

700 Locust St., Ste. 100 Des Moines, Iowa 50309 | USA

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p: (515) 286-4950 **DesMoinesMetro.com**

May 11, 2016

Des Moines Business Record Attn: Jason Swanson 100 4th Street Des Moines, IA 5039

Dear Jason:

I am often asked to write supporting letters for those being nominated for awards, seeking promotions or employment. Of all those letters I take no greater pride than submitting this letter expressing my strongest support for Karen Novak Swalwell as a Women of Influence 2016.

You will review Karen's resume, so there is no need for me to include the exhaustive list of her accomplishments and her commitment to our regional community. It's very impressive. What I can provide is insight as to how Karen carries out her role, accepts responsibility and participates in all organizations she joins.

I've known Karen for more than twenty years. She was a valued advisor to me when I served as Mayor and School Board President. I appointed her to the West Des Moines Water Board and to no surprise she rose to the top as chairperson and now helps lead the vital discussions of regional water services for the metro community. She's always active, involved and makes a difference in anything she does.

I urge you to recognize Karen's exceedingly strong contribution to our metro community and select her for this prestigious award. In any event she has and always will be the best "Women of Influence" in my professional life.

Please call me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Eugene Meyer

President of the Greater Des Moines Partnership