



## Get the Word Out!

*Debbie Kaye*

For the January special election, when the Portland League offered the LWVOREF's *Voters' Guide*, a ballot measure forum, and rebroadcast of the forum, I got the word out through email. I wrote fifty local friends from my address book and gave them the date/time/location of the forum, the rebroadcast schedule and TV channel, as well as the web address for our *Voters' Guide*.

It took about fifteen minutes to gather the content, compose the email, and choose the recipients. By putting them in the "cc" box with parentheses at the beginning and end of the list, they received a "bcc" (blind carbon copy) so as to maintain their privacy.

Several attended the forum (enhancing our audience), more watched the rebroadcast (appreciating the League), and others called to thank me and to discuss the ballot measures after reading the *Voters' Guide* (being responsible voters).

### **You too can Get the Word Out!**

For the upcoming primary, we will have four candidate forums in April, rebroadcast each of them on Channel 30, and have both state-wide and local *Voters' Guides* available online. The information is available in this *Voter* and on the League's website. **Tell your friends!**

## Candidate Forums

### **Portland City Commissioner Positions 2 and 3**

Tuesday, April 13, 7:00 pm  
Board Room, Multnomah County Building,  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland

### **Multnomah County Chair and County Sheriff**

Wednesday, April 14, 7:00 pm  
Gresham City Hall, 1333 NW Eastman Pkwy, Gresham

### **Metro Council President**

Wednesday, April 21, 12:00 noon  
Board Room, Multnomah County Building,  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland

### **Multnomah County Commissioner District 2**

Monday, April 26, 7:00 pm  
Board Room, Multnomah County Building,  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland

All forums will be recorded and aired on local access cable television. Assisting us in that effort are Portland Community Media and Metro East Community Media. Nonetheless, please plan to attend in person—and bring a friend or three—so that we may have a large and enthusiastic audience.

*Special Presentation! **Everything You Wanted to Know About League... But Were Afraid to Ask** at 6:30 pm in the same location directly preceding the April 13 meeting.*

## Local Convention Preview

### **Mike Burton, Vice Provost, PSU School of Extended Studies**

Tuesday, May 11, 5:30 pm  
Carvlin Hall, St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th Street, Portland

Join us for a buffet supper, service auction, and annual meeting. Mark your calendars and look for more details in the May *Voter*.

**League of Women Voters  
of Portland, OR**

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**Voter** is produced 9 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Portland. We welcome your comments, suggestions, story ideas and submissions. Please contact Pat Chor or Heather Drake at the League office, 503-228-1675. Submissions must be received no later than the Friday before the board meeting each month.

**April 2010**



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of Portland, OR  
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**President's Column**

*Betsy Pratt*

First off, my hearty thanks to everyone involved in organizing the outstanding March program on education equity. We learned a lot about the similarities and differences between the three districts in Portland, as well as the Portland Schools Foundation. I was struck by the speakers' passion for public schools – they all care strongly about the success of their students. There also seems to be much more planning based on facts and data, such as measuring outcomes at key stages of a child's life and then designing solutions which fit that stage. It was exciting to see more than 70 people in the audience as well as press coverage from Channel 6 and *The Oregonian*. If you missed the program and the cable replays, we will have a DVD available for loan through the office. You can also see an article by Kim Melton of *The Oregonian* at:

[www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2010/03/portland\\_education\\_leaders\\_tal.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2010/03/portland_education_leaders_tal.html)

We are gearing up for a busy primary election season. In March, Heather Drake, our office manager, sent out more than 100 letters to candidates in local races (including Portland-based legislative seats) requesting input for the *Voters' Guide*. The team led by Peggy Bengry then scrambled to get everything assembled for the *Voters' Guide*. We have scaled back our distribution strategy this year, relying more on our web version to reach the general public. Paper copies of the *Voters' Guide* will still be sent to League members and will also be

available at a few key locations, such as the election office, libraries, and schools.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the candidate forums this month. The county races should be particularly interesting this year, since Ted Wheeler's move to State Treasurer changed the situation. Barb Fredericks and her committee have worked hard to set up the forums and will welcome large audiences.

