



Positions of The League of Women Voters North Coast San Diego County

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.

Parks and Recreation

Support measures to increase the quality and quantity of parks and recreation programs, including utilization of school sites.

Objectives:

1. Reserve open space and acquire future park sites now.
2. Preserve the natural assets of the area, such as lagoons, 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 the same manner as other services. Support the use of schools for community activities.

Objectives:

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

Citizen Participation

Support citizen participation in government.

Objectives:

1. Improve dissemination of understandable information on city government proceedings.
2. Increase and improve opportunities for citizen participation.

Migrants/Immigrants/Working Homeless in North Coast San Diego County

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

The League of Women Voters North Coast San Diego County supports 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 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.
4. Increasing staff to deal with local jurisdictions.
5. Involving the business community in transit planning at the local level.
6. Working with cities to explore the possibility of requiring developers to create transit within their developments.

The state government should use funds from the General Fund for transit. Cities and local jurisdictions should promote coordination between land use decisions and the needs of the public transit by:

1. Financial incentives to developers to approve transit oriented projects.
2. Establishment of formal policies and standards for transit oriented development and recognizing publicly such developments.

NTCD 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.

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 Taxes [collected by cities as a condition of development] for public transit as well as roads.
4. Lobbying for designated funds from the General Fund.

NCTD should try to increase its rider ship by:

1. Providing more convenient schedules and routes; better connections; on time services; safe pedestrian access at bus stops; and amenities 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 US and abroad.

Positions for the Carlsbad Unit

General Plan

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

Citizen Participation in Carlsbad City Government

In order to achieve and maintain broad and effective citizen participation in city advisory bodies, support action by the city to:

1. Limit membership to two consecutive terms when there are qualified applicants; continue the policy of staggered terms.

2. Consider all aspects of the community in making appointments, including geographic, economic and social.
3. Use all possible means to make citizens aware of vacancies whenever they occur, including newspaper announcements, posted notices in public areas, and electronic information sources.

In order to achieve and maintain effective citizen participation in city advisory bodies, support action by the city to:

1. Define the roles of staff and citizens and develop job descriptions.
2. Provide training for citizen appointees, including current packets of essential background information, orientation, and refresher courses.
3. Provide training for staff on how to enable citizen groups to be more effective.
4. Allow each body to elect its own presiding officer with the possibility of the council naming a temporary chair for the first meeting or two of a newly established group.
5. Include in the presiding officer's responsibilities setting the agenda based on requests from the groups' members and other citizens in consultation with staff.
6. Make agenda packets available in the libraries at least two days before meetings.
7. Provide the city council with sufficient and accurate information about meeting actions and recommendations.
8. Enact a single ordinance describing procedures and requirements that are common to all for serving on boards and commissions, noting exceptions in specific ordinances.

Form of City government in Carlsbad

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

Objectives:

1. The mayor should serve part time with no powers other than those currently exercised.
2. The Council should consist of five members so long as Carlsbad remains a general law city.
3. 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.
4. All members of the Council should have authority to submit names of Carlsbad citizens for appointment to boards, commissions and committees.

Tri-City Hospital District

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

1. The Board should remain seven members with the option of election by zones.
2. Job descriptions should be created and publicized to encourage more citizens to run for office.
3. A small stipend should be paid to hospital trustees to encourage more citizens to serve.

4. Schools should educate students in the value of public service in the hospital district and other local government bodies.

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

1. All meetings should be televised.
2. Citizen advisory groups should be established to receive comments from citizens and serve as training grounds for public office.
3. Packets and agendas for meetings should be placed in the Vista, Carlsbad, and Oceanside libraries.

Positions for the Oceanside/Vista Unit

Child Care

Support measures adequately to finance and efficiently provide child care services in Oceanside.

Affordable Housing

Support measures to increase affordable housing in Oceanside.

Tri-City Hospital District

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

1. The Board should remain seven members with the option of election by zones.
2. Job descriptions should be created and publicized to encourage more citizens [especially women] to run for office.
3. Schools should educate students in the value of public service in the hospital district and other local government bodies.

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

1. All meetings should be televised.
2. Citizen advisory groups should be established to receive input from citizens and serve as training grounds for public office.
3. Packets and agendas for upcoming meetings should be placed in the Vista, Carlsbad, and Oceanside libraries.