

COUNTY OF POLK Board of Supervisors

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Dear Forty Under 40 Judges,

It is no exaggeration to say Bethany Wilcoxon's work in 2013 will be felt throughout Greater Des Moines for decades to come.

She played a large role as project manager for The Tomorrow Plan, providing critical leadership among a diverse group of stakeholders as they researched, developed, negotiated and ultimately adopted the comprehensive long-range plan for a more sustainable Greater Des Moines region. Though there will be many to thank as the plan becomes reality, hers is on the short list of names of those who nurtured the first seeds of grand ideas and grew them into a comprehensive vision that was embraced by a region of people, committed to writing – and is now being put into action.

For this reason and many others, I would like to add my endorsement, as the co-chair of The Tomorrow Plan, for her nomination to the Des Moines Business Record's distinguished Forty Under 40 recognition.

Bethany has grown tremendously in the time I have known her, demonstrating skills and abilities even she didn't know she had. She gave myriad presentations on The Tomorrow Plan, articulating its purpose and potential to leaders of government, industry, media, and a host of other audiences. She has been an especially effective spokeswoman because she genuinely believes in the message of sustainability, living out its principles in her everyday life. She has grown beyond her titles at her job or civic organizations; she has shown herself to be a leader.

Please consider her for the honor of being named to one of this year's Forty Under 40.

Sincerely Yours,

Angela Connolly

2nd District Supervisor