Finally, this *Voter* contains information to get you thinking about local convention. Proposals for program, budget, and officers are all posted for your review and consideration. The local convention is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, and will follow the same format as the past two years. I'm pleased to announce that Mike Burton, a man of many hats, has accepted our invitation to be guest speaker. In previous lives, he was a state legislator and CEO of Metro, and he is now Vice Provost of PSU's School of Extended Studies. He is always an excellent and informative speaker.

Our convention is followed closely by the State League Council, to be held May 15-16 in Bend, Oregon. Their focus will be on near-term business, including adopting a budget. I'm also planning to attend the June LWVUS Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. Like wind flowing through tall grasses, our local program recommendations can ripple uphill to all levels of the League, so I appreciate everyone who has contributed.

# Office of Human Relations: Building Peace, Ending Discrimination

*Debbie Aiona*

Maria Lisa Johnson, Office of Human Relations director, spoke to the Action Committee in February. The bureau was established by ordinance in March 2008 and is the city's smallest. It follows the principles set forth in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in 1948. Portland has had a number of different human relations office iterations since 1948 with their existence determined by leadership and funding. During the planning stages for the current office, the advisory group appointed by Mayor Tom Potter considered granting the office civil rights enforcement authority. Because state and federal governments provide that function, it was decided that the new effort should focus on human rights education, advocacy and intervention, and promoting inter-group understanding.

The Office of Human Relations works to eliminate discrimination and bigotry; strengthen inter-group relationships; and foster greater understanding, inclusion, and justice in Portland. The Human Relations Commission is made of up volunteers selected by an internal nominating committee after an extensive citywide recruitment process mindful

of selecting candidates representative of the city's diversity. Commission members are appointed by City Council. The commission has three ongoing committees: Executive Committee, Community and Police Relations Committee, and the Committee for Inter-group Understanding

The Community and Police Relations Committee includes Human Relations Commissioners and police bureau and community representatives. A few of the subjects they have discussed include immigrant concerns about the presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel in the county jail, use of force policy, police bureau in service training, and data on police stops categorized by race.

The Committee for Inter-group Understanding is working to build peace and understanding among groups that have had deeply rooted conflict. One way this is being done is through inter-group dialogues led by locally recruited and trained facilitators. The facilitators are leading four dialogues on race. Each dialogue runs for eight weeks. Participants will share their experiences around race and discuss ideas for improving equity. The rationale behind the sessions is based

on the "contact hypothesis" which states that positive contact over time between groups who are different from one another leads to a change in perspective. Ms. Johnson said that the committee hopes to grow this program by identifying future facilitators from dialogue participants.

The city's Immigrant and Refugee Affairs function is now situated in the Office of Human Relations and renamed The New Portlanders Program. It strives to integrate newcomer communities into the city through the following strategies taken from the informational materials:

**Educate and explain.** Human migration is perennial. Oregon is made of the movements of strong tribal nations, ambitious settlers, and optimistic new Americans.

**Bridge community divides.** An equitable and sustainable City providing effective public services requires multilingual and multicultural bureau employees and contractors.

**Engage new Portlanders.** Informed and elected leaders, effective City bureaus, and responsive neighborhood associations require newcomer engagement.

## April Action Committee Meeting

### Police Oversight in Portland

Mary-Beth Baptista, Director,  
Independent Police Review Division

Friday, April 23, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Room 433, Board of Trade Building, 310 SW 4th Avenue

All members welcome. Questions? Contact Debbie Aiona.

Note: Action Committee will meet again on Friday, May 14.

## New Members

**Patsy Berner** • *National*

**Patricia Byrd** • *National*

**Barbara & David Hansen**

## March General Meeting: Looking at Portland's Schools

*Mary Hepokoski and Lynn Baker*

Three superintendents, Dr. Karen Fischer Gray, Parkrose School District; Carole Smith, Portland Public Schools; and Barbara Rommel, David Douglas School District; joined Dan Ryan, CEO of Portland Schools Foundation, for a panel to discuss equity issues in Portland schools.

The first question addressed by the three superintendents was: **Aside from funding, what are obstacles to providing equitable services to your students?**

The demography of the city has been changing with schools on the east side having 70% or more of their students receiving free or reduced lunches. Parkrose has 50 different languages spoken in the homes and 60% mobility of its students in some elementary schools. Lack of employment for parents and uneven family involvement in supporting the schools add to inequity.

