

# Sustainability in the City and Beyond

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## Can we ever get away from the sprawl? Vivre en Ville's quest to help Quebec suburbia retrofit gently

Olivier Roy-Baillargeon and Christian Savard ([Vivre en Ville](#))

For almost 25 years, [Vivre en Ville](#) has been researching best practices and stimulating innovation in urban planning, policy and design to help decision-makers and professionals curb and prevent sprawl. [Its versatile team](#) contributes to initiate and sustain public debate and municipal efforts to transition from car-centric dispersed suburbanism to human-scale, pedestrian-friendly, transit-oriented development. Their fields of expertise relevant to impulse and assist this much-needed transition include active design, sustainable mobility, urban economics, public policies, stakeholder participation, transportation planning and green infrastructure

Vivre en Ville's recent publications aim to raise awareness on the ecological, financial and social impacts and side effects of sprawl and to offer hands-on approaches and instruments to mitigate and compensate them. They address how villages and mid-sized cities can avert suburbanisation without metropolitanisation ([Petites et moyennes collectivités viables](#)), how neighbourhoods can grow through infill and intensification rather than develop on greenfields ([Croître sans s'étaler](#)) and how regions can (re)articulate and densify their urbanisation around transit nodes and multifunctional centres rather than megamalls and highway interchanges ([Retisser la ville](#)), among other topics.



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