Robert Andeweg

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DES MOINES OFFICE

Public service is at the core of Bob Andeweg's law practice. "I advocate for good results that are also good public policy," he says. "People have a right to petition their government for change. At the heart of it, lobbying is advocating for clients' interests and doing the best job you can."

As legislative counsel, Bob represents clients before the Iowa legislature, governor, and regulatory agencies. He performs lobbyist functions at the state capitol. He monitors, proposes, advocates, drafts, and sometimes opposes legislation.

In his commercial real estate practice, Bob handles a mix of transactional work, development, and leasing.

During law school, legislative tracking at a law firm piqued Bob's interest in public policy. Today, public policy and public service remain embedded in Bob's approach. "If I can help make good public policy for the state of Iowa through my role in representing my clients, that's what I want to do," he says.

His work as mayor of Urbandale, Iowa, since 2005 has introduced Bob to many of the players in all sectors of state government. Building trust and a reputation for integrity are key. "Relationships are the heart of public policy," Bob says. "Working with legislators, you're showing there's a true need for the legislative change and real reasons why."

In both government affairs work and real estate transactions, Bob prides himself on finding the creative solution. "There's not a cookie-cutter approach to everything," he says. "Depending on the circumstances, any number of issues could come up that you have to really think through to accomplish the best result for the client."

In real estate transactions, every deal is an opportunity to be responsive to the client's needs, creative in accomplishing their goals, and proficient in their work. No matter his client, Bob's goal is the same: To get a deal done correctly and quickly.

Bob's main goal is to find all his clients—whether it's public policy efforts or a real estate deal—the most expeditious and beneficial solutions.

He feels the same way about his mayoral responsibilities in Urbandale. While handling basic services such as fire and police protection or water and sewer services might seem mundane, getting them to operate effectively—without disruption—is important.

"As mayor, I do what's in the best interest of our city and our citizens," Bob says. "That's what I bring to legislative work—doing what's in the best interest of our clients and what's in the best interest of the state of Iowa too."

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association

- State and Local Government Section



PRACTICE AREAS

- Business, Finance & Real Estate
- Alternative Energy, Renewable Fuels & Public Utilities
- Business & Commercial Transactions
- Commercial Real Estate Finance
- Construction & Development
- Municipal & Eminent Domain
- Real Estate
- Government Affairs
- Administrative Rulemaking
- Bill Drafting
- Campaign Finance & Elections
- Legislation Tracking & Analysis
- Lobbying
- Strategic Planning

EDUCATION

- Central College (B.A., Political Science, minor: Economics)
- Drake University (J.D., with honors)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Iowa

- Real Property, Probate, and Trust Law Section

Iowa State Bar Association
- Real Estate and Title Law Section
- Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section
- Government Practice Section

Polk County Bar Association

Candidate – CCIM Designation

Iowa Commercial Real Estate Association

ABI Leadership Iowa
2010–2011

Iowa Commercial Real Estate Association
Board of Directors, 2006–2008

Mayor, City of Urbandale
2005–present

Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors' Bureau
Board Member, 2005-Present

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
2005–Present

City of Urbandale
- City Council Member, 2000–2005
- Planning and Zoning Commission, 1995–2000

REPRESENTATIVE TRANSACTIONS

State and local government economic development incentives and property acquisition for $1.4 billion industrial project (2012).

RECOGNITION

Drake University Law School
2026 Distinguished Public Service Award

***Des Moines Business Record* Forty Under 40**
Alum of the Year, 2017
Honoree, 2002

Lead DSM
A. Arthur Davis Community Leadership Award, 2026

Iowa Commercial Real Estate Association
Industry Impact Award, 2013

The Best Lawyers in America®
2006–2027

The Best Lawyers in America®
- Lawyer of the Year, Real Estate Law, Des Moines, 2025

- Lawyer of the Year, Real Estate Law, Des Moines, 2025

Chambers USA
America's Leading Business Lawyers, Real Estate, 2004–2026

Great Plains Super Lawyers
Real Estate, 2009–2026

CITYVIEW's Business Journal
Honoree

"21 from 2021: Business People Who Made a Difference"

Drake Law Review
Editor-in-Chief, 1986–1987

SPEECHES & PUBLICATIONS

"Basic of 1031 Tax-Deferred Exchanges," BrownWinick Client Seminar—Legal Strategies to Protect and Grow Your Business, 2006 (speaker)

Annual speaker and panelist at Iowa Real Estate Association Commercial Real Estate Expo

Frequent presenter for CCIM Continuing Education

"Iowa's IOLTA Program: A New Way to Finance Public Service Activities in Iowa,"
35 Drake L. Rev. 365, 1985–1986

"A Social Host Who Furnishes Intoxicants to an Intoxicated Guest May Be Civilly Liable Under Common-Law Principles for Damages Sustained by a Third Person as a Result of the Intoxicated Guest's Tortious Conduct–Clark v. Mincks (Iowa 1985),"
35 Drake L. Rev. 433, 1985–1986