What looks like equal is not necessarily equal! In one high school 20% of the entering students are on track and ready whereas in another high school 70% of the entering students are on track and ready. The policy of dollars following students in enrollment transfers combined with school choice and No Child Left Behind with students opting out allows the disparities to grow. The cultural background of staff may contribute to inequities.

Size allows a smaller district to offer a more equitable program across the district. Conversely it may be more difficult to achieve and maintain equity in a larger district.

The second question addressed was: **What are the issues in balancing student choice with providing same services in every school?**

Parkrose School District with 3,500 students does not allow interdistrict transfers. They try to align their curriculum K-12. Choice is not a huge issue in the school system.

PPS with 46,000 students has a tradition of high value on neighborhood schools and choice. They have immersion programs, some K-8 schools, traditional elementaries, middle schools, magnet schools, 7 charter schools in partnership with other organizations, comprehensive high schools, a career tech option (Benson), alternative schools for students needing a safety net, 30 community-based organizations providing day and residential treatment. Choice is a huge issue with the special programs pitted against neighborhood schools.

Rommel said that studies found that parents are happiest with some choice. David Douglas District set up a "choice" system which became a system to balance school enrollment and class size, but it was eliminated. Instead they increased the school day to add specialized classes. They see benefits in students going to school with others in their neighborhood.

Dan Ryan was asked to describe the Portland Schools Foundation. He said that Measure 5 which was to equalize funding throughout the state made things financially worse for Portland schools. Librarians, PE teachers, music specialists, etc. were being laid off. Parents were angry, and started raising money. The unfairness of schools with means and those without resulted in creating a system funding formula where 1/3 of raised funds goes into an equity fund to be shared with less affluent schools. \$2.7 million was raised last year by Portland schools, and \$750,000 was redistributed through

in order of need. Grants are given out according to this need. The Foundation was started in PPS and recently expanded to all Portland school districts. 40% of Portland students do not graduate on time, so they now work with 5 school districts; trying to match corporations with school districts for extra help.

In addressing the advantages and disadvantages of using privately-raised funds in public schools, Ryan said "we can't stop people from giving and that's a good thing, but we try to use a formula to mitigate the effects and try to be as equitable as possible."

There was agreement among the superintendents that we need to keep the educational gap from developing and support school readiness and all day kindergarten with small classes.

Ryan concluded by saying we need a different definition of equity. Teachers from a white privileged background teach best to white privileged students. But with the wide diversity in schools these days, teachers need cultural competency to reach all their students effectively.

### New Members

**Donald Howard** • *National*

**Linda McDowell**

**Joanna Stuart** • *National*

## Meet, Eat, Discuss: Affordable Housing

Deborah & Gretchen Kafoury  
Sunday, April 25, 2010  
3:00 pm  
Home of Jan & Don Wolf

Four spaces are left for this social event that is also a fundraiser and provides education and discussion about one of our local topics of League interest. This event is open to both League and non-League members. Deadline is Friday, April 9, 2010.

Cost of the event is \$50 and includes wine with dinner. As the hosts are donating expenses, all funds will go directly to League's Regular Fund. Please use the coupon in the March *Voter* to respond with your check; or just send your check made out to: **LWV Portland**, to LWV Portland, PO Box 3491, 97208. If you have

any food allergies, please make that known.

County Commissioner and former state legislator Deborah Kafoury and her mother, former City Commissioner and state legislator, Gretchen Kafoury, will join us for dinner and a discussion on Affordable Housing. Deborah is spending many days in Salem contacting legislators trying to obtain funding for affordable housing in Multnomah County. Gretchen worked hard on affordable housing for all Portland residents in both the legislature and while on City Council. She also spent hours behind the scenes making sure Turning Point, a transitional housing project in Hillsdale, would be built and be acceptable to the neighbors.

Jan and Don live in southwest Portland. Directions to their home will be provided several weeks before the event.

### Membership

## Have You Invited a Friend to a Meeting Lately?

Many equate LWV with Voter Service and April is a showcase of Voter Service opportunities! Who doesn't want to better understand the candidates for Metro president? ... or County office? ... or City Council?

Do you like to share? Share League with a friend! Need help explaining LWV? Have a membership brochure handy.

