January 11, 2018

Dear Forty Under 40 Selection Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to consider my nomination of Judy Downs as a member of the 2018 Business Record Forty Under 40. Although I have run across many outstanding Millennials, this is my first time nominating someone for this honor. I have been a colleague of Ms. Downs’s at the Iowa Environmental Council for the past 18 months or so and, in that time, have been inspired again and again by Judy’s commitment not only to a sustainable future for Iowa, but to her community, her family, and her own personal growth.

Judy is a person to watch and has achieved much in her career already. She has aced major projects at the Science Center of Iowa, Living History Farms, and now the Iowa Environmental Council while demonstrating exceptional leadership and service.

I am particularly inspired by Judy’s decision to run for a seat on the Urbandale School Board. I am so excited to see what her fresh eyes, studious commitment, energy, and imagination will bring to the students, teachers, and all the residents of Urbandale.

Judy’s leadership is already having an impact in the metro area and I am confident that impact will only grow as she continues in her career. I believe Judy’s service, leadership, and future potential make her a perfect honoree for the 2018 Forty Under 40.

Sincerely,



Kerri Johannsen  
Manager of Government Affairs  
Iowa Environmental Council