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MEETING**

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The Governance Committee, composed of Judy Bennett, Leslie Leach and Byrd Lochtie, met via email on Jan 22, 2021, and recommends ratification of the LWVHC Board's approval for changes in Article II Section 2 of the bylaws of LWVHC, as required by LWVUS. The changes are shown below, with deletions ~~struck out~~ and additions in *italics*. These changes were approved by the LWVHC Board on January 12, 2021, as allowed by LWVHC bylaws, but they must be ratified by the membership at a subsequent Annual Meeting of the membership.

### ARTICLE II PURPOSES AND POLICIES

Section 2. ~~Political Policy~~ ***Policies.*** *The policies of the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County are:*

*b. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Policy. The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County is fully committed to ensure compliance—in principle and in practice—with the LWVUS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy.*

The LWVUS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy of the LWVUS bylaws is printed here:

The League of Women Voters is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.

### **Budget Committee Report and Recommendations for 2021-2022**

Budget committee members, which included board members Nancy Kay (Treasurer), Becky Simpson, Jessica Schlachter, and off-board members Judy Bennett, Sharolyn Hutton, and Lorey Keele, met on January 30, 2020.

#### **NOTABLE for 2020-2021**

Even though last April we were unable to hold our annual State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL), which is the source of most of our operating capital, the Board of Directors voted to spend unbudgeted money this year on a media consultant to help us with the very important November 2020 election. Most, but not all, of the money that we used was provided by the League's Education Fund at the Humboldt Area Foundation. Please note that the "HAF Monies for Education" income was budgeted at about \$5,000, but over \$11,500 was actually taken from HAF this year.

League members, knowing that we were unable to have the SOCL, came to the rescue and were very generous. Please note that the "Member Contributions" income was budgeted at \$500, but over \$2,700 came in from our members. Thank you for your support!

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### **NOTABLE for the PROPOSED BUDGET**

We have been very lucky as League members -- we have low annual dues (\$75), most of which (\$60) is forwarded on the LWWUS and LWVC. We really do not have to do any fund raising, other than the SOCL. We receive contributions for our services helping with community elections and from members, and we earn \$500 per year helping with a community marathon event. But by far, we get by because of our SOCL profit.

We have tentatively scheduled the SOCL for September 25, 2021. It may, or may not, happen.

Major suggested changes in Proposed Income:

1. The budget committee recommends that this fall we ask our members, by a direct solicitation letter, to make a small donation to the League's operating budget.
2. We intend to decrease the amount of HAF educational funds this year, since we used so much this year.

Major suggested changes in Proposed Expenses:

1. We recommend we decrease next year's budgeted expenses in the following categories:
  - a. Annual Meeting Kits: We will email the AMK, saving trees, and postage and printing costs.
  - b. Citizen's Guide for Voters: We will research and update the CG ourselves, and we will not pay a consultant, as we have in the past.
  - c. Membership Brunch: We will likely be having a virtual meeting and will not be subsidizing meals as we have in the past.
  - d. *The VOTER*: We will be sending *The VOTER* via email, saving trees, and postage and printing costs. Those who absolutely must have a paper copy will need to contact a board member to make arrangements.
2. We recommend a new expense for the budget: We will be paying for a web master who will also help with other social media platforms.

### **PROPOSED BUDGET**

Given the pandemic's effect on the 2019-2020 fiscal year, as well as during the current fiscal year, we have added the League's budget 2018-2019 in the Proposed Budget for comparison purposes.

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	FYE Jun 30, 2019	FYE Jun 30, 2020	YTD March 22, 2021
Unrestricted Assets			
Checking - Umpqua Bank	9,371	6,208	5,017
Savings - Umpqua Bank	19,799	6,800	16,956
Certificate of Deposit		10,003	
Total Unrestricted	29,170	23,011	21,972
Restricted Assets -- HAF	54,973	54,757	54,028
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>84,143</b>	<b>77,769</b>	<b>76,000</b>