Have you looked at our membership brochure lately? Have you seen the national "Join us in making community" brochure we have adapted? The membership committee is looking at both as it plans an updated membership brochure. Share your thoughts – or join us at a membership committee meeting!



*March 13, 2010 – Planting of Birch Tree Donated by last fall's Open World guests from Russia. The tree is located at Metro's Native Plant Center in Tualatin. Planting assistants include (back row, left to right) Marlyn Dyers, Mary Hepokoski, Rita Fawcett, Betsy Pratt and Pat Osborn (front row) John Pollock, Alexis Dyers, and Emily Pollock.*

## Proposed Program for 2010-2011

### Board Recommended Items

Public Schools in the City of Portland, Pre-K through 12: Continue this study.

Non-Profit Corporations Associated with the City of Portland: Drop the position.

Housing (1989) and Housing (1981): Review in order to streamline (possibly consolidate) and update the positions.

Portland Police Bureau: Make an action priority.

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region Positions: Add to LWV of Portland's Program if LWVCCR votes to disband in April.

- Promotion of Orderly Metropolitan Government (1967, revised 1979, 1994, 2000)
- Metropolitan Government (1992, revised 1994, 2000)
- Regional Planning and Governance (1996)
- Urban Growth Management (1992, revised 1994, 2000)
- Metropolitan Transportation (1977, 1987, revised 1994, 1998)
- Port of Portland (1975, revised 1994)
- Solid Waste (1972, revised 1985, revised 1994)

### Other Proposed Study/Update Items

Portland Police Bureau: A Study of Policy Development and Police-Community Relations

Scope of Study: Currently, there is a high degree of public attention focused on police policies, particularly those related to the use of force, both lethal and non-lethal. Also of concern is police treatment of minority and immigrant communities, the homeless and mentally ill, and women. This study will examine the current method of policy development; police-community relations, including the training officers receive for dealing with minority/special population; and how officers are held accountable when they violate policy.

Study of the City Auditor:

Scope of Study: 1) Structure – current enabling legislation, responsibilities, funding; 2) What are the current Best Practices for public auditors?

Purpose: As we look at how much the city contracts for services, we see how much we rely on the office of the City Auditor to oversee the financial and performance of these contracts. Monitoring of the Voter-Owned Elections process has also been assigned to the City Auditor. We should study the office of the City Auditor to come up with a position that we can use to defend this important position. We should take advantage of the fact that we have two former and the current City Auditors among our members.

Portland Development Commission: Update position

City Hiring Practices: Review position.

Economic Development Assistance: Update position.

Teenage Girls at Risk: Change the name of the position to "Teenagers at Risk".

## 2010 Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee: Carol Cushman, Kathleen Hersh, Darleane Lemley (chair), Ann Mulrone, and Pat Osborne, is pleased to present the following slate of officers and directors to the Board of Directors and Membership of the League of Women Voters of Portland.

Individuals beginning new terms appear in bold. Individuals continuing their terms appear in normal text.

President	Betsy Pratt	2009-2011
<b>1st VP</b>	<b>Mary McWilliams</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
2nd VP	Barbara Fredericks	2009-2011
<b>3rd VP</b>	<b>Ann Mulrone</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
Secretary	Claire Corwin-Kordosky	2009-2011
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Carol Wilson</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
Directors	<b>Debbie Aiona</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
	<b>Lynn Baker</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
	Pat Chor	2009-2011
	<b>Kathleen Hersh</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
	Debbie Kaye	2009-2011
	<b>Marnie Lonsdale</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>
	<i>(Filling 2nd year of term)</i>	
	<b>Don MacGillivray</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
Endowment Fund		
Chair	Corinne Paulson	2009-2011
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Anne Davidson</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
Nominating Committee		
Chair	Darleane Lemley	2009-2011
Members	Pat Osborn	2009-2011
	<b>Mary Hepokoski</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Beverlee Smith</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>
Budget Committee		
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Barbara Stalions</b>	<b>2010-2012</b>

## Proposed FY 2010-2011 Budget

The Budget Committee, composed of Barbara Stalions, Carol Wilson, Mary McWilliams, and Bill Harris, has proposed a total budget that is approximately \$2,000 less than last year. The major difference is that we will not participate in the LWVUS Open World program this year, which netted \$3,000 in 2009. The budget covers slight increases in rent and salary, as well as the cost of reissuing the Directory of Elected Officials after the November election.

