

# LWW Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

JANUARY 2024

## Happy New Year! 2024 Advocacy Priorities

by Maureen Mader and Lynette Pierson, Co-Presidents [president@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:president@lwvclackamas.org)

We hope you had a relaxing Holiday with friends and family! Our Advocacy program is hitting the ground running for 2024. In January, we are restarting our Observer Corps and presenting our Advocacy Priority Review.

The Observer Corps is an excellent way to learn more about local issues & our League. The best part is it takes very little time commitment and can be done from home. We would love to have a few more volunteers to provide a more consistent presence at meetings without burdening any individual volunteers. If interested, please contact Mary Jensen at [localaction@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:localaction@lwvclackamas.org).

Our Advocacy team and Board have been meeting to determine our advocacy priorities for 2024. The League is an important, impartial voice on democracy and governance in our region. A well documented advocacy position will allow us to speak out when appropriate on what is working well and what needs voter attention. Focusing our priorities will help us do a better job of advocating.

Please join us on **Tuesday, January 23rd at 7pm via [Zoom](#)** to hear more about our local advocacy. We want your feedback, comments, and commitment to supporting this plan. Volunteers are also needed to complete this important work. We will outline the process over the next couple months and will also solicit your suggestions on what the state and national Leagues should be prioritizing for the LWVOR Council in May and LWVUS Convention in June.

To support this annual advocacy effort, we have consulted with LWVOR and LWVPDX on the best process to review local positions needed for this Advocacy slate. Your Board has approved a new process that is much simpler, to encourage wider participation amongst members. We invite you to visit our new [LWV Clackamas Positions Review Process](#) (formerly Program Planning).

## FIRST WEDNESDAY LEAGUE ZOOM WITH GUEST CASSIE BRUSKE

**3 JAN 2024 at 7:00pm on Zoom**

By Diana DeMaria, Communications Team [communications@lwvclackams.org](mailto:communications@lwvclackams.org)

You're invited to drop in for our "What's Happening" League tradition of First Wednesday Zoom Meetings! Meet Cassie Bruske of Eames Consulting, who will introduce her work and role, before sharing what we can expect from the 2024 Oregon Legislature short session, especially as it relates to Oregon's Measure 110 and Addiction/Mental Health treatment. Join us at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5515698259?pwd=75aobB2ObuYuuqRCSRyzCbtrdOpmny.1&omn=85614819163>



## 2024 MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK: NOMINATING TEAM READY TO CHAT

by Robina Ingram-Rich, Chair and Nominating Committee Team [membership@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:membership@lwwclackamas.org)

You will be hearing from Robi, Betty, Hilly, Diana and Nancy to talk about the right-sized task for you as a League member to participate and team up on the Board or an off-board committee for issues you want to help make happen in 2024. Without your input and teamwork, we won't be able to accomplish our voter education and vital issue advocacy mission. Please join us for a truly important and active 2024, preparing for the spring primaries and general fall election. Will you commit to keeping this League vibrant? (Can't wait to say yes? Contact a member of the nominating committee now or email [membership@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:membership@lwwclackamas.org)).

## BRIDGING THE GAP WITH REAGAN KNOPP AND BEN BOWMAN

**16 JAN 2024 at 7:00pm on Zoom**

by Leslie Westphal, Civics Education [civicsed@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:civicsed@lwwclackamas.org)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5515698259?pwd=75aobB2ObuYuuqRCSRyzCbtrdOpmny.1&omn=82962338189>



Reagan Knopp is chief of staff to the Oregon Senate Republican Leader Tim Knopp. He's also a political consultant who has run campaigns from local school boards to Congress. Reagan and his wife have two kids and live on their farm outside Albany, Oregon.

Ben Bowman is the state representative for House District 25 and an administrator in the Gladstone School District. Before joining the Legislature, Ben was the chair of the Tigard-Tualatin School Board and worked for the Oregon Department of Education. He graduated from the University of Oregon and earned a master's degree in education policy from Stanford University.