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LWVHC BUDGET 2021-2022						
	BUDGET July 2018 - June 2019	BUDGET Jul 2019 - June 2020	BUDGET July 2020 - June 2021	ACTUAL YTD Jul 1, '20 - Feb 11, 21	2021-2022 PROPOSED BUDGET	
<b>Income</b>						
Community Elections Service Inc	-	6,000	750	225.00	3,000	
<b>Contributions</b>						
Contributions for Tweens			-	800.00		
Member Contributions	600	500	500	2,750.00	1,000	
Non Member Contributions	-	100	-	55.00	2,500	
Poll Workers Contributions	-	300	300	405.81	200	
<b>Total Contributions</b>	600	900	800	4,010.81	3,700	
<b>Event Revenues - Membership</b>						
Annual Meeting Revenues	600	825	825		800	
Membership Brunch Revenues	250	400	400			
<b>Total Event Revenues - Membership</b>	850	1,225	1,225		800	
HAF Monies for Education	-	5,050	5,050	11,507.50	1,200	
Interest/Dividends - General	5	-	-	152.77	-	
Marathon	500	500	500	0.00	500	
Member Dues	14,000	10,500	13,830	11,935.00	12,550	
State of the Community Revenue	24,000	24,000	24,000	0.00	20,000	
Transfer from Reserves		3,865	5,980	-	23	
<b>Total Income</b>	39,955	52,040	52,135	27,831.08	41,773	
<b>Expense</b>						
Action & Advocacy	600	2,000	2,500	3,000.00	2,000	
Administrative Postage	350	660	400	106.00	350	
Annual Meeting Kits and Postage	750	495	575	0.00	120	
Board Meeting meals	500	400	-	0.00	-	
Board Retreat	50	50	300	0.00	-	
<b>Community Education</b>						
Citizen's Guide/Facts for Voter	1,500	-	1,600	10.80	700	
Easy Voter Guide		-	250	677.04	-	
Events/Meetings	8,000	-	150	0.00	-	
Social Media/Internet	-	4,650	1,500	7,000.00	-	
Voters' Edge	500	500	500	500.00	500	
<b>Total Community Education</b>	10,000	5,150	4,000	8,187.84	1,200	
Community Election Service Exp	-	2,500	300	148.00	648	
Conventions and Workshops	3,500	3,500	3,500	100.00	3,500	
Dues Assistance			-	60.00	60	
Dues for Local Associations	225	225	225	75.00	135	
<b>Event Expenses - Membership</b>						
Annual Meeting Expenses	1,200	1,000	1,000	0.00	800	
Membership Brunch Expenses	800	800	1,000	0.00		
<b>Total Event Expenses - Membership</b>	2,000	1,800	2,000	0.00	800	
Fees PayPal and Other	250	150	175	31.66	150	
General Membership Meeting Cost	800	1,000	500	0.00	250	
Insurance	1,100	1,030	1,000	202.70	1,000	
Membership Development	500	1,000	700	442.78	250	
Office Supplies/Name Badges	150	150	100	25.00	150	
Officer's Expenses	200	200	150	75.00	100	
PMP: National and State League Dues	9,500	9,400	11,280	6,710.00	9,960	
Rent	5,400	5,400	5,400	3,150.00	5,400	
<b>Special Projects</b>						
Contribution to Access Humboldt			-	1,000.00		
Contribution to PBS Northcoast	-	500	-	0.00		
History Day	1,250	1,500	-	0.00		
Holiday Tween Gift				800.00		
Name Badges	100	100				
Parade					1,500	
Planned Parenthood Event	2,200	-				
<b>Total Special Projects</b>	3,550	2,100	2,000	1,800.00	2,500	
State of the Community Expenses	12,500	12,700	12,700	110.00	12,000	
Study Materials	200	-				
VOTER expenses	800	950	900	545.93	100	
Voter Service	1,000	750	3,000	0.00		
Webmaster					600	
Website/Tech Communications	1,200	430	430	401.61	500	
<b>Total Expense</b>	55,125	52,040	52,135	25,171.52	41,773	
<b>NET</b>	(15,170)	-	-	2,659.56	-	

**Program Recommendations for 2021-2022**

We have eighteen positions that we have studied over the years, and that we need to review periodically during our Local Program Planning meeting which usually occurs between January and March.

