



NOTES ON ONGOING WORK AND OPPORTUNITIES Background for Program Planning 2023-2025

This looks like a lot—and it is! That said, it isn't (completely) written in stone, and, if we have enough support from local Leagues, there is room to add or modify the work. We really do want to hear from you, both about your feedback on the agenda and on issues you think we should emphasize.

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK IN CALIFORNIA

California's work is guided by the national "Campaign for Making Democracy Work" program that was amended to add language around abolition of the Electoral College, and readopted at the LWVUS convention last June. It focuses on the following areas.

- Voting Rights
- Improving Elections
- Campaign Finance/Money in Politics
- Redistricting

The League of Women Voters of California will be involved in implementing Making Democracy Work both at the state and at the local level. The following is some of what we know the LWVC will be doing.

- **Expanding the Electorate.** Continuing work to make the electorate in California more representative of our population's diversity and encouraging voter turnout through education.
- **Election Reform.** Continued improvements to the voting experience and the elections process.
 - Implementation of improvements to the automated registration process at the Department of Motor Vehicles.
 - Continued expansion of accessible and equitable voting opportunities and education related to those opportunities.
 - Increased and stable funding for elections focused on shrinking California's voter participation gap.
 - Expansion of California agencies designated to provide voter registration services pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act.

- **Money in Politics.**
 - Increasing transparency of the money spent on elections and lobbying
 - Local government reforms such as public financing of local elections and ordinances limiting the size of campaign contributions.
- **Redistricting.**
 - State-level legislation related to the Fair Maps Act and local redistricting.
 - Evaluate and make recommendations for improvements to the state redistricting process.

Some of these items involve state-level work, but a number—especially implementation issues—are areas in which we hope local Leagues will be active.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEAGUE IMPACT

You can see a summary of the LWVC work over the past year in our [LWVC Advocacy Wrap-Up 2022](#). The following are a few more issues where the League has been active and/or League leaders anticipate ongoing work.

- **Housing and Homelessness.**
 - Increasing the supply of low- and moderate-income housing
 - Reducing and eliminating homelessness, both sheltered and unsheltered, throughout California.
- **Criminal Justice.**
 - Racial Justice Act implementation (AB 256)
 - Sheriff oversight/local development of independent oversight bodies (AB 1185).
 - Taking steps toward the elimination of the death penalty in California.
- **Water.** The LWVC will continue to act on issues such as water availability and quality, especially for low-income or under-resourced users; environmental protection; and sustainable management of groundwater
- **Climate Change.** Advocating for policies to safeguard our environment and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Interest Groups

The LWVC's Advocacy Interest Groups are growing in the areas of Criminal Justice, Healthcare, Housing and Homelessness, Climate Change, Water, and Immigration - [check the list](#) to join one.