The Bridge by OR360

Alex Titus, Ben Bowman, & Reagan Knopp

Ben Bowman and Reagan Knopp have very different political beliefs—but they co host a podcast together on Oregon politics, updated weekly, and available wherever you get your podcasts. Ben is a progressive Democrat, Reagan is a conservative Republican, and each week, they interview a guest (politicians, journalists, authors, and more) to discuss complex policy issues, learn about Oregon political history, and help build a more constructive civic dialogue. In this

program, they will discuss why they started the podcast, how they've navigated challenging issues, the implications for broader political discourse—and they'll share a few fun memories and highlights from the experience. See you on the 16th!

DATE	DAY	TIME	2024 CALENDAR <a href="https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county/calendar">https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county/calendar</a>
3 JAN	WED	7p	First Wednesday <a href="#">Zoom</a> -Speaker Cassie Bruske: 2024's Legislative Short Session
11 JAN	THUR	12p	LWVUS Nuts & Bolts of Program Planning Meetings <a href="#">LWVUS Web Event Link</a>
16 JAN	TUE	7p	Bridging the Gap with Reagan Knopp and Ben Bowman <a href="#">Zoom Link</a>
18 JAN	THU	1p-3p	League of Women Voters of Clackamas County Board Meeting on <a href="#">Zoom</a>
19 JAN	FRI	10a-3p	Youth Civic Engagement Summit, Salem <a href="#">LWVOR Hybrid Event Form Link</a>
23 JAN	TUE	7p	2024 Advocacy & Positions Priorities: League Member Input Requested <a href="#">Zoom</a>
FEB			<b>BLACK HISTORY MONTH</b>
14 FEB	WED		164 years of Oregon Statehood (1859) and LWV turns 103!
15 FEB	THU	1p-3p	League of Women Voters of Clackamas County Board Meeting Venue TBD
22 FEB	THU	Noon	LWVUS Advocacy Team Overview on Emerging Issues Portfolio, including how we do our advocacy work, what related resources we offer, and how we can support affiliate efforts on climate change, criminal justice, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), health care, and immigration. <a href="#">Register here</a>
29 FEB	THU	Noon	LWVUS Federal Legislative Outlook Webinar to reflect back on the first half of the 118th Congress and deliver updates on legislation that LWVUS has been tracking. We will also look forward to the year ahead and the legislative movement we predict in this election year. <a href="#">Register here</a>

## K-12 EDUCATION POSITION TASK FORCE

By Jean Pierce, LWVOR Social Policy

[socialpolicy@lwvor.org](mailto:socialpolicy@lwvor.org)

Hello Leaguers! Jean is Social Policy Coordinator for LWVOR and needs your help if you would like to serve on an ad hoc statewide K-12 Education Position task force. The League of Women Voters of Oregon does not have a K-12 position which would permit taking action on charter schools, a statewide minimum teacher salary, class size, collective bargaining, state assessments, career education, and other issues which are being addressed by the legislature. The task force is pulling together a team to research K-12 education positions of other state Leagues to determine whether to propose a concurrence at the 2025 LWVOR Convention. **Contact Jean if this timeline and issue works for you to join in!**

- Through January 2024: Education Position Task Force formation
- Feb – Sept 2024: info collection from local Leagues, national research
- Oct – Jan 2025: consolidating info into a report to the Board, including concurrence proposal
- Feb – June 2025: pending Board approval, campaigning statewide concurrence for June 2025



## IP 14 AND IP 9 NEED YOUR HELP

***Democracy is not a spectator sport!***

By Marge Easley, Action Co-Chair [action@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:action@lwvclackamas.org) with a warm thank you to League Member, Teri Cummings, for helping present the initiatives at the December Holiday Brunch !

League members across the state are now collecting signatures to help put Initiative Petitions 14 and 9 on the November in 2024. Some petitions were distributed at the holiday party, but if you didn't get yours, or need more, you can use the links below to download and print either single signature petition sheets or double-sided ten-signature petition sheets. Please follow instructions carefully so the signatures remain valid. If you don't have a printer, contact Marge Easley at [action@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:action@lwvclackamas.org) who will be happy to drop a petition sheet in the mail for you. Also please contact Marge if you have any questions about the process.