For 2021/2022, we will be looking at Housing, Land Use Planning, and Library facilities. The following changes to our positions are as follows: Foster Care was determined at the Membership Meeting on April 24, 2018 and approved by the Board on July 14, 2020; Eureka City Government was determined at the Membership Meeting on November 15, 2020 and approved by the Board on March 25, 2021, Hazardous Waste was determined at the Membership Meeting on February 7, 2021 and approved by the Board on March 9, 2021, and Public Health Services was determined at the Membership Meeting on February 25 and approved by the Board on March 9, 2021. They are presented here for adoption by the membership." **The changes are shown below, with deletions ~~struck out~~ and additions in *italics*.**

**Foster Care - 1991, 1999, 2017**

**Position Summary: Support of services ~~which prevent~~ *which decrease the number of children from being placed in* ~~needing~~ foster care, and which provide safe and supportive foster care when required.**

**Positions:**

2. Support coordination, cooperation and open communication among all agencies providing services to families and children *that emphasize timely actions and that eliminate redundancy, including.*
  - *Programs which focus on the child, such as CASA, and which address mental health and wellness.*
  - *Programs such as the Homebuilder Model and Homemaker Services that emphasize birth and resource family stability.*
7. Support separate staff positions for recruiting, training, *assisting*, and retaining foster parents.
10. *Support for adequately funded, comprehensive, culturally appropriate services, including:*
  - *Respite/recreational/educational opportunities for children and birth/resource families.*
  - *Recognition of the unique needs of older resource families.*
  - *Providers of legal services and health care. Support respite care, by trained workers, for foster parents.*
- ~~11. Special recognition should be given to the needs of elderly foster parents.~~
- ~~12. Support funding for additional social workers and health providers for foster children.~~
- ~~13. Support adequate funding for childcare and extracurricular activities of foster children.~~
15. Require *adequately funded* rigorous adherence to federal and state laws pertaining to children in foster care, *specifically including the Indian Child Welfare Act and subsequent legislation.*
- ~~16. Support efforts to place foster children in culturally similar environments. Encourage efforts to place children in supportive environments, with attention cultural identity and gender.~~

## Eureka City Government - 1976, 2011

**Position Summary:** ~~The League of Women Voters of Humboldt county~~ *The LWWHC supports retaining a Eureka City Charter city charter that ensures a council/manager form of government. which provides for well-trained and qualified personnel for the complexities of city management, is flexible and easy to understand, conforms to the provisions of state law and contains the basic direction of city government with the majority of issues to be dealt with by ordinance procedure.*

1. *The Eureka City Charter should allow flexibility within state law and provide clarity for city personnel.*
2. *The Eureka City Charter should ensure a form of government that provides for well-trained and qualified personnel.*
3. *The Eureka City Charter should conform to the provisions of state law.*
4. *The Eureka City Charter should include a city government process that complies with an ordinance procedure for the majority of issues.*

## Wastes in Humboldt County -- 1985, 2011, 2021

**Position Summary:** *LWWHC supports safe storage, management, and disposal of hazardous wastes generated in Humboldt County, with special emphasis on reduction of wastes to be disposed of adequate financial support for the agencies that reduce and dispose of wastes. LWWHC supports increased awareness of hazardous materials use and disposal, as well as non-hazardous alternatives. and realization that Producers and users of hazardous materials should share in the responsibility for the costs of hazardous waste management.*

### Positions:

2. All *producers and* users of hazardous materials should share in the costs of the safe storage, management, and disposal of hazardous wastes in the county.
7. *LWWHC supports measures to increase consumer awareness and education for people of all ages regarding hazardous wastes and non-hazardous alternatives in the home, community, and county.*

## Public Health Services Position - 1974, 2011, 2021

**Position Summary:** *Support of measures to provide efficient publicly administered health care, including mental health services, as these are essential and should be available to each individual.*

### Positions:

1. Health care services should be obtainable to all. *Equity and stable funding are essential to this effort.*
2. *Telehealth services should be expanded through greater broadband access.*

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3. ~~County health facilities should offer quality health care, consistent with community standard. LWVHC supports expanded services addressing health risk factors such as "ACES," Adverse Childhood Experiences of abuse, neglect and household dysfunction.~~
4. *LWVHC supports a robust program explaining (in culturally relevant terms) the critical importance of immunizations, especially in childhood.*
5. ~~Preventive medicine is~~ *measures are* essential and should be promoted in all phases of health care planning, *including suicide prevention, addiction mitigation, and access to quality nutrition in all areas of the county.*
6. ~~Support of a mental health facility~~ *LWVHC supports expansion of funding for and parity in mental health services in Humboldt County.*

