

League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale
Meeting Summary – February 11, 2017
LWV Public Policy Work – Part 2: Forging Ideas into Proposals
Last Updated by Elaine Manley & Linda Davis: 2/19/2017

Discussion Leaders: Linda Davis and Elaine Manley

Proposal Presenters: Roberta Hollimon (State & Local Finance), Marilyn Sherry (Civil Discourse), Tracey Edwards (Housing, Transportation, Development)

Other Participants: Daniel Bremond, Harold Brown, Suzanne Ford, Lynne Houghton, Ginny Johnson, Bruce Kendall, Margaret Lindberg, Michael Lusk, Virginia Merry, Usha Narayanan, Vedika Narayanan, Beverly Olsen, Nancie Plumb, Serge Rudaz, Marieann Shovlin, Kathi Turner, and Judy Wilson.

Participants are being sent an LWVCS member roster. Feel free to use it to contact one another.

Goal of this Meeting: Review the program ideas and gather member input on what we should be working on at the state, county, and local level of the League.

Member Input on Priorities – Many of the “program” ideas from our Jan 7th meeting were presented on Feb 11th. After hearing an explanation and having some discussion, the group helped prioritize the list. For more information on the proposals and topics discussed on Jan 7th and Feb 11th, see meeting materials in relevant calendar listings at calendar.lwvcs.org. A [Summary of Member Input](#) from Feb 11th indicates the highest interest was in Housing, State and Local Finance, Transportation, and Civil Discourse.

State Program Planning Input – Last week, the LWVCS board discussed and approved our input to LWVC on the study process questions and statewide “Issues for Emphasis” for the next biennium. We submitted the maximum allowable three choices for “Issues for Emphasis”:

- First choice: **State and Local Finances – Update Study.** To include topics identified by the LWVC and delegates to convention. In addition to study materials to support member consensus, would like citizen education tools that go beyond the specific topics of the update study and cover State and Local Finances (SLF) more broadly at the level of average citizens. Would also like materials early (ideally by Fall 2018) to support member understanding of our existing SLF position and its use over the years.
- Second choice: **Prop 13 Reform – Advocacy and Citizen Education.** In addition to advocacy education tools, would like citizen education tools in advance of the advocacy push (e.g. covering property tax in general).
- Third choice: **Election Systems – New or Update Study.** No input on scope.

Decisions about state program will be made by delegates at the LWVC Convention on June 1-4 in Sacramento. If you are interested in attending, contact Elaine Manley <elaine.manley@comcast.net>.

New County Committees – Our board had already voted in January to participate in the two new County Committees on Housing and Transportation, if they came into being. Tracey Edwards is now looking for people to serve on those committees. If you are interested, please contact her: Tracey Edwards <tkaye752@gmail.com>.

League Study-Advocacy Process – Many of the participants on Feb 11th had questions about League process that went unanswered. These web resources might provide some answers:

[Introduction to the Study Process](#) • [What is a Consensus?](#) • [How We Form Positions](#)
[What is a Position?](#) • [How LWVC Takes Action](#)

Next Steps – The LWVCS board will be assembling recommendations on activities that will cover issues of high member interest. The board will also seek to include activities that fit into the national League’s current theme of “Making Democracy Work.” In coming months, we’ll keep you posted via emails about the emerging plans. You can also check for news in our monthly VOTERS at voter.lwvcs.org.