## Local Convention

		Proposed 2010-2011			Approved 2009-2010		
		Regular	Education		Regular	Education	
<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
1)	Member dues	\$10,920	\$0	\$10,920	\$11,260		\$11,260
2)	Member contributions	\$3,600	\$5,638	\$9,238	\$4,278	\$6,198	\$10,476
3)	Special Event Fundraisers/Merchandise Sales	\$4,283	\$4,500	\$8,783	\$2,100	\$900	\$3,000
4)	Nonmember Direct Mail /Community Contri.	\$3,300	\$4,900	\$8,200	\$3,500	\$5,000	\$8,500
5)	Voters Service/Community Education	\$0	\$1,350	\$1,350	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200
6)	Voters' Guide Fundraising	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
7)	General Meeting	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
8)	Local Convention	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
9)	Publication Sales	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
10)	Distribution from Endow ment Fund	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$9,600	\$0	\$9,600
11)	One time Endow ment Distribution	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
12)	In Memory/Honor	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
13)	LWVUS/LWVOR grants/assistance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,250	\$7,250
14)	Miscellaneous Grants	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
15)	Interest Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>\$35,103</b>	<b>\$22,888</b>	<b>\$57,991</b>	<b>\$33,238</b>	<b>\$26,548</b>	<b>\$59,786</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>							
15)	PMP LWVUS	\$2,324.40	\$2,324.40	\$4,648.80	\$2,254	\$2,254	\$4,508
16)	PMP LWVOR	\$4,290	\$0	\$4,290	\$4,428	\$0	\$4,428
17)	PMP LWVCRR	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$161	\$0	\$161
18)	LWVUS/LWVORgrants/assistance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,250	\$4,250
19)	Directory of Elected Officials/Membership Hand	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
20)	Miscellaneous Grants	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
21)	LWVOR Publication Fee	\$45	\$0	\$45	\$45	\$0	\$45
3E)	Special Event Fundraisers/Merchandise sales	\$610	\$0	\$610	\$310	\$300	\$610
4E)	Direct Mail Campaign	\$500	\$500	\$1,000	\$300	\$485	\$785
6E)	Voters' Guide Expenses	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
22)	Voters' Service/Community Education	\$0	\$1,350	\$1,350	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200
7E)	General Meeting/Local Convention - Expenses	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
23)	Local Convention (Printing & rent)	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$200	\$0	\$200
24)	Membership	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$600	\$0	\$600
25)	Units	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$0
26)	Publications Purchase	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$50	\$50
27)	VOTER Costs	\$1,300	\$0	\$1,300	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
28)	Delegates-Nat'l Council (June ' 11)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200
29)	Delegates-State Convention (May '11)	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$500	\$0	\$500
30)	Study	\$0	\$600	\$600	\$0	\$600	\$600
31)	Workshops (Attendance at)	\$50	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$50
32)	Action Committee	\$300	\$0	\$300	\$100	\$0	\$100
33)	PR & League Promotions	\$50	\$950	\$1,000	\$100	\$0	\$100
34)	President's Fund	\$55	\$45	\$100	\$385	\$315	\$700
35)	Board Expense	\$50	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$50
36)	Rent	\$5,243.15	\$4,289.85	\$9,533	\$5,077.60	\$4,154.40	\$9,232
37)	Supplies	\$770	\$630	\$1,400	\$770	\$630	\$1,400
38)	Postage and PO Box	\$1,155	\$945	\$2,100	\$1,155	\$945	\$2,100
39)	Insurance (Liability & Wrkrs Comp)	\$872	\$0	\$872	\$886	\$0	\$886
40)	Communications (phone services)	\$561	\$459	\$1,020	\$561	\$459	\$1,020
41)	Website	\$520	\$0	\$520	\$520	\$0	\$520
42)	Salary	\$6,311.25	\$5,163.75	\$11,475	\$6,996	\$5,724	\$12,720
43)	Payroll Burden (11%)	\$694.20	\$568	\$1,262.20	\$839.30	\$686.70	\$1,526
44)	Discretionary Fund	\$275	\$225	\$500	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
45)	Gov. Fees	\$95	\$50	\$145	\$95.00	\$50	\$145
46)	Bank Fees	\$11	\$9	\$20	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
45)	Equip. Maintenance & Repair	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100.00	\$0	\$100
47)	Equip. Replacement	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$0.00	\$0	\$0
48)	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$32,582</b>	<b>\$25,409</b>	<b>\$57,991</b>	<b>\$31,682.90</b>	<b>\$28,103.10</b>	<b>\$59,786</b>
49)	<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$2,521.00</b>	<b>(\$2,521.00)</b>		\$1,555	(\$1,555)	
50)	Transfers fr. Reg. Fund to Ed. Fund	(\$2,521.00)	\$2,521.00		(\$1,555)	\$1,555	
51)	Fund Balance after Transfers				\$0	\$0	

