



HAMPSTEAD



**THE CAVENDISH BOULEVARD EXTENSION**

2/24/2013

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## Highlights

- The new transportation plan presented recently by the City of Montreal is unacceptable.
- Why?
  - Traffic congestion in Hampstead and Montreal will continue to worsen if the Cavendish Boulevard extension is not built immediately.
  - The adverse consequences of traffic from neighboring communities going through Hampstead to and from Decarie Boulevard and the Expressway.

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### **Mr President & Members of the commission,**

**The Town of Hampstead is a residential community that has been adversely affected by traffic that runs through it from neighboring communities.**

**The problem is particularly acute with regards to the traffic that comes into Hampstead from the City of Cote Saint-Luc and that moves eastbound towards Decarie Boulevard, especially during the morning rush hour.**

**Returning traffic that runs westward through Hampstead from Decarie Boulevard towards**

**Cote Saint-Luc also adversely affects our community.**

## Daily Traffic Volumes Now

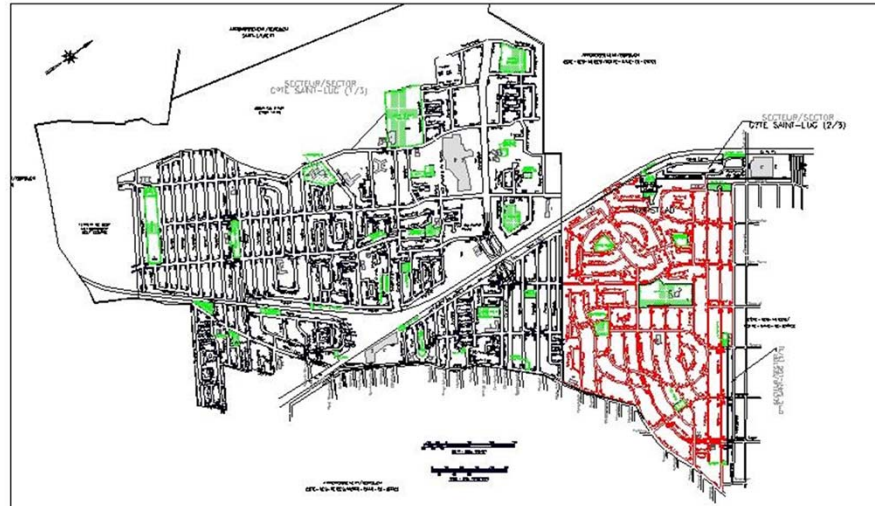


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**Daily eastbound traffic on Fleet Road alone is 5000 vehicles with approximately 1700 continuing on Fleet to Van Horne and the rest dispersing through Hampstead's residential streets. In addition, another 5000 cars, mostly from Côte Saint-Luc, enter Hampstead at Ellerdale with the majority going to the Decarie Expressway.**

## Municipalities of Côte St-Luc and Hampstead



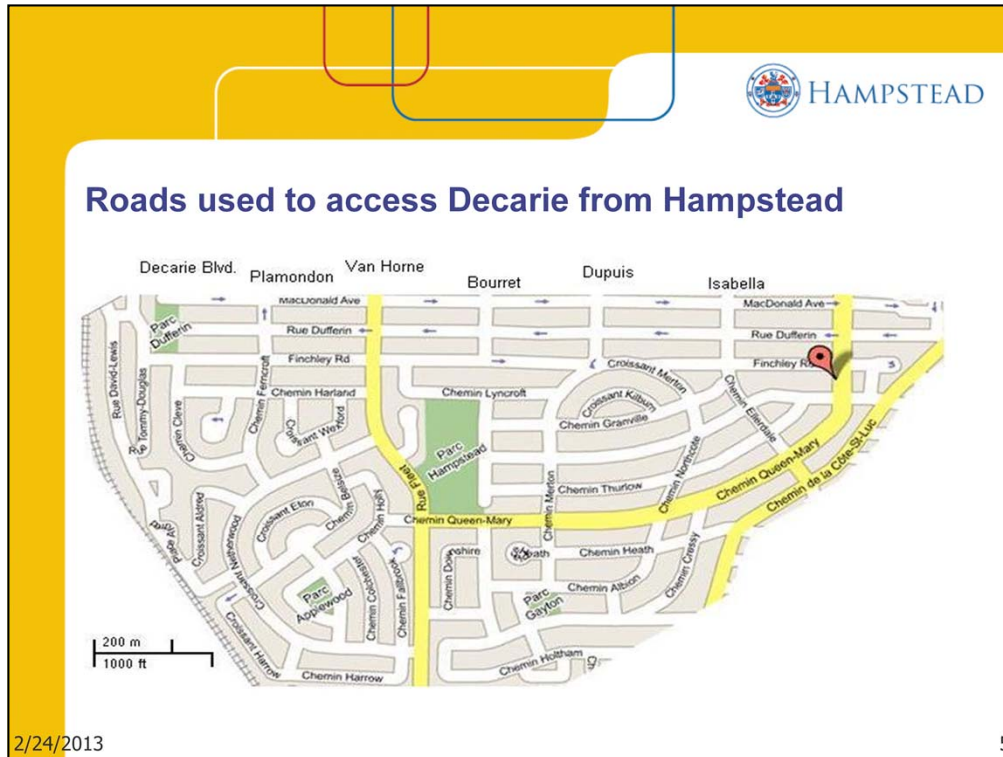
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**It is easy to understand why so much traffic runs through Hampstead between the City of Cote Saint-Luc and Decarie Boulevard. If one looks at a map showing these two municipalities it becomes very obvious that the City of Cote Saint-Luc (and especially its northern sector) is relatively isolated geographically from the road network of the rest of the island. Virtually all traffic from Cote Saint-Luc that is not headed directly south or onto Cote Saint-Luc Road must pass through Hampstead to reach Decarie Boulevard and the Decarie Expressway.**

