



CONTACT:

Dave Heiar, Economic Development Director
563.589.4393
dheiar@cityofdubuque.org

NEWS RELEASE

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Wagner Named Assistant Director of Economic Development

DUBUQUE, Iowa –Dubuque City Manager Michael Van Milligen has appointed Phillip Wagner as the City's new assistant director of economic development. Wagner replaces Aaron DeJong, who resigned to accept an economic development position in Colorado.

Wagner has served since 2009 as a management and budget analyst for the City of Sugar Land, Texas, a suburb of Houston with a population of 80,000. In that role, he supported two developing tax increment reinvestment zones, created and monitored development agreements, and worked extensively with developers. Additionally, he worked on the redevelopment of the abandoned Imperial Sugar Company refinery site to create a viable mixed-use development while preserving the historical character of the community, a project similar to Dubuque's Historic Millwork District revitalization.

Before his positions with the City of Sugar Land, Wagner served as management intern for Johnson County, Kansas, where he assisted the county's management team with analysis and recommendations.

Wagner earned a master of public administration degree from the University of Kansas School of Public Affairs and Administration, one of the top programs in the country. He also holds a bachelor of science degree in journalism and political science from Central Michigan University.

As assistant director of economic development for the City of Dubuque, Wagner is responsible for specific economic development, downtown redevelopment, and riverfront development projects. He will also conduct planning studies; provide direction and advice on development matters; act as coordinator for developers, contractors, and neighborhood development agreements; and perform feasibility studies.

Wagner's employment with the City of Dubuque began June 4. He reports to Economic Development Director David Heiar.

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