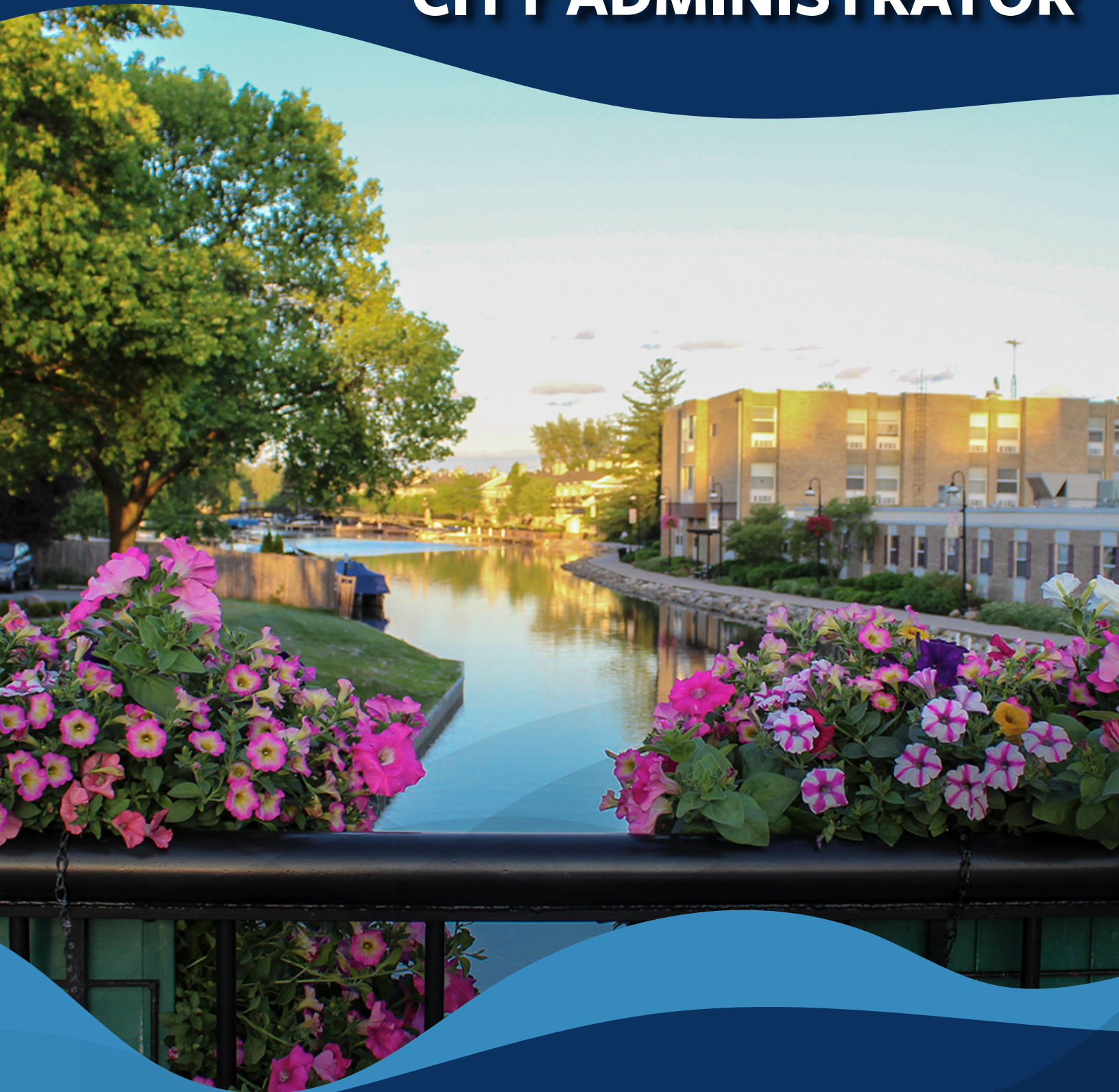


MCHENRY, ILLINOIS CITY ADMINISTRATOR



GovHR USA
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EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

MCHENRY, ILLINOIS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

GovHR USA, LLC is pleased to announce the recruitment and selection process for the City Administrator position in McHenry, Illinois. This brochure provides background information on the community of McHenry as well as information about the municipal organization and the City Administrator position.

McHenry (pop. 27,135) is located in northeast Illinois about 50 miles north of Chicago. The community is also about 13 miles from the Illinois - Wisconsin border. The topography of McHenry belies the fact that it is a midwestern community. Its rolling hills, majestic trees, and, of course, the beautiful Fox River, render McHenry an inviting oasis for those seeking an alternative to the prairie-like terrain that typifies much of the state of Illinois.



The Mayor and City Council are seeking applicants for the City Administrator position to replace the current Administrator who will soon be retiring after 13 years in the position. The elected body is seeking a collaborative, personable, energetic, and resourceful leader to fill this very important position.





