

Recommended Local Program 2017 – 2018

Positions – Retain All Positions

Special Districts – *except school districts*

Support efforts to reduce the number of special districts by combining those providing like services under a single board. Consideration of the creation of additional special districts on the merits of each proposal.

Update to amend and clarify wording: suggestion – define special districts and support efforts to reduce the number of districts by combining like services.

Parks and Recreation

Support measures to increase the quality and quantity of parks and recreation programs.

Update and Broaden – review additional areas; e.g. trails; possible study to determine which North County cities have adopted city-use plans for parks and recreation.

Objectives:

1. Preserve open space and acquire future park sites now.
2. Preserve the natural assets of the area, such as lagoons, **watersheds**, flood plains, beaches, and bluffs.
3. Provide for recreational facilities which appeal to all ages and interest groups.
4. Provide for more neighborhood parks and expand year-round recreation programs.
5. Investigate additional sources of income and ways of financing expanded local parks and recreation programs.

Educational Facilities

Support measures to insure availability of adequate school facilities. Provision for financing school site acquisition and building construction should be an integral part of any proposed residential development in the same manner as other services. Support the use of schools for community activities.

Group review for possible update after studying current legislation/regulations.

Objectives:

1. Delay the construction of large housing developments in those districts where sufficient funds are not available for schools.
2. Investigate alternatives to bonding as the source of school monies.
3. Encourage participation by school districts in community planning, especially as it affects schools.

Citizen Participation

Support **and encourage** citizen participation in city government.

Objectives:

1. Improve the dissemination of understandable information on city government proceedings.
2. Increase and improve opportunities for citizen participation.
3. Schools should educate students in the value of public service in local governmental bodies.

Migrants/Immigrants/Working Homeless in North County San Diego

Support measures such as thorough media coverage and League-sponsored community meetings to promote public understanding of migrant/immigrant/working homeless issues. Support a strong role for local governmental agencies and policy-making bodies in meeting the needs of the migrants/immigrants/working homeless.

Review to possibly broaden position to include human trafficking, remove the word “working” and consider adding “at risk” or “underserved.”

These agencies and governing bodies should:

1. Conduct a needs survey leading to the formulation of policy and work plan, including goals and measurable objectives.
2. Create full-time city staff positions where feasible to deal with migrants/immigrants/working homeless concerns.
3. Provide guidance through the system for citizen organizations concerned with aiding these groups; for example, guidance from the bodies or agencies which have jurisdiction over land use, legal matters, and zoning.
4. Facilitate the provision of adequate and innovative housing.
5. Facilitate employment through the establishment of hiring halls.
6. Provide supplementary services such as phone banks, mailing addresses, showers, and language instruction in such locations as emergency shelters, hiring halls, and libraries.

Public Transportation in North County San Diego

The League of Women Voters of North County San Diego supports the use of public transit to reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled on our roads and highways. Public transit should be safe, efficient, convenient, and cost effective. It should serve all segments of the population as well as geographic needs. Such systems should be integrated with local land use decisions and supported by extensive public education. To accomplish these goals the League supports the following measures:

The North County Transit District (NCTD) should take a stronger role in coordinating local land use patterns with the needs of public transport by:

1. Developing guidelines for developers and planners to use in initial project planning.
2. Forming a committee of planners/engineers from cities served to identify common problems and solutions.
3. Interacting with city councils; increasing staff to deal with local jurisdictions.
4. The state government should use funds from the General Fund for transit.
5. Cities and local jurisdictions should promote coordination between land use decisions and the needs of public transit by: financial incentives to developers to approve transit-oriented projects; establishment of formal policies and standards for transit-oriented development; and, public recognition of such developments.
6. NCTD should take the lead in improving public education about transportation issues by encouraging community organizations to provide education about the availability and use of public transit. Such groups include: employers; schools and colleges; senior organizations; chambers of commerce; visitors' centers; public and commercial TV outlets and radio; churches and community groups; realtors; cities, through their web pages; League of Women Voters.
7. NCTD should provide better service to low-density areas by coordinating and encouraging the use of existing services such as taxi vouchers, dial-a-ride van pools, and shuttles.

