

**LWVBA POSITION 2012-2014**  
**ENVIRONMENT Air Land Use Water Solid Waste** (Updated 5/2000)

**Support** regional solutions to environmental pollution that provide effective air and water quality control and regional planning for solid waste management

**Support** measures for conservation and environmentally sensitive development of San Francisco Bay that promote enhancement and preservation of the Bay and its shoreline, tributaries, native vegetative communities and habitats

**Support** measures that ensure adequate parks and the protection of natural resources, open space, and agricultural land, both outside urban growth boundaries and in urbanized areas

**Support** natural resources policies to achieve:

- 1 Air and water quality standards that adequately protect people and the environment and effective enforcement of these standards
- 2 Clean air through regulation of motor vehicle emissions
- 3 Sound long-range planning for sewage, industrial and solid waste disposal
- 4 Conservation of the Bay's ecology, including tributaries and riparian and other native plant communities and habitats
- 5 Measures to ensure that public access does not degrade habitats and native plant communities and that economic growth does not adversely impact the environment
- 6 Requirement that the polluter pay for clean-up costs.

**NATURAL RESOURCES\*CEQA MITIGATION** (condensed)

**Support** effective legislation, guidelines, and criteria for governmental decision making on mitigation of the negative environmental impacts of a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) that take into account whether: 1) the decision to proceed or not is environmentally sound and gives particular attention to cumulative impacts; and 2) the mitigation plan is properly implemented under an acceptable process for meeting legal requirements and public need.

- 1 Strengthen California Environmental Quality Act:
  - a clear process for project determination by the lead agency
  - b early public involvement with emphasis on public hearings
  - c environmental checklists identifying significant effects for initial study
  - d assessment of the broad cumulative impacts
  - e effective implementation of monitoring programs,
  - f sufficient funding for mitigations
- 2 Utilize CEQA to inform decision making in consideration of League positions on Regional Planning; Housing and Economics; Environment; Transportation and Hazardous Materials on whether to:
  - a avoid the project;
  - b proceed with the project as proposed;
  - c proceed with appropriate mitigations;
  - d proceed with an alternative project and appropriate mitigations
- 3 Apply appropriate criteria to the mitigation decision making to
  - a determine whether there is an acceptable or unacceptable process for meeting legal requirements and public need;
  - b identify the comprehensive and realistic environmental impacts of a project under CEQA, including cumulative impacts; and
  - c prevent or eliminate environmental damage.

**\*Vertical Positions – Local Leagues are authorized to take local action on the basis of these positions.**