MCHENRY'S HISTORY

In 1832 Major William McHenry led an expeditionary force through northern Illinois during the Black Hawk War. Settlement of the Fox River Valley began over the next few years, and on the river's west bank, at the site of an old Indian ford, the hamlet of McHenry developed.

A sawmill, hotel, and ferryboat were in operation by 1837. Legislation creating McHenry County was passed that year, and the village served as county seat until 1844. Gristmills started along newly dammed Boone Creek, and a wagon road entered town from the south in 1851. In 1864, the famed Riverside Hotel was built and still stands.

The City of McHenry incorporated in 1872. Though there were fewer than 800 inhabitants, commerce flourished. By 1876 there were seven churches and over 80 businesses, including flour mills, harness makers, a pickle factory, a brewery, seven saloons, and a newspaper. The newspaper, the McHenry Plaindealer, was in publication from 1875 to 1985.

Over the next 50 years McHenry grew slowly. During the twenties, the town became known as a resort destination. Bands played at local pavilions, trainloads of visitors arrived to tour the famous lotus beds, and summer cottages proliferated along the Fox River. A boat-building industry flourished; marine recreation still remains important.

A new wave of industry, including automotive components, electronics, and metalworking, swept into town after World War II. The Northern Illinois Medical Center, begun in 1956 as a 23-bed community hospital, evolved into a regional trauma center serving two states. Beginning in the late 1940s, subdivisions were annexed on all sides of the city. By this time, many residents were commuting to work in other localities, including Chicago. McHenry's population tripled from 2,080 in 1950 to 6,772 in 1970 and tripled again to 21,501 in 2000.

McHenry continues to grow in all directions. In 1995, the city's corporate boundaries leapt east of the Fox for the first time. The city now has seven separate commercial centers, as well as three separate and distinct urban centers. It also offers its residents very diverse housing choices, from historic tree-lined neighborhoods to modern subdivisions with executive-style homes.

MCHENRY BY THE NUMBERS

Population	27,135
Land area	15.1875 sq. miles
Municipal Parks	38
Parkland acreage	650
Total annual budget	\$57.8 million
General fund budget	\$31.9 million
Municipal employees (FTE's)	157
Total households	11,018
Persons per household	2.45
Median household income	76,858
Median home value	203,300
Owner occupied housing rate	75.1%

Racial breakdown:

White	81.0%
Hispanic/Latino	16.1%
Asian	.9%
Black / African American	.7%
American Indian	.3%
All others	1.1%

Persons over 25 with bachelors degree or higher	28.2%
Persons over 25 with high school degree or higher	92.9%



THE FOX RIVER

The Fox River clearly played an important role in the history and evolution of McHenry. Today, this beautiful natural resource continues to be a vital part of the fabric of the community.

The Fox River is a 202-mile-long tributary of the Illinois River, flowing from southeastern Wisconsin to Ottawa, Illinois. Known locally as an excellent fishery, The Fox provides opportunities for Smallmouth Bass, Flathead Catfish, and Walleye. The rivers watershed encompasses 1720 square miles in Illinois and 938 square miles in Wisconsin. It also provides a plethora of recreational opportunities including swimming, boating, skiing, fishing, sight-seeing, bird watching, etc.

The river continues to be a focal point in McHenry which is evidenced by the City's motto: "McHenry... Heart of the Fox River." The River supports the local economy in countless ways, and it remains today a major contributor the outstanding quality of life that McHenry residents enjoy.



THE COMMUNITY

Despite its location within the Chicago MSA, McHenry has a distinctive rural feel. Its rolling topography, abundance of cultivated land, and its friendly atmosphere is illusory to the fact that community is only a 45-minute drive away from one of the largest and most dynamic cities in the entire world.



McHenry provides its residents with the best of all worlds. If safety, charm, friendliness, and affordability are high priorities, McHenry fits the bill. But if you are looking for proximity to large employment centers, world-class cultural and fine arts amenities, professional and NCAA sports programs, and some of the finest dining and entertainment venues in the world, McHenry also fits the bill. It is indeed a small-town community with some of the country's most exciting urban amenities at its doorstep.

Among many of McHenry's local assets is an abundance of beautiful public parks and recreation amenities. The City of McHenry owns and maintains 38 parks that encompass over 650 acres. In addition to typical park facilities, the City's Parks and Recreation Department operates and maintains the following special facilities for use by residents and visitors alike:

- Ryan Buss Zone Skatepark
- McBark Dog Park
- Miller Riverfront Boat Launch
- Merkel Aquatic Center
- Petersen Park Beach
- McHenry Recreation & Fitness Center
- Historic Petersen Farm

Education is also a hallmark of the community. McHenry is served by two outstanding public-school districts. District 15 provides pre-K through 8th grade educational services to McHenry and surrounding areas. District 156 serves 9th through 12th grades. Both districts are widely regarded as leaders in public education and have received so many state and national awards for academic excellence that they are simply too numerous to list.