***If each of us prints, signs and returns a petition with their family and friends, both initiative petitions would have enough signatures to qualify for the 2024 ballot!***

**REDISTRICTING BALLOT MEASURE IP 14** ends gerrymandering in Oregon by creating an independent redistricting commission. The complete text of this constitutional measure and signature gathering information can be found on the *People Not Politicians Oregon* website: <https://www.peoplenotpoliticiansoregon.com/>



**CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM IP 9** is a statutory measure that sets campaign contribution limits, requires transparency in campaign advertising, and stops dark money influence on politics by barring for-profit corporation contributions to political campaigns in Oregon. Click on <https://linktr.ee/honestelectionsoregon> for more information and petition sheets or contact Marge Easley at [action@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:action@lwvclackamas.org). Complete information on the statutory measure and signature gathering information can be found on the website of [Honest Elections](https://www.honestelections.org/).

## ACTION IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

By Mary Jensen [localaction@lwwclackamas.org](mailto:localaction@lwwclackamas.org)

**HOUSING:** At the 13 December 2023 Board of County Commissioners (BCC) policy meeting, they discussed Clackamas Village, a 24 unit transitional housing project that will be located next to Veterans' Village. It is quite an impressive undertaking and is described in detail in the packet that was furnished for the meeting. <https://dochub.clackamas.us/documents/drupal/bd097364-10d4-4bde-beff-4afb44683b64> After discussion, the BCC approved the plan. To view the video to experience the level of thoughtfulness for this urgent topic, visit: <https://youtu.be/8vBvzxIz5UA?feature=shared>

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE:** At the 14 December 2023 BCC Business Meeting, it was noted the courthouse project is on time and on budget. Two members of the public spoke, one on tolling and the other on the need for transitional housing. Chair Smith noted an article in the Oregonian that the hotline instituted for Measure 110 had fielded just 577 calls over the past year. During the same time period, the Clackamas County hotline handled over 11,400 calls that address many needs for help, even including obtaining food and housing. During the meeting a short video was presented by staff highlighting County achievements in 2023. It can be viewed at: [📺 2023 #ClackCo Achievements - A Year-in-review](#)

### ADVOCACY:

Based on an early 2023 League of Women Voters of Clackamas County member survey and Clackamas County's legislative agenda for the coming year, we are proposing to get League member input on the advocacy topics for the coming year. **We invite every member to drop in via Zoom at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 23rd, 2023 to help guide our action and advocacy focus.** Your input is vital to our League. A reminder will be emailed with the zoom link the day before.

## RECALL WORK PROCEEDS

By Keli Osborn [kelimosborn@gmail.com](mailto:kelimosborn@gmail.com)

Work continues on the LWVOR Recall Study. The statewide team continues to meet online and having researched recall history and processes in Oregon and beyond, is now into the fact-checking phase. League members around the state are conducting interviews with subject-matter experts, including elections officials in multiple counties. We are hearing perspectives on the benefits, limitations and challenges of Oregon's recall process. The involvement of League members statewide is essential, and we welcome your inquiries and your assistance!

We've assembled relevant provisions from the Oregon Constitution and Oregon Revised Statutes, as well as miscellaneous newspaper clippings on specific recall elections stretching back to the early 20th century; the Oregon Voters Pamphlet explanation for the November 1984 ballot's constitutional amendment regarding the minimum voter requirement; and a 1975 study from the Oregon Legislative Research Office, "The Historical Development and Use of the Recall in Oregon."

The final report will include Oregon's recall history, a comparison to other states and discussion questions for members of local Leagues - and will explore some of the issues and potential impacts that are part of any kind of election: equity, money, ethics, succession, roles and relationships. Email Keli to join in!

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

of Clackamas County

PO Box 411

Lake Oswego, OR 97034

info@lwvclackamas.org

[www.lwvclackamas.org](http://www.lwvclackamas.org), <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county>

**Join the League of Women Voters of Clackamas County!**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

- I am a new member!
- I am renewing my membership.
- This is a gift membership. (Please provide the recipient's contact information above.)
- I am interested in volunteering for the League. Please contact me.

Annual dues: \$70 Individual. \$105 Household. Full-time student attending an accredited institution or adult under age 25 free! Membership grants are available. Pay online

(<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas>) or mail this form. Please make checks payable to LWVCC, PO Box 411, Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Membership dues and donations are now tax deductible.

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_