

October 3, 2025 – The Montreal Port Authority (MPA) has determined that the project **Bank Stabilization of a Section of the Shoreline at Hôtel-de-Ville Park, Montréal-Est (Quebec)** is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

Mitigation measures considered for this determination are the following:

Environmental effect	Effective and established mitigation measures:
Water contamination by sediments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement measures to limit sediment runoff from the construction site into the aquatic environment and ensure their maintenance (e.g., sediment barriers, berms, sediment traps, sedimentation basins, temporary slope stabilization, water diversion to vegetated areas). Measures must remain effective during floods, heavy rainfall, or freezing conditions. 2. When work must be carried out in water, isolate the work area to allow dry conditions or limit sediment input into the aquatic environment (e.g., cofferdams, embankments and pumping, temporary bypass, turbidity curtain). For this project, no in-water work is planned. A permanent straw bale sediment barrier will be installed at the base of the slope. 3. Works will be carried out by excavating in small sections (typically 3 to 5 m), from top to bottom, and backfilling from bottom to top, downstream to upstream. Rock placement must be done promptly after excavation to avoid leaving bare surfaces at the end of the workday.
Contamination by noise and air pollutant emissions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Works must be carried out on weekdays between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. 2. Machinery must be inspected every morning to ensure it limits excessive noise and emissions.
Contamination by hydrocarbons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The excavator will operate with biodegradable hydraulic oil. 2. In case of a spill, an environmental emergency kit will always be available, and a rapid response will be carried out to control the leak and excavate contaminated sediments for disposal at an authorized site. The Ministry of the Environment will be notified of the spill. 3. Machinery refueling will always take place 40 m from the top of the slope.
Debris, waste and dry material management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All dry materials will be stored at the contractor's storage site located at 40 m from the shoreline. 2. Debris and waste collected on-site will be loaded into trucks and disposed of at authorized sites.
Wildlife Protection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fish habitat will be protected by conducting works outside of sensitive breeding and rearing periods. The authorized period is from August 1 to March 1.

Environmental effect	Effective and established mitigation measures:
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Work will be done in dry conditions during low water. In the event river flooding (unlikely at this expected period), works will be postponed until the water levels recede.
Management of excavated contaminated soils	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A-B Soils will be excavated and disposed of at authorized sites. 2. To prevent any risk of contamination of the aquatic environment, a sediment barrier made of straw bales will be installed at the foot of the embankment along and slightly beyond the excavation zone.
Vegetation Protection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Some mature trees in the park and their roots, which could be damaged, will be protected before work begins using fencing. 2. The project includes planting vegetation typical of riparian environments. 3. Other vegetated areas affected by the works are composed of grass. Grass areas degraded by machinery will be restored to their original condition at the end of the work.
Invasive species	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The contractor must clean machinery before arriving at the work site to remove mud and fragments of plants and animals that may be attached. 2. During environmental monitoring, any presence of new invasive species on-site will be promptly removed by uprooting and disposed of outside the sensitive area.
Bank stabilization	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To minimize the footprint of the works on the natural environment, phytotechnologies will be used to stabilize the topsoil combined with underlying stonework to ensure long-term safety. The chosen approach also includes: 2. Designing the stabilization to limit edge effects by gradually blending with the natural slope profile on either side of the structure. 3. Planting shrubs and seeding with native species adapted to the environment. Planting will be done as soon as possible after completion of rockwork, during the appropriate season, to promote vegetation establishment. Vegetation installation and maintenance must be carried out to maximize successful regrowth.