

LWW

A thick, red, hand-painted brushstroke underline that starts under the 'L' and 'W' and extends to the right, ending under the 'W'.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE COOPERSTOWN AREA

PROGRAM PLANNING 2025

Speak Up! Take Action!

"Program" is the issue or issues that will be the central focus of work for a League for a specific time period.

Leagues at each level—national, state, local—select a "program"

Why? Selecting a program keeps the League focused. Focusing brings results.

If other needs arise, we adapt and our focus may change.

PROGRAM PLANNING? WHAT'S PROGRAM?

PROGRAM PLANNING: WHAT IS IT?

Program Planning is the heart of the League's commitment to grassroots participation.



Program Planning is an opportunity for members to recommend to their local, state, and national boards which issues are most important to them.

PROGRAM PLANNING PROCESS

How it works...



Local Leagues gather.



Members discuss and weigh issues.



Discussion leads to recommendations.



Recommendations are sent to the relevant board—LWVUS, LWVNY, or LWV Cooperstown.



Board makes recommendation for program adoption to convention delegates or at local annual meeting.

Did you know?

- LWVUS holds its convention in even years.
- LWVNY holds its conventions in odd years.
- LWV Cooperstown Area holds annual meetings.

PROGRAM PLANNING 2025

LWW[®]



Focus on
New York State Issues

Clark Sports Center, Cooperstown

5:30-8 p.m.

PROGRAM PLANNING 2023

Current National Positions

Citizen's Right to Vote • DC Self-Government and Full Voting Representation • Money in Politics • Apportionment • Redistricting • Selection of the President • Congress • The Presidency • Voter Representation/Electoral Systems • Citizen's Right to Know/Citizen Participation • Constitutional Amendment Proposals • Constitutional Conventions • Individual Liberties • Public Policy on Reproductive Choices • Privatization •

United Nations • Trade • Developing Countries • Arms Control • Military Policy and Defense Spending • Natural Resources • Resource Management • Transfer of Federal Public Lands • Air Quality • Solid Waste • Nuclear Waste • Climate Change • Water Resources • Nuclear Issues • Public Participation • Agriculture Policies •

Equality of Opportunity • Employment • Fair Housing • Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action • Pay Equity • Equal Rights for Women • Same Gender Equality • Education • Federal Role in Public Education • Fiscal Policy •

PROGRAM PLANNING 2025

Current State Positions

Full a full description of all LWVNY positions, download <https://lwny.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Impact-on-Issues-2022-FINAL.pdf>.

Registration/Ballot Access	Public Authorities	Court Structure		Erie/Barge Canal
Voting Qualifications	State Budget Proces	Adequate Judiciary Funding	Employment	Great Lakes Ecosystem
Absentee Voting	Citizen Rights	Judicial Selection	Fair Housing	Transportation
Servicemen's Voting	Ethics & Lobbying	Judicial Discipline	Fiscal Policy	Fiscal Policy
The Primaries	Individual Liberties	Pre-Arrest Profiling	Welfare Reform	Welfare Reform
Uniform Administration of	Reproductive Choices	Pretrial Procedures	Child Care	
Election Law	Voting Rights	Grand Jury	Transportation	Education
Electronic Voting	Apportionment	Legal Services for the Indigent	Gun Control	Financing Education
Equipment	Constitutional	Alternatives to Incarceration	Human Trafficking	Financing Public Higher
Petitioning Process: Ballot	Convention	Trial Jury	Equality For All	Tuition Tax Credits, Vouchers, &
Access	Filling of Vacancies In The	Cameras In The Court	Women & The Law	Charter Schools
Simplification of Election	State Legislature	Death Penalty	Child Support/Custody	Campaign For Fiscal Equity
Law	Indirect Initiative	Civil Legal Services	Death Penalty	Tuition Tax Credits, Vouchers, &
School Elections	Consolidation of	Criminal Justice	Civil Legal Services	Charter Schools
Campaign Financing	Governmental	Natural Resources	Criminal Justice	Financing Public Higher Education
Term Limits	Health Care	Air Quality	Natural Resources	Property Tax & Star
Government	Access To Health Care	Energy	Air Quality	Public Authorities
Tuition Tax Credits,	Disease Prevention &	Waste Management	Energy	State Budget Process
Vouchers, & Charter	Health Promotion	Superfund	Waste Management	Pay Equity
Schools	Personal Health Decision-	Hazardous Waste	Superfund	Domestic Violence
Financing Public Higher	Making	Water Resources	Hazardous Waste	Ratification of ERA
Education	Financing Health Care	Land Use	Water Resources	
Property Tax & Star		Urban Sprawl	Land Use	



SO MANY ISSUES, SO LITTLE TIME

You can see why FOCUS is so important!

You can understand why our state League asks us to choose areas of focus.

Read full LWVUS positions here:

<https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues>

Read full LWVNY positions here:

<https://lwvny.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Impact-on-Issues-Revamp-1.pdf>

LWV Cooperstown Positions:

<https://my.lwv.org/new-york/cooperstown-area/position/positions-lwv-cooperstown-area-0>

OUR CURRENT WORK NATIONAL PROGRAM

- Last year at program planning, our League accepted its responsibility to continue the LWVUS's campaign for Making Democracy Work.[®] With Leagues throughout the country working on:
 - Voting Rights
 - Improving Elections
 - Money in Politics

CURRENT LOCAL PROGRAM

Natural Resources

Observer Corps

Voters Service: registering voters, candidates debates and related activities.

Youth Program

Our Local Positions are found on our website <https://my.lwv.org/new-york/cooperstown-area/position/positions-lwv-cooperstown-area-o>).

We do not take on all the positions, but focus our work on areas of emphasis.

Our current areas of focus are listed at left. These are the issues that members have agreed are important AND have volunteered to participate in the work.

REIGNITING OUR OBSERVER CORPS

- Our League is committed to improving responsiveness of local governments and engaging citizens in making democracy work in our community. One way to accomplish the goal is by following the actions of local governments. Read about Observer Corps in our last newsletter

Read about Observer Corps in the September online issue of *Update*.

BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE!!!

Program Planning is also an opportunity for each League to tell the LWVNY which other issues concern our League.

If enough Leagues have the same concern, the LWVNY Board may decide to recommend other issues to the delegates at convention.



Two Ways!

REACHING MEMBER AGREEMENT

Before the League can take action, members must agree in broad terms on what they think about various aspects of the policy issue. The nature of the issue will affect how it is studied and how positions are reached.

- The board usually selects the method to be used:
 - ✓ **Consensus** (where agreement is reached using League responses to specific questions) or
 - ✓ **Concurrence** (where agreement or a vote on a pre-stated position is required)

The technique most often used in the League for reaching member agreement is **CONSENSUS** by group discussion. It is not a simple majority, nor is it unanimity; rather it is the *overall sense of the group* as expressed through the exchange of ideas and opinions, whether in a meeting of the full membership or a series of smaller discussion meetings.

FOCUSING ON OUR COMMUNITY

Choosing Local Priorities

What Are the Priorities Of the LWV of the Cooperstown Area??

What is our League's part in Making Democracy Work® ?

What issues are we actively working on currently?

What other issues should we consider?

What is the outlook for action?