*Note: The LWV of the Columbia River Region (LWVCRR) carries some of the most interesting and important positions of any in the state - metropolitan government, regional planning and governance, metropolitan transportation, the Port of Portland, and regional solid waste management. LWVCRR will consider disbanding at its April Convention, in which case the LWV Portland Convention will consider adding the LWVCRR positions to its position portfolio. Our April unit meetings will review the LWVCRR positions to prepare the membership for this decision.*

## The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region Positions

### Promotion of Orderly Metropolitan Government (1967, revised 1979, 1994, 2000)

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region believes that a sense of regional community is vital in dealing with regional issues. We support efforts aimed at developing and expanding this sense of regional community among all residents of the Portland metropolitan region.

We support coordination, cooperation and the delivery of services at a broader level (including bi-state), when needs justify it.

We support a regional government with power to enforce its decisions and with adequate and equitable financing. We support changes in state legislation and the Metro charter which are justified in order for Metro to carry out its prescribed functions.

We recognize that Clark County, Washington, is an integral part of the Portland metropolitan region, and we support Clark County being a participant in regional decision-making, should it wish to do so.

### Metropolitan Government (1992, revised 1994, 2000)

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports a regional government composed of:

1. A council of not more than 13 councilors elected from defined districts; and
2. An Executive Director, preferably to be appointed by the council.

Metro should continue to perform the following services and functions: Oregon Zoo, solid waste management,

Oregon Convention Center, Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation facilities, transportation planning, surface water run-off coordination, planning and development, and information and assistance to local governments. The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports Metro's involvement in planning for: a parks system, sewage systems, and water supply and distribution systems, in conjunction with local jurisdictions.

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports the following revenue sources for Metro: service or user fees; an excise tax on users of district services or facilities; per capita dues paid by counties, the Port of Portland and Tri-Met; federal and state funds; and general obligation and revenue bonds.

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region also supports Metro's consideration of the use of an income tax for additional funding.

Metro should strive to develop visibility and foster communication with the public and local governments by the use of government officials and private citizens on advisory committees, and by creative methods of providing information about its activities to its constituents.

### Regional Planning and Governance (1996)

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region believes the following issues are of regional concern:

- Growth management: affordable housing, long-term planning, parks/open space, urban growth boundaries/densities, economic development
- Natural systems management: water, air quality, solid waste/recycling
- Regional infrastructure: transportation including ports and airports, sewers, storm water drainage
- Human services and amenities: arts, libraries, education, health service, mental health
- Public safety: corrections, police, emergency preparedness

We believe that efficiency, political feasibility, and economy should be determining factors in cooperative efforts among local governments. Intergovernmental agreements are one method of resolving issues that local governments cannot solve by themselves.

We believe that the entire area benefits from having regional attractors for arts, sports, and recreation. User fees and hotel-motel taxes should be part of the funding for these facilities.

**Urban Growth Management (1992, revised 1994, 2000)**

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports the concept of the Urban Growth Boundary, including designation of urban reserve lands for future needs. The UGB should be difficult to change to ensure well-managed growth. Metro should work closely with local jurisdictions to ensure that funding is identified for planning, infrastructure, and services to urban reserves.

Requests for amendments to the UGB should be allowed from Metro, counties and cities with jurisdiction, and landowners. Notice of proposed amendments should be provided to the petitioners, affected property owners, cities and counties, neighborhood associations, and the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC). In addition, notice must be published in local newspapers.

Public hearings should be held at all stages of the amendment process, including the city/county level before that governing body makes its recommendation, the Metro hearings officer, the Metro Council before its final decision, and the Metro Council when it hears an appeal. Notice of public hearings should be sent at least 30 days before the scheduled hearing.

