

**Re: "The Weather: Montreal won't escape the consequences of global warming; But our port and rail links could give us some advantage" (Opinion, Henry Aubin, January 6, 2007)**

Letter to the Editor  
The Gazette

Dear Editor,

Railways have great potential, but frequencies, parking facilities and overall service must be first rate for motorists to switch to this energy efficient and environmentally friendly alternative. For example, the fluidity of the Rigaud commuter rail line can be improved with the addition of a few power switches, centralized traffic control and a third track between Vendome and Dorval stations.

Connecting tramways on the West Island's Doney Spur and Lasalle Loop could feed into the existing metro and commuter lines. Eventually Montrealers could enjoy an island-wide light rail network.

Truck traffic could be mitigated by the construction of a circumferential railway on existing right-of-way between Coteau in Soulanges and Longueuil on the South Shore. Container and trailer trains would circumvent Montreal on their way to Atlantic Canada or Ontario. This would free up slots on the Victoria Bridge and provide for more commuter trains to St. Hilaire. Alas, if only the bureaucrats and politicians would listen.....

Yours Sincerely,  
Avrom David Shtern  
January 9, 2007