County of McHenry
County Administration
2200 N. Seminary Avenue
Woodstock, IL 60098
Phone 815-334-4221 *Fax* 815-338-3991
www.co.mchenry.il.us/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Adam Lehmann, Public Information Officer-Administrative Intern
PHONE: 815-334-0309

McHenry County is pleased to announce the hiring of Dennis Sandquist as McHenry County's new Director of the Planning & Development Department. Mr. Sandquist is planning to begin his new role with the County on Monday, December 15, 2008.

Mr. Sandquist earned a B.S in Geography from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1990, and Masters Degree in Community & Regional Planning from Rutgers University in New Jersey in 1993. Currently, he is serving as the Deputy Director of Planning, Building & Development for Lake County, IL, which is a role he has held since December of 1999. Mr. Sandquist has been with Lake County since March of 1998. While in Lake County, Dennis served as project manager for a wide range of projects including a three-year program to develop a new countywide comprehensive plan, managing the compilation of multi-departmental report on the state of Lake County's water supply, and developing an intergovernmental land use agreement for the area around the Rt. 173/I-94 interchange.

Mr. Sandquist has been working in the field of planning for over 15 years. Prior to working in Lake County, Dennis was a Planner for Johnson County, KS, in suburban Kansas City and has served for three years in the United States Army (Airborne).

The hiring of a new Planning and Development Director completes a long and thorough nationwide search in which over 50 applications were received. Ultimately, six candidates were invited to interview for the position in an interview process that included both County Board members and County staff members. Three very qualified finalists returned for second interviews and Dennis Sandquist was selected as the best fit for McHenry County.

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