### Nominations Committee Recommendations for 2021-2022

The Nominating Committee, comprised of Judy Bennett, chair, Anne Hartline and Becky Simpson, board appointed members, and Maggie Fleming and Judith Stoffer, members at large present the following slate of nominees:

To be elected to the Board of Directors for two-year terms ending June 30, 2023:

**Co-Presidents:** Dr. Sharolyn Hutton and Jessica Schlacter

**Vice-President:** Molly Cate

To continue serving on the Board of Directors for two-year terms ending June 30, 2022

**Secretary:** Anne Hartline

**Treasurer:** Nancy Kay

To be elected to the Board of Directors for two-year terms ending June 30, 2023

**Director:** Dr. Maggie Augustine      **Director:** Sharrone Blanck

**Director:** Deborah Downs      **Director:** Dr. Amy Moffat

**Director:** Eddie Morgan      **Director:** Dr. Karen Price

**Director:** Sylvia Shaw      **Director:** Becky Simpson

To continue serving on the Board of Directors for two-year terms ending June 30, 2022

**Director:** Leslie Leach      **Director:** Byrd Lochtie

**Director:** Carol Masterson      **Director:** Dave Rosso

To serve on the Nominating Committee for a one-year term ending June 30, 2022

**Chair:** Judy Bennett

**Member:** Maggie Fleming

**Member:** Judith Stoffer

**Nominations may be taken from the floor provided consent from the nominee has been obtained prior to the nomination.**



**League of Women Voters Humboldt County 2021-2022**

*Whatever the issue, the League believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibilities, adequate financing, coordination among levels of government, effective enforcement and well defined channels for citizen input and review.*

# SOCIAL POLICY

## **Funding for Services for Victims of Domestic Violence– 2003, 2014**

**Position Summary: Support of funding needed to provide adequate services to victims of domestic violence and elder abuse in Humboldt County.**

### **Positions:**

1. We encourage pursuing all methods for funding services for victims of domestic violence and elder abuse.
2. We support developing a community environment that provides adequate funding for victims of domestic violence and elder abuse by encouraging:
  - A. Effective coordination and collaboration between agencies providing services to victims of domestic violence and elder abuse,
  - B. Community education and awareness of domestic violence and elder abuse, for all segments of the population,
  - C. Comprehensive training and education for all professionals and volunteers dealing with domestic Violence and elder abuse.

## **Housing - 1975, 1983, 2012**

**Position Summary: Support of measures to encourage the cities and county to adopt regulations, programs and projects which will increase the affordable housing stock for all income groups.**

### **Positions:**

1. Support of decent, safe and sanitary low-cost housing for all low-income people in Humboldt County with individual needs to be considered in the planning, a choice of housing whenever possible, and more effective housing authorities. Priority should be given to:
  - A. Special needs for the elderly, handicapped and large families.
  - B. Complete use of available funds.
  - C. Professional resident manager.
  - D. Advertisement of vacancies on commissions as they occur.
  - E. Consideration of the qualifications of potential members of commissions.
  - F. A thorough orientation program for all members of commissions.
2. Support implementation of a County Housing Element with priority given to:

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- A. Broader public education on housing.
  - B. Comprehensive planning for housing including new sites, existing stock and needs inventories.
  - C. Utilization of the Article 34 referendum of the California State Constitution (requirement for voter approval of low-income housing projects) if the need is determined.
  - D. Implementation of the State Housing Law regulations pertaining to limited-density owner-built rural dwellings providing that health and safety standards are not compromised.
  - F. Implementation of an alternative owner-built ordinance providing that health and safety standards are not compromised.
  - F. Investigation of the need for a Just Cause Eviction ordinance. Publicity of the availability of the Housing Condition Advisory Service provided by the County Building Department.
3. Support implementation of housing regulations contained in Article 10, Title 25 of the California Administrative Code on State Housing Law which allow the owner to build under more flexible codes than the full uniform code for rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing homes in Community Service Districts provided that this contributes to increased health, fire and structural safety; does not increase unit density in the area; and a housing condition survey be required first.
  4. Support adoption of local ordinances allowing supplemental living units which conform to appropriate health, safety, and planning guidelines.
  5. Support establishment within cities of mixed zones to allow for variety of housing types and densities.
  6. Support education of the public regarding content, variety and availability of housing programs and opportunities, i.e. targeting areas of greatest need; sending out information with utility bills; using public service announcements, press releases, public meetings, Housing Advisory Boards and Area 1 Agency on Aging.
  7. Support of additional city and county public housing should be based on criteria such as needs Assessment survey, waiting list for available public housing units, the percentage of low income families in the population, the vacancy rate, overcrowding and homelessness.
  8. Support of city and county housing projects involving private/public cooperation in their financing, administration and development with consideration given to factors such as the impact of the project on schools, suitability of the site, design quality, affordability for moderate as well as low income people, and provision for a variety of types of occupancy.
  9. Encourage cities to explore giving incentives to private developers to build more affordable housing. Some possible examples for city exploration are: city-provided infrastructure, consideration of smaller lot sizes, land write-downs and revolving or payback funds.

