



COUNTY of McHENRY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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McHenry County Embarks on Plan to Promote Local Government Shared Services

WOODSTOCK, Ill. – Local governments will be working together to increase efficiency and lower costs by sharing services under an initiative approved by McHenry County and the McHenry County Council of Governments.

After three years of research and collaborative meetings with more than 100 local officials, the county and MCCG entered into an agreement to appoint MCCG Executive Director Chalen Daigle as Shared Services Coordinator. Daigle will be tasked with implementing the recommendations of a forthcoming study examining ways that local governments can cooperate and collaborate to provide joint services. The study was funded through a Local Technical Assistance grant awarded by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning in 2017.

“I look forward to the challenge of finding ways that the county, municipalities and other local units of government can collaborate to reduce the costs while maintaining and possibly expanding services,” Daigle said.

Daigle will work with County Administrator Peter Austin to coordinate implementation of the McHenry County Coordinated Investment Study, which is set to be finalized by CMAP by the end of the year. Interest in sharing services has increased as a way to help save costs and reduce the tax burden, especially as local government budgets are tightened.

Daigle’s responsibilities will include facilitating meetings and outreach, managing implementation efforts, promoting potential multi-jurisdictional capital improvement projects and joint procurement, seeking grant opportunities, and benchmarking and documenting cost savings to local governments and taxpayers.

“The CMAP report makes clear that sharing services will benefit local governments and taxpayers alike. Given Chalen’s background, and MCCG’s mission to foster intergovernmental cooperation, I think she’s a perfect fit for this responsibility,” Austin said.

MCCG President and Ringwood Village President Rick Mack said, “The partnership between the MCCG and McHenry County will further the intergovernmental efforts of the MCCG and provide many great opportunities for our members. We look forward to the partnership and expanding our services as an organization.”

The position will enable both the County and local governments to have a resource for information sharing and collaboration. The McHenry County Council of Governments, created in 1976, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization comprised of local governments that fosters intergovernmental cooperation and addresses issues of mutual concern to members.

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