Reports about NCTD's cost efficiency and productivity should be made readily available to the public by:

1. Presentation of full performance audits to the NCTD Board, city councils, and the County Board of Supervisors at public meetings.
2. Publication in the media.

NCTD should try to increase income beyond current sources by:

1. Issuing revenue bonds for capital projects.
2. Leasing surplus property at market prices.
3. Urging the use of Traffic Impact Fees (collected by cities as a condition of development) for public transit as well as roads.
4. Lobbying for the designated funds from the General Fund

NCTD should try to increase its ridership by:

1. Providing more convenient schedules and routes; better connections; on time services; safe pedestrian access at bus stops; and amenities such as benches and lighting.
2. Reducing fares.
3. Increasing the regional goal for transit usage above the current 2% of all traffic.
4. Urging the reduction of the number of freeway lanes available for single driver cars.
5. Studying the operation of similar districts where public transit works well both in the U.S. and abroad.

Civil Discourse

Promote civil discourse in political speech with an underlying respect for different viewpoints, a willingness to listen to each other, and a joint commitment to act in the public good.

Objectives:

1. Raise public awareness of civil discourse basics of objectivity, respect, and avoidance of hostility.
2. Support educational opportunities on civil discourse fundamentals.

Issues for Education and Advocacy

Recommended Issues

New: Expand relationship with Universidad Popular to include North County Immigration Task Force.

New: Develop outreach to educate and engage in civic participation: for example, board appointments, public offices, public training on civil discourse.

Retain: Advocate transparency and open government.

Retain: Focus on voter registration.

Carlsbad Unit

Positions – Retain all positions

General Plan

Support timely revision and/or review of all elements of the General Plan as needed and in accordance with state law.

Form of City Government in Carlsbad

Support of the council-manager form of government in Carlsbad.

Objectives:

1. The mayor should serve with no powers other than those currently exercised.
2. The Council should continue to review its own committee and ceremonial assignments to determine what could be delegated to staff or members of citizen advisory bodies as a way to reduce workloads.
3. ~~All members of the Council should have authority to submit names of Carlsbad citizens for appointment to boards, commissions, and committees.~~
New: Monitor transparency of the appointment process to the Carlsbad city boards, commissions and committees.

Tri-City Hospital District

Support measures to make the Hospital Board more representative of the communities it serves.

1. **Amend:** The Board should remain seven members with the option of election by zones geographic areas.
2. **Retain:** Job descriptions should be created and publicized to encourage more citizens to run for office.

Support measures to publicize the activities of the Tri-City Hospital Board more fully.

1. **Amend:** All public board meetings should be broadcast throughout the Tri-City healthcare district live, recorded, archived and made available to the public.
2. **Retain:** Citizen advisory groups should be established to receive comments from citizens and serve as training grounds for public office.
3. **Retain:** Packets and agendas for meetings should be placed in the Vista, Carlsbad, and Oceanside libraries and posted on websites.

Issues for Emphasis

New: Encourage participation in the Carlsbad Citizens' Academy.

New: Research campaign financing in the city of Carlsbad.

San Dieguito Unit

The San Dieguito Unit develops no positions at the unit level rather working with positions from those at vertical league levels.

Issues for Emphasis

Retain: Act to increase LWV visibility in our area by supporting Voter Service such as registering citizens to vote, presenting ballot measures to citizen groups, moderating local candidate forums, helping schools with their elections.

New: Research voter apathy in our area; how many people did not vote in the 2016 Presidential Election, what new laws are being proposed, what are the voting demographics, how to use social media effectively. Then develop an action plan to educate all area voters about how they can learn about issues, track matters of import to them, evaluate information, and become informed voters.