

# Program proposal: Civil Discourse

## What is the proposal

- Put core LWV values into action through developing League programs to promote and incorporate civil discourse in our own programs and those in our communities

## Match to established criteria

- Governmental change needed and possible - civil discourse is needed but not by government fiat or regulation
- Attracts participation? **Yes**
- Timely? **Yes**
- LWV can play a significant role? **Yes**, through our education role
- Do we have capacity to do this? **Yes**, with training and people with facilitation skills
- Supports League mission? **Yes**, supports LWVUS Core Values & Beliefs

## Activities proposed | Suggested people to involve

- Determine a committee of committed people to implement
- Do research on methods, experts, materials
- Identify partners (universities, schools, libraries, organizations, ...)
- Develop implementation plan & materials
- Design training for LWVCS moderators, speakers
- Design a training workshop for our community

## What does success look like

- Civil discourse evident in League activities – forum moderators are trained
- Community leaders are trained – civil discourse is practiced in local programs & candidates for office have awareness & implement
- Civil discourse tools & training are available on [LWVCS.org](http://LWVCS.org)

# Program proposal: Housing in Santa Clara County/Measure A

## What is the proposal

- Participate on the LWV County committee for housing and work with LWVBA as appropriate
- Develop the knowledge and relationships to stay abreast of emerging issues related to housing, including affordable housing, projects in Santa Clara County
- As a result of these activities be in a position to educate the public on the emerging issues and where and when appropriate advocate for a particular position
- Housing would include Measure A

## Match to established criteria

- Governmental change needed and possible? Citizen education needed!
- Attracts participation? **Yes**
- Timely? **Yes**
- LWV can play a significant role? **Yes**
- Do we have capacity to do this? **Yes**

## Activities proposed | Suggested people to involve

- Develop city and county level relationships in order to stay abreast of housing priorities, funding, and emerging issues
- Advocate for a seat on the Citizens oversight committee
- Develop countywide POVs (point of view)
- Educate and advocate as appropriate
- Identify and build relationships with other non-profits involved with housing

## What does success look like

- Within two years the County committee is active and viewed as having credibility:
  - Knowledgeable
  - Balanced
  - Respected POV (point of view)
  - Strong county and city relationships
- No surprises on ballot measures; Our POVs develop as measures make it to the ballot, our POVs help shape the ballot
- Seen as adding value and creating awareness in the community

# Program proposal: Transportation in Santa Clara County/Measure B and the VTA

## What is the proposal

- Participate on the LWV County committee for transportation and work with LWVBA as appropriate
- Develop the knowledge and relationships to stay abreast of emerging issues related to transportation projects in the Santa Clara county
- As a result of these activities be in a position to educate the public on issues and where and when appropriate advocate for a particular positions
- Transportation would cover: Measure B, VTA, and possible MTC\* actions

## Match to established criteria

- Governmental change needed and possible? Citizen education needed!
- Attracts participation? **Yes**
- Timely? **Yes**
- LWV can play a significant role? **Yes**
- Do we have capacity to do this? **Yes**

## Activities proposed | Suggested people to involve

- Develop city and county level relationships in order to stay abreast of transportation priorities, funding, and emerging issues
- Advocate for a seat on the Citizens oversight committee
- Develop countywide POVs (point of view)
- Educate and advocate as appropriate
- Identify and build relationships with other non-profits involved with transportation

## What does success look like

- Within two years the County Transportation committee is active and viewed as having credibility:
  - Knowledgeable
  - Balanced
  - Respected POV (point of view)
  - Strong county and city relationships
- No surprises on ballot measures; Our POVs develop as measures make it to the ballot, our POVs help shape the ballot
- Seen as adding value and creating awareness in the community



\*The MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) is the government agency responsible for regional transportation planning and financing in the San Francisco Bay Area.

# Program proposal: Development in Cupertino and Sunnyvale

## What is the proposal

- Develop the knowledge and relationships to stay abreast of emerging issues related to development projects in Cupertino and Sunnyvale
- As a result of these activities be in a position to educate the public on the emerging issues and where and when appropriate advocate for a particular position
- Create two committees one for Sunnyvale and one for Cupertino to take this on
- Development includes: office, housing, hotel, and commercial

## Match to established criteria

- Governmental change needed and possible? Citizen education needed!
- Attracts participation? **Yes**
- Timely? **Yes**
- LWV can play a significant role? **Yes**
- Do we have capacity to do this? **Yes**

## Activities proposed | Suggested people to involve

- Develop city level relationships in order to stay abreast of emerging *developments*
- Become educate on the governmental processes related to development
- Identify and build relationships with other non-profits involved with development
- Identify what governmental Citizen involved committees and commissions exist and get involved where appropriate

## What does success look like

- Within two years the committees are active and viewed as having credibility on matters of development within their respective cities:
  - Knowledgeable
  - Balanced
  - Respected POV (point of view)
  - Strong city relationships
- No surprises on ballot measures
  - Our POVs develop as measures make it to the ballot
- Seen as adding value and creating awareness in the community on the topic of Development

# Program proposal: State and Local Finance

## What is the proposal

- Limited statewide League update study of State and Local Finance
- Some topics likely to be included in the study: revenue bonds, sales tax on services, and earmarking or long-term funding for programs established by initiatives.

## Match to established criteria

- Government change needed and possible – Current LWVC position does not allow action on key finance proposals.
- Attracts participation – Members like to do League studies.
- Very timely – Need this update as soon as possible.
- LWV plays a significant role – League is one of few organizations that deals with State and Local Finance.
- Capacity to do this – Our local League can staff this work.

## Activities proposed | Suggested people to involve

LWVCS participation in this study would require a committee of about 3-6 members, who would study materials supplied by the state committee and coordinate these activities:

- Inform members about existing position on State and Local Finance
- Inform members and the public on the topics covered by the study, via our VOTER, our website, public presentation(s)\*, ...
- Conduct member consensus, draft the consensus report for board approval, and submit the approved report to LWVC.

*\* This would provide an opportunity for training of pro/con speakers outside of election season, on topics that are often needed in ballot measure talks.*

## What does success look like

- Study adopted at State Convention in June 2017.
- Local study committee forms in 2017 and completes tasks (see list to left) on the schedule set by the State League.
- Statewide consensus is achieved, allowing additions to the State & Local Finance position.
- State League can take action on important finance issues about which it must now remain silent.