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports the concept of Regional Urban Growth Goals and Objectives. We support the development and maintenance of functional wildlife and recreation corridors to create metropolitan greenspace. We also support retention and development of well-planned economic communities, which can include the following components: a mix of housing options, employment, social services, industry, and amenities.

Existing urban land should undergo continuous redevelopment and infill where appropriate.

**Metropolitan Transportation (1977, 1987, revised 1994, 1998)**

Transportation of People: The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports a metropolitan mass transportation system which is regional, serving all surrounding communities. The system should be integrated into a well-planned metropolitan community and should be a help in preserving the vital city core. It should be a means of equal access for drivers, non-drivers, students, elderly, and handicapped to metropolitan areas, especially to those areas of high employment. The system should be designed with consideration for economy of land use and should not significantly add to sight, sound, or air pollution, nor destroy the livability of the area involved. It should be competitive in convenience, duration and quality of ride with private cars to reduce traffic congestion. The system should be efficient and economical, with attention to cost control and financing; it should be flexibly financed.

We believe financing for a metropolitan mass transportation system should be from a combination of national, state and regional sources. We support diversion of designated gasoline tax funds and use of motor vehicle license fees for mass transit, recognizing that this may mean an increase in these taxes. We support vehicle taxes based on energy efficiency. Keeping in mind special considerations for special categories of service, we believe that mass transit riders should contribute toward the cost of their ride through fare differentials for different levels and types of service. We support a no-fare system within the city core.

In order to shift emphasis from automobile use to mass transportation, we endorse peripheral parking instead of additional core parking. To increase efficiency, small mass transit vehicles whenever feasible should be used for neighborhood districts and outlying communities; better use should be made of buses off-peak hours, and mass transit routes should enable movement directly from one outlying area to another.

Bicycle racks should be located at park and ride stations. We favor continual public education with respect to the mass transit system, conservation and efficient use of energy by public and private transportation, and traffic safety.

**Transportation of Goods:** The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports the transportation of goods by a variety of modes, realizing the unique capabilities of each mode. Whenever possible, and taking into consideration the commodity and situation, we encourage the use of the most economic and energy-efficient mode, and also the use of multi-modal transportation systems. We believe that communities should have access to some mode of transportation for goods.

**Transportation Routes:** Transportation routes must be an integral part of all land use planning. Planning for the location and construction of transportation routes must weigh all social and environmental costs, including economy of land use, fuel shortages, and sight, sound and air pollution. Individual citizens and neighborhood groups must be kept informed and insured input and active participation in the planning, development and operation of any transportation program, especially for their own area. To minimize overlapping of functions, governmental agencies should coordinate transportation planning.

**Tri-Met:** The Tri-Met Board of Directors should be appointed by the governor with consideration of regional recommendations and broad district representation. The directors should be compensated for board-approved, out-of-district expenses.

Tri-Met should continue to be a separate entity and should work with the regional government for planning and resource utilization.

We support a payroll tax within the Tri-Met service district boundaries, that is broadly based and is equitably shared between employer and employee.

### **Port of Portland (1975, revised 1994)**

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports planned and regulated economic growth. When planning for economic expansion to accommodate population, government should balance economic needs with environmental concerns. The public should be consulted in all planning. Regulatory agencies should continue to enforce the law in their special spheres. We agree that voluntary association of the lower Columbia River ports in Oregon and Washington for planning and marketing might be beneficial. Any movement towards consolidation of the lower Columbia River ports should be initiated by the smaller ports. We agree that Port of Portland commissioners should be appointed by the Governor and to ensure continuity their terms should be staggered.

### **Solid Waste (1972, revised 1985, revised 1994)**

The League of Women Voters of the Columbia River Region supports an environmentally sound solid waste management plan. To conserve our resources as much as possible, it should provide for maximum re-use and recycling. In support of this, local units of government should use recycled products whenever economically feasible. Industry should produce less unnecessary packaging, and more standardized and bio-degradable containers. It is industry's obligation to discard the "built-in obsolescence" theory and to manufacture better quality products. Local government should foster the use of neighborhood shredders, encourage research for alternatives to burning, and enforce existing laws.