## **Education – 1972, 1973, 1994, 1995, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2013**

**Position Summary: Support of a public school system that is accountable to the students and to the taxpayers. Support of the development and maintenance of a high quality educational program in a safe environment.**

### **Positions:**

#### **Curriculum**

1. School districts should have an on-going curriculum evaluation process, which includes input from the community. We support district curriculum committees composed of school board members, teachers, administrators, students and community members. Curriculum decisions should be based on sound educational research.

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2. Evaluation of students should be based on established goals that are clearly understood by students, parents and staff.
3. School districts should have an awareness of and take a leadership role in addressing issues of diversity affecting the school and the community. Schools should support a sense of community by creating a dialogue among families, students and staff. We support on-going teacher and staff professional development.
4. Students have the right to a qualified teacher, one who has the ability to reach, teach and inspire students and who has a command of the subject matter. It is important that school districts provide and fund on-going professional development pertinent to the particular school and staff. Mentoring of new teachers is recommended.
5. We support reciprocal volunteerism between school and community/business. To be effective, volunteers must be trained and supervised and should not replace paid personnel. Students should be involved in well-coordinated and meaningful service learning projects that are integrated into the curriculum.
6. We support placement of special education students in the least restrictive setting while considering the most productive environment for all students.
7. School media centers should be given high priority. They should be maintained and staffed so as to teach media center skills and general research methods.

### **Support Services**

8. The availability of student support services at each school site is important. We support maximum coordination and collaboration of services within the school and among all districts and Humboldt County Office of Education. We support a community resource position to research appropriate services and serve as a liaison between families and needed support services. Counseling services are especially important.
9. We encourage and support the use of new technologies for information sharing that ensures interaction among all agencies benefiting students, schools and education. We support electronic transfer of the information normally contained in a student's cumulative file within a district or between districts, provided that access to information is safeguarded according to law.
10. We support a continuum of alternative programs designed to meet the needs of students. We support early intervention and all possible efforts to help the student succeed before transfer to an alternative program. This includes the opportunity to return to the school of origin or to transfer to another program that best meets the needs of the student.

### **Communication**

11. We support efforts, including policies and practices, to encourage effective communication among all parties, using all available technologies without sacrificing personal interaction.
12. Policies and practices should include a defined method for parents and community to evaluate schools and for schools to respond to such evaluation.
13. The public should be informed of meetings where goals, objectives and budgets are decided and it should be encouraged to provide input. Advisory committees should be ongoing and should receive support from administration and staff.

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### Administration/Management

14. It is important for school districts, school boards and administrators regularly to work together to secure state support for basic funding at no less than the national average. Alternative methods such as unification, parcel taxes and bonds should be considered.
15. School districts, school boards, and communities should collaborate to advocate more unrestricted state funding, which could provide more flexibility to meet identified local needs and sustain successful, innovative programs.
16. Internal, qualified evaluators should make prescriptive evaluation of teachers regularly. The tenure system should be maintained, provided established dismissal procedures are used and pursued when warranted.
17. School plants should be evaluated on the basis of size and needs of student population, condition of plant and finances.
18. It is important to provide a safe environment where teachers can teach and students can learn, including, but not limited to, support for:
  - A. Manageable class size;
  - B. Presenting a balanced and accurate view of the students and their activities and accomplishments;
  - C. Encouraging parent participation in student issues;
  - D. Identifying and providing intervention for students needing assistance; and
  - E. Preparing and implementing safe school plans, including effective programs that address bullying and cyberbullying.