**. There is simply no other direct route available for northbound vehicles from Cote Saint-Luc.**

**Similarly, vehicles from Cote Saint-Luc headed to the westbound Autoroute 40 and points beyond must go through Hampstead to get to the northbound Decarie Expressway in order to access the westbound Autoroute 40 and other western destinations.**



**All of the traffic that passes through Hampstead from Cote Saint-Luc to and from the Decarie Expressway and Decarie Boulevard creates congestion and other difficulties for our town, particularly during the morning rush hour.**

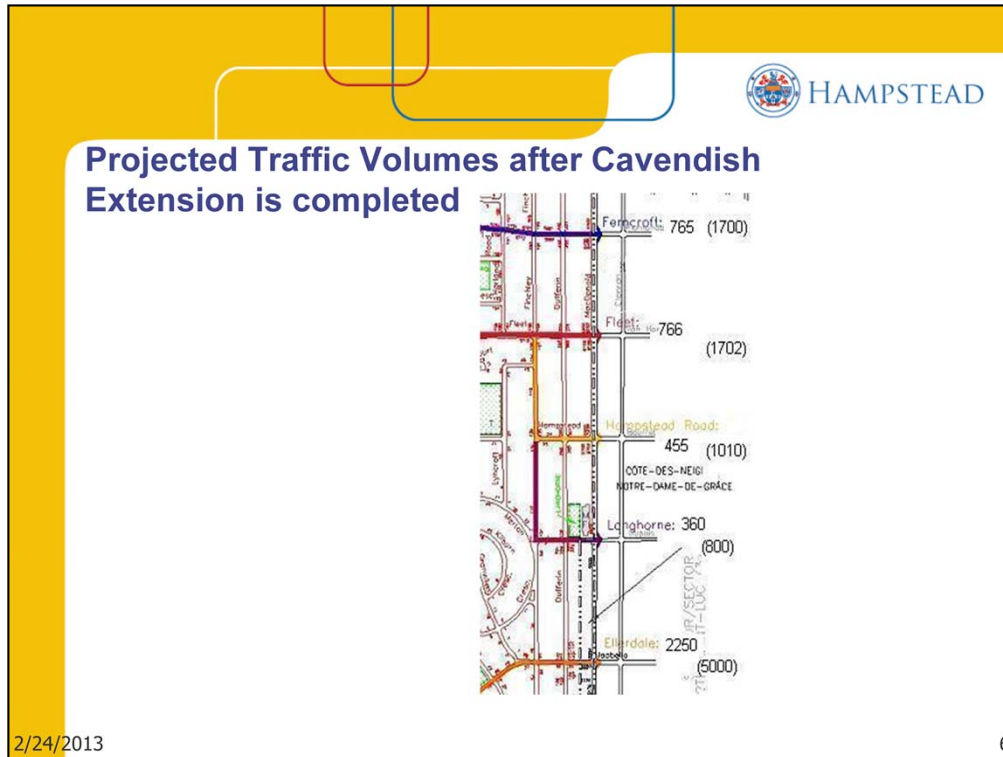
**The most popular route to access Decarie Boulevard through Hampstead from Cote Saint-Luc is via Fleet Road, a major thoroughfare, as indicated on our map.**