District 15 serves over 4,100 students in 8 facilities (6 elementary schools and 2 middle schools) strategically located throughout the community. While District 156 provides stellar educational offerings via two outstanding high school campuses, McHenry East, and McHenry West, that offer state-of-the-art facilities and amenities to prepare the McHenry's young people to become leaders in business, industry, technology, and government.

McHenry school aged children also have access to a number of excellent private and parochial schools as well.



Health care and education are among the largest employment sectors in McHenry and the surrounding area. Among the major local employers are:

Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital	5,000+
Various Public School Districts in the region	4,100
McHenry County Government	1,500
Follett Library Resources	1,400
Mercy Health System	735
Snap-On Tools	600



The residents of McHenry and those of surrounding communities have convenient access to world-class medical services at the Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital. This nationally recognized medical center consists of a 143 licensed bed, acute care teaching hospital located in McHenry. With more than 600 physicians in 70 specialties providing a comprehensive array of medical care, the hospital achieved five stars from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in 2017 and 2018. It ranks among the top 9 percent of hospitals in the nation for quality care. In its "2023-2024 America's Best Hospitals report", U.S. News and World Report ranked McHenry Hospital No. 12 in Illinois and the Chicago metro area.

Although many McHenry residents choose to commute into the Chicago area to some of the largest and most impressive employers in the country, one does not need to go far to access prestigious employment opportunities.

McHenry's local economy also boasts a very robust and diverse retail and service industry sector. McHenry has evolved into a regional shopping and entertainment center for many of the communities throughout McHenry County and beyond. This has allowed the City to attract a mix of retail stores and restaurants that much larger urban areas would covet.

And, of course, the attraction of the Fox River has created many development opportunities for small businesses that make McHenry a unique and special destination for shopping, dining, and leisure. The beautiful McHenry Riverwalk is a fabulous commercial district that the City worked hard to create, with the help of many investors and small businesses, which attract thousands upon thousands of people throughout the year.





MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

The City of McHenry operates under the Council-Administrator form of government that combines the political leadership of an elected Mayor and City Council with the professional administrative and managerial experience of an appointed City Administrator.

The elected body consists of the Mayor, who is elected at-large to a four-year term, and seven (7) City Council Members elected by wards to four-year overlapping terms. The Mayor only votes in the event of a tie.

The City of McHenry has an annual operating and capital budget of \$57.7 million. The General Fund operating budget totals \$29.3 million. The City's overall financial condition is very strong. The City has 157 full-time employees distributed among the following eight (8) operating departments: Administration, Community Development, Economic Development, Finance, Human Resources, Parks & Recreation, Police, and Public Works. The City Clerk is an elected position. Fire protection and emergency medical services are provided to the community by the McHenry Township Fire Protection District.

The City of McHenry is proud of its positive, holistic workplace culture, including support for a healthy work-life balance for its employees and a workplace environment where inclusion and opportunity are considered a high priority.

THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

The City Administrator in McHenry is appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council. The Administrator oversees all day-to-day operations of the municipal government including the supervision of all department heads. He or she is responsible for the preparation and administration of the annual operating and capital investment budget. The City Administrator also makes a professional recommendation on all policy matters that go before the City Council.

The current City Administrator has announced his retirement plans. He has served in that position for 13 years.

Applicants for the position of City Administrator should have a minimum of seven (7) years of progressively responsible managerial experience, preferably as a city administrator/manager or an assistant city administrator/manager. A master's degree in public administration or some other related field of study is preferred but not required.

The ideal candidate will possess the following professional skills and leadership attributes:

- A working knowledge of all aspects of local government with particularly strong experience in the following areas:
 - Financial management & budgeting
 - Communication
 - Economic development
 - Project management
 - Growth management
 - City Council relations
 - Strategic planning
- Is a collaborative leader that can create a strong team culture among the members of the city staff.
- Demonstrates outstanding people skills and is regarded by all as friendly, approachable, engaged, and genuine.
- Is an innovative, enthusiastic, and resourceful leader who is always searching for new methods and practices to benefit the community.
- Is an outstanding overall communicator and places a high priority on transparency and can effectively adjust his or her communication style and message to fit the audience.
- Listens carefully and genuinely considers the points of view of others.
- Is achievement oriented including a desire and ability to meet or exceed Council's expectations on the delivery of important work initiatives.





COMPENSATION AND HOW TO APPLY

The starting annual salary for the position is \$190,000 to \$210,000 DOQ/E. Residency within the City of McHenry is encouraged but not required. In addition to the salary, the City of McHenry will provide a comprehensive package of outstanding fringe benefits. Relocation assistance will be negotiated with the successful candidate.

To apply for this position, please submit a resume, cover letter, and contact information for five (5) work related references to the attention of Mark R. Peterson, Vice President of GovHR USA, at www.govHRJobs.com by September 5, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. Application materials must be submitted on-line. Please direct all inquiries about the position to Mr. Peterson at (309) 825-5091.

The City of McHenry is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

