commitment to sustainable development and our teams' expertise in implementing innovative solutions for major projects that benefit neighbouring communities—truly, everybody wins."

Melissa Peneycad, ISI Managing Director

"Félicitations to STM and its project partners on the transit authority's second Envision Award for sustainability. This project's contribution to improved mobility, and the team's unparalleled commitment to community engagement throughout the project lifecycle to reflect on residents' input are especially commendable."

Project Details At-a-Glance

Envision-verified project:	New entrance building to the Vendôme metro station
Location:	Montréal, Québec, Canada
Lead Envision Firm:	Société de transport de Montréal (owner-led)
Envision Rating:	Gold
Award Date:	February 23, 2022
Project Owners:	Société de transport de Montréal (STM), exo, McGill University Health Centre (MUHC)
Other involved firms:	Bisson Fortin and Provencher Roy Architectes in consortium with resources from SNC-Lavalin
Project Phase:	Operational
Project Delivery Method:	General contracting project delivery
For more information:	Visit the project website: https://www.stm.info/en/info/service-updates/stm-works/vendome-0