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NEWS RELEASE

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State Board Unanimously Approves Dubuque's West Side Annexation Request

DUBUQUE, Iowa -- The State of Iowa City Development Board unanimously approved the City of Dubuque's plan for annexation of approximately 640 acres west of Dubuque on December 18, 2008. The annexation will become official after March 15, 2009, after the Board has filed its decision with the Secretary of State and the Dubuque County Recorder.

There was no testimony in opposition to the annexation and the board's chairperson and vice-chair commented that the information and materials provided by the City of Dubuque, including the City's Long-Range Plan, were exactly what they needed to vote yes. They added that the information provided by Dubuque Planning Services Manager Laura Carstens is always extremely well-organized and as good as any they see.

Ten properties in Sandwedge Subdivision, an island between Asbury and Dubuque, were included as non-consenting owners in Dubuque's annexation in accordance with State law.

The City Development Board unanimously approved the joint motion filed by City of Dubuque and the City of Asbury to allow Dubuque to delete the Sandwedge Subdivision property owners from the Dubuque annexation territory and allow those property owners to be annexed to Asbury on December 18, 2008.

The annexation will help fill Dubuque's present and future needs for developable land. Dubuque's growth to the north, east and south is limited by geographical barriers that make development expensive and inefficient. The most cost effective growth area for Dubuque continues to be the west side.

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