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NEWS RELEASE

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Open House for Chaplain Schmitt Island Master Plan

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The public is invited to attend and participate in an open house on potential development for Chaplain Schmitt Island. The event will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at the Hotel Julien Dubuque – Meeting Rooms Julien I and II, 200 Main St.

Since the 1980s, Dubuque has forged innovative partnerships in order to invest in its core assets—Downtown, Port of Dubuque, Washington Neighborhood, and Historic Millwork District. The results have been spectacular. Now, the City Council has made creation of a Master Plan for Chaplain Schmitt Island a priority. Located in the Mississippi River, the Island is home to commercial and recreational uses, including a casino, restaurants, hotel, marina, excursion boat, sports complex, ice center, and parks. The Island offers opportunities for biking, hiking, picnicking, camping, boating, and fishing. It is home to several veterans' memorials.

The City of Dubuque has hired Cuningham Group to lead a Master Plan Process for Chaplain Schmitt Island to identify opportunities and build partnerships for development. The consultant team toured the Island and interviewed key stakeholders last November to kick-off the process. The consultant team returns to Dubuque in February for additional meetings and the open house. Mystique Casino is co-sponsoring the master plan process.

The Master Plan will result in a vision and a direction for improvements to the Island. The intent of the public open house is to introduce people to the Master Plan Process, present initial findings, and share preliminary ideas. Public feedback is essential so the Master Plan reflects the needs of the stakeholders and community.

For more information, contact Laura Carstens, Planning Services Manager, or Kyle Kritz, Associate Planner, for the City of Dubuque at planning@cityofdubuque.org or 563.589.4210.

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