



Vaudreuil-Dorion

PRESS RELEASE

L'avenir est ICI

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Citizen Participation

Three projects submitted: Citizens will choose the one they would like to see realized

Vaudreuil-Dorion, March 18, 2021 – The City of Vaudreuil-Dorion is inviting citizens to vote on the City's website starting today, until April 11, for a project they would like to see realized in 2021. These projects, valued at \$100,000, drew the interest of the Municipal Council during the preparation of the budget last Fall, but because it would be impossible to carry all of them out due to financial constraints, the Council decided to let the citizens choose.

"This is the first step towards a participatory budget, an initiative that is taking place in many areas around the world. The council has been hoping for this practice to be adopted in Vaudreuil-Dorion for a few years now. Life being what it is, time flies and every time, it ends up being put off until the following year. This year, there was a lot of hesitation around three projects so we decided to ask our citizens to choose. In 2022, we fully expect to launch a participatory budget with projects originating from citizens, to be carried out by the City. This is a very concrete and democratic way to allow citizens to get involved in their City's budgetary choices," said Mayor Guy Pilon.

The Projects

1. Master Plan for Outdoor Signage

The intention of this project is to provide the City with a brand image and clear signage.

- To showcase certain areas such as City entrances, parks and green spaces, City neighbourhoods, tourist attractions, cultural and commercial areas, industrial parks, institutions, public parking areas, etc. For example, currently there is no sign to identify the name of parks and green spaces, and only one welcome sign reading "*Bienvenue à Vaudreuil-Dorion*", which is located at the exit from the Île-aux-Tourtes bridge.

2. Landscaping and tree planting on boulevard Hardwood

The aim is to beautify this urban boulevard by redesigning the City entrance at the exit from the Taschereau bridge.

- A variety of plants and trees is planned.

3. *Planting of large trees (250 mm to 350 mm). This corresponds to trees that are around twenty years old.*

Over 240 large ash trees were felled in parks and green spaces due to the emerald ash borer. The goal is to replace these trees and produce an immediate effect while reducing heat islands due to the size of the trees.

- Plant large trees close to water play areas to create natural shady areas, and in some parks where most of the trees are, or were, ash trees.

To be eligible to vote, you must:

- be a citizen of Vaudreuil-Dorion;
- be 16 years of age or older
- complete the online form
- submit only one vote
- provide valid information and email address.

Also...

- Each person living at the same address is eligible to vote provided they have a separate email address.
- All duplicate votes will be discarded
- The City reserves the right to cancel votes that do not comply with regulations

The winning project will be unveiled on April 14th on the City's Facebook page. This initiative stems from the wish to "encourage the participation of all to the well-being of all" (*Susciter la participation de tous au mieux-être collectif*), and is part of the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan entitled *Habité par ma ville*.

To participate in the survey, citizens are invited to visit the City's website at ville.vaudreuil-dorion.qc.ca, under The City/Information/News.