Education of the public about solid waste problems is a primary need. The consumer should be educated to exercise care in purchasing, to demand quality products, to recycle, and to change the throw-away philosophy.

Financing of the solid waste management program must be adequate, economical, efficient, manageable and flexible, covering present and future needs. Financing should be supported by private and commercial interest together with local and regional governments. Financing should be provided by user fees and charges, licensing fees, disposal fees on car bodies and appliances, by bonds, and by federal and state grants and moneys.

The State should have authority over planning, regulation and enforcement of the solid waste program. Collection should be done by private industry with local government (city, county) handling the franchising. Transfer stations, recycling and disposal sites should be under regional jurisdiction.

Regional government should have the authority to initiate the process of siting regional landfills. Local government (city and/or county) land use plans must make it possible to site landfills within their own geographical boundaries. The state shall direct the appropriate state-level authority to accomplish the siting should the regional governing body be unsuccessful in providing a landfill.

## Calendar

April 2010							May 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3							1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

7:	<b>Exec Committee</b> 12:00 pm, Room 520
13:	<b>Candidate Forum</b> 7:00 pm, Board Room, Mult. Bldg.
14:	<b>Candidate Forum</b> 7:00 pm, Gresham City Hall
16:	<b>Voter Deadline</b>
19:	<b>LWVCRR Convention</b> 10:45 am, Elephant's Deli
19:	<b>Board Meeting</b> 5:45 pm, Room 433
21:	<b>Candidate Forum</b> 12:00 noon, Board Room, Mult. Bldg.
23:	<b>Action Committee</b> 1:00 pm, Room 433
26:	<b>Candidate Forum</b> 7:00 pm, Board Room, Mult. Bldg.
27:	<b>Mailing Party</b> 10:00 am, Room 520

5:	<b>Old / New Board Mtg.</b> 5:30 pm, Home of Mary McWilliams
11:	<b>Local Convention</b> 5:30 pm, St. Philip Neri
14:	<b>Action Committee</b> 1:00 pm, Room 433
15-16:	<b>LWVOR Convention</b> Bend
18:	<b>Election Day</b>
31:	<b>Office Closed</b>

**Calendar Location Key:**  
**Room 520** and **Room 433** are located at our office building: Board of Trade Building, 310 SW 4th Avenue, Portland (4th Avenue between Stark and Oak Streets)

The **Mult. Bldg.** is located at 501 SE Hawthorne Boulevard in Portland. The Board Room is located on the first floor.

**Gresham City Hall** is located at 1333 NW Eastman Parkway in Gresham.

**St. Philip Neri** is located at 2408 SE 16th Street in Portland.

## April Unit Meetings

Along with the LWVCRR position discussion (see p. 8), the April units will also include a short discussion about our 2010-2011 program. We have a number of topics that we must schedule but also time to include issues discussed during our program planning units. Consider your priorities for general meetings, units, special interest groups or other formats. Can we structure and promote our program activities to broaden participation and develop membership? Bring your ideas in April.

### Unit 1 – Southwest

**Monday, Apr. 26, 7:00 p.m.**

Leader – Ann Mulrone

Host – Carolyn Rundorff

### Unit 2 – Southeast

**Monday, Apr. 26, 10:00 a.m.**

Leader – Mary McWilliams

Host – Florence Wheeler

### Unit 4 – North/Northeast

**Thursday, Apr. 15, 1:00 p.m.**

Leader – Susan Proppe Tong

Host – Marnie Lonsdale

### Unit 5 – Terwilliger Plaza

**Monday, Apr. 19, 3:00 p.m.**

Leader – Jeanne Steed

No host – Convene at Terwilliger Plaza Auditorium A, 2545 SW Terwilliger Blvd.

### Unit 6 – Southwest/Northwest Hills

**Friday, Apr. 16, 9:30 a.m.**

Leader & Host – Debbie Kaye

### Unit 7 – Vermont Hills

**Monday, Apr. 19, 9:30 a.m.**

Leader – Jeanne Steed

Host – Corinne Paulson

### Unit 8 – Online

Leader: Kathleen Hersh

Location: [groups.yahoo.com/group/LWVPDXVirtualUnit/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LWVPDXVirtualUnit/)



**The League of Women of Voters® of Portland**

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