




Yovani Baez-Rose
Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

Camilo Espitia
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas A. Golden, Jr., City Manager 

FROM: Yovani Baez-Rose, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

CC: Ali Carter, Director of Economic Development

SUBJECT: MOTION RESPONSE: 5/9/23 - Councilor Jenness/Councilor Robinson - Request City Manager Have Proper Department Explore The Feasibility Of Creating Outdoor Co-Working Spaces Similar To What Montreal Has Done In Order To Increase The Vibrancy Of Our Business Districts Downtown And In Neighborhoods Across The City

The Department of Planning and Development's Economic Development Office conducted research on the *Îlots d'été*, or outdoor coworking "islands" that have been installed throughout the city of Montreal since 2021. With this project, Montreal is encouraging its residents to work outdoors by installing 23 brand-new outdoor workspaces around the city.

The *Îlots d'été* are attractively designed booths with Wi-Fi, lighting, plants, and electrical outlets situated in different neighborhoods throughout the city for anyone to use for free. They provide seating, shade, and can accommodate up to six people at each station. They have ramps so they are accessible.

Installing similar stations in Lowell may enliven business districts and attract people to work in public areas that would otherwise not suit that purpose. Installations would require a substantial investment in design and materials, and to fund Wi-Fi and electrical service to these stations. DPD will further research the cost of installation and maintenance of these work stations and discuss the potential use of ARPA funds for their creation.

AC