

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE December 2004

President's Message

As an organization, the League of Women Voters has credibility because its actions represent a membership that is informed about government issues and reflect substantial member agreement with positions that are established. This agreement is confirmed at annual or biennial conventions. In the meantime, members stay informed by new studies, holding meetings on current issues, and observing government boards and commissions.

The LWV of the Bay Area focuses on regional agencies and issues through our Bay Area Monitor publication and by holding twice-yearly meetings for members and the public throughout the Bay Area on regional issues. The Bay Area League Day on Saturday, January 29, 2005 will address "Bay Area Regional Planning: from Vision to Reality".

In January, local Leagues will be asked to participate in a regional survey of how local agencies are planning (or implementing) development around key transportation stations, or "hubs" (refer to the white paper on our website <http://www.lwvba-ca.org/>). Watch for the mailing after the first of the year, and help us complete the survey. In addition, we will be sending local Leagues information about how to monitor the implementation of their local Housing Elements. This will be for your use, as you choose, to find out if your city is really doing what it said it would do to provide affordable housing.

Linda Craig, President
LWV of the Bay Area

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BAY AREA LEAGUE DAY
"Bay Area Regional Planning from Vision to Reality"

Saturday, January 29, 2005
Metro Center Auditorium,
101 8th Street
Oakland, CA
(Across the street from the Lake Merritt BART Station)

9:30 am : Registration and refreshments
10: 00 am 1 pm : Program

Keynote: Making Regional Planning Work
Ted Droettboom, Regional Planning Program Director, ABAG-MTC Joint Policy Committee

Panel One: Alternative Models for Regional Planning
Revan Tranter, former Executive Director of ABAG;
Will Travis, Executive Director, BCDC; and
Nick Bollman, Director, California Center for Regional Leadership

Panel Two: Thinking Regionally, Acting Locally
Four local elected officials' perspective on the challenge of implementing the regional vision and values at the local level.
David Cortese, Councilmember, San Jose.
Sue Lampert, Councilmember, San Mateo

Nate Miley, Supervisor, Alameda County
 Pamela Torliatt, Councilmember, Petaluma

Cost \$10 per person. RSVP to landuse@lwwba-ca.org

After the event we are arranging a no-host lunch and a tour at the Fruitvale BART station to see how a well-planned regional transit station was achieved.

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Election Results

Regional ballot measures supported by the LWVBA were approved: AA - BART seismic bonds, BB- AC Transit Parcel Tax, and CC - East Bay Regional Park District; all requiring 2/3 voter support,. Of the six transportation tax measures on the county ballots, all but Solano County carried, again with more than 2/3 approval.

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Calendar:

Wednesday, December 8, 2004, 12:15 to 2 p.m., IN Committee North: .Berkeley-Albany-Emeryville League office, 1414 University Avenue Suite D: Phone 510-843-8824.

Thursday, January 13, 2005, 12:15 to 2pm, IN Committee South: Menlo Park Library on Alma St. in the LWVSSM office.

Please send agenda items for Nov 11 to programvp@lwwba-ca.org

Friday, December 10, 2004, 11:30 to 1:30, Natural Resources/Water Committee:. EBMUB Bldg, 375 11th Street, Oakland.

(Two blocks south of the 12th Street Oakland BART station)

Friday, January 28, 2005: The LWVC Northern Forum on current energy issues in the California Public Utilities Commission Auditorium at McAllister & Van Ness in San Francisco. It is co-sponsored by the CPUC (California Public Utilities Commission) and the CEC (California Energy Commission). The program includes the significant decision makers in the state as presenters. It will be a 9 AM to 4 PM event. It is rather precedent setting with the increasing need for regional planning of energy facilities - and to some extent water facilities.

Saturday, January 29, 2005: Bay Area League Day, focusing on the status of Regional Planning in the Bay Area. See above for details.

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