Dear Nominating Committee,

I would like to offer this letter of support for Carrie Kruse to be inducted into the prestigious Business Record’s 40 under 40 club.

I have watched Carrie throughout her career and have noted her passion for continual improvement. I had the pleasure of working with Carrie many years ago when she was hired at the City of Windsor Heights.

The City was going through a positive progressive change. Our city demographics were beginning to appeal to a younger generation; the city had been moving towards change and new initiatives when she was hired.

Ms. Kruse was hired as our CFO. She brought fresh, new ideas and tireless energy that was contagious. During her tenure: she changed our office procedures, she automated a very old system of accounting, and she helped implement our TIF program to create greater incentives for redevelopment. Most importantly, she was a solid performer. We relied heavily on her advice. Carrie had a great intuition of what would be required for the next steps and was always prepared for council and staff.

Our city is in a much better place, because of Ms. Kruse. We owe her a tremendous thank you for a job well done. Although, we couldn’t prevent her from moving to a much better paying job with the City of Des Moines, her practices and policies are still used today.

As a bonus for our city, she continues to live in Windsor Heights. She volunteers for the City’s Ad Hoc Planning Committees that need solid details to be assured the projects are reviewed properly. She has been heavily involved in our Comprehensive Plan, our Safe Streets Program, the Bicycle Hub Project and Budgeting Committees.

Carrie is truly a remarkable young person with a vision for the metro area. I can’t think of a more well-rounded candidate for this prestigious award. I have no doubts she is and will continue to make a positive impact.

Sincerely,

Diana Willits

Mayor and Council Member

City of Windsor Heights

1997-2017