**In the morning traffic is backed up for several blocks along Fleet Road and Van Horne Avenue. Because of the heavy eastbound traffic in Hampstead along Fleet Road in the morning, Cote Saint-Luc motorists also use our quiet residential streets to access Decarie Boulevard and the Expressway, as indicated on the map.**

**A very popular route is by Netherwood Crescent (just off Fleet Road) and then by Ferncroft Road which becomes Plamondon or Cleve which funnels all the traffic onto Vezina. Where it can take upwards of 30 minutes to traverse the 4 blocks to reach Decarie.**

**Other routes through Hampstead used by motorists to get to Decarie Boulevard include the following:**

- Fleet Road to Finchley and then to Hampstead Road;**
- Fleet Road to Queen Mary Road, and then to Merton Crescent and Langhorne Road; and**
- Fleet Road to Queen Mary Road and then to Ellerdale.**



According to a recent internal traffic study, opening up the Cavendish Boulevard extension would reduce the traffic going through Hampstead to Decarie Boulevard and the Expressway by approximately 55%.

That is approximately 10000 vehicles daily which will allow our streets to return to their original purpose and design - residential use. This would significantly reduce traffic congestion on Decarie, resulting in benefits not only for the Town of Hampstead, but also for the City of Montreal and all those who travel on Decarie Boulevard and the Decarie Expressway.

Further, if the Cavendish link was completed many Hampstead residents would use it to go to points west and north rather than going to Decarie and the Expressway.

This would further reduce congestion on Decarie Boulevard and the Decarie Expressway.

**The Town of Hampstead therefore requests that the new transportation plan proposed by the city of Montreal be returned to the original schedule so as to ensure that the Cavendish Boulevard extension be built now, which would see this vital link opened to traffic in 2012.**

The adverse consequences of traffic from neighboring communities:

- (A) Adverse consequences on the physical safety of people.
- (B) Adverse consequences on the health of residents and travelers.
- (C) The human costs of refusing to act now.
- (D) The costs in terms of road deterioration.
- (E) Environmental destruction.

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**Cote Saint-Luc motorists account for a very high percentage of the traffic going through Hampstead to and from Decarie Boulevard and the Decarie Expressway because there exists no reasonably direct alternative route for vehicles heading east and north from the territory of the Cote Saint-Luc, and for most of those heading west.**

**Besides the obvious problems of congestion and backed up traffic at Decarie, which could be alleviated by the availability of the alternative route, the current situation has other adverse consequences which affect not only Hampstead and its residents, but also the City of Montreal and other Island municipalities, as well as all those who use Decarie Boulevard, the Decarie Expressway, Autoroute 40, and those who travel through, or live or work in the surrounding region.**

## CONCLUSIONS

- The Town of Hampstead contends that the construction of the Cavendish Boulevard extension is necessary.
- It would bring very significant benefits to all those who live, work or travel on the territory of the Island of Montreal.
- It would promote the health and safety of people, and substantially reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emission.
- The Town of Hampstead therefore requests that construction of the Cavendish Boulevard extension proceed as rapidly as possible.

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**Given this situation, the new transportation plan presented recently by the City of Montreal is unacceptable and unwise in that it proposes to delay the construction of the Cavendish Boulevard extension by at least 10 years. Building the Cavendish boulevard extension, *and opening it up to traffic*, would greatly contribute to relieving the congestion and motor vehicle pollution that currently exists at Decarie, the Decarie Expressway and Autoroute 40 as well as many streets in Hampstead.**

**The Town of Hampstead contends that the construction of the Cavendish Boulevard not only to the residents of Hampstead, but to all those who live, work or travel on the territory of the Island of Montreal. It would promote the health and safety of people, and substantially reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emission.**

**Because the health of residents, workers and travelers in the area is at stake, The Town of Hampstead therefore requests that construction of the Cavendish Boulevard extension proceed as rapidly as feasible, according to the original schedule set down by the Montreal Municipal Council when it created the Office for the Management of the Cavendish Project (Bureau de gestion du projet Cavendish) in 2004 which foresaw the opening of the Cavendish extension to traffic in 2012.**