### Public Health Services – 1974, 2011

**Position Summary: Support of measures to provide efficient publicly-administered health care, including mental health services, as these are essential and should be available to each individual.**

#### Positions:

1. Health care services should be obtainable by all.
2. The rights and dignity of the individual should be safeguarded at all times.
3. Social services are an important part of patient care.
4. County health facilities should offer quality health care, consistent with community standard.
5. Preventive medicine is essential and should be promoted in all phases of health care planning.
6. Support of a mental health facility in Humboldt County.

### Adult Detention Facilities and Programs in Humboldt County -1978, 1984, 2006, 2016

**Position Summary: Support use of the jail facility, provided revisions and renovations occur as required by law as well as alternative programs for adult misdemeanants.**

#### Positions:

1. Improve recreation programs and facilities within the jail.

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2. Continue library, vocational, educational, and ombudsman programs within the jail.
3. Support work furlough programs and the farm program.
4. Continue substance abuse program, especially self-supporting aspect.
5. Encourage pretrial and post-trial alternatives.
6. Encourage mediation/arbitration programs as a diversion from the court system for misdemeanants only.
7. Support restitution when applicable.
8. Maintain adequate fiscal support for work-alternative programs.
9. Support the use of science-based risk assessment tools within the adult detention facilities and programs to address needs.
10. Continued support of funding for re-entry facilities.

### **Juvenile Detention Facilities and Programs in Humboldt County – 1978, 1984, 2006, 2016** **Position Summary: Support use of up-to-date juvenile detention facilities, provided revisions and renovations occur as required by law; alternative programs for juvenile misdemeanants; probation department's programs for foster and crisis homes**

#### **Positions:**

1. Facilities for mentally disturbed children should be provided; as well as flexible funding for the facility and its programs.
2. Improve recreation programs and facilities within the juvenile hall.
3. Continue substance abuse program, especially self-supporting aspect.
4. Encourage media informational programs dealing with Probation Department's foster and crisis homes and support community members who take in delinquent youth.
5. Encourage pretrial and post-trial alternatives.
6. Encourage mediation/arbitration programs as a diversion from the court system for misdemeanants only.
7. Support restitution when applicable.
8. Maintain adequate fiscal support for all alternative programs and juvenile detention facilities.
9. Encourage Probation Department to continue its diversion program and its support of community-based diversion options,-valuable services to juveniles in the system.
10. Support of science-based risk assessment tools.
11. Continue adequate educational programs within the juvenile detention facilities.
12. Encourage Probation Department to continue its diversion program and its support of community-based diversion options,-valuable services to juveniles in system.

### **Child Care – 1990, 2014**

#### **Position Summary: Support of city and county policies and programs with incentives for the private sector for programs which meet the need for accessible, affordable, and quality care of minors.**

#### **Positions:**

1. Support of local policy committed to the following principles: Caring for children is society's as well as family's responsibility; quality child care should be responsive to the diverse needs of children and their families and available to all socioeconomic groups.

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2. Support for a local administrative structure to implement child care policies, programs and services which meet the following criteria: Efficiently coordinates private and public programs; effects cooperation of responsible agencies; advocates for child care; and is responsive to public concerns.
3. Support for diverse community efforts to meet identified local needs for child care services. Support measures that: Explore the needs and services available; provide community wide development, coordination and implementation of child care policies; designate a coordinator for child care services; provide incentives for private providers and employers through such means as fee waivers and simplification of the regulatory process; establish child care benefits and services for private and/or local government employees as a model employer; include child care elements in the General Plan.
4. Affordability—Promote and support: State and Federal assistance for child care needs through reliable and diverse sources of funding; “flex” benefits (with a child care component) by public and private employers; measures to provide child care for all income levels, such as tax credits and grants.
5. Availability/Accessibility—Support the use of public lands and facilities for child care programs. Support efforts to recruit licensed child care providers throughout the County.
6. Quality—Support efforts to provide a variety of information and support services to child care providers, especially family day care providers. Support effective monitoring of child care programs. Encourage child care providers and staff to provide and maintain quality child care. Encourage family day care homes to become licensed. Advocate for and support increased wages and benefits for child care providers. Support provision of information for parents regarding child care services.

### Foster Care - 1991, 1999, 2017

**Position Summary: Support of services which prevent children from being placed in foster care, and which provide safe and supportive foster care when required.**

#### Positions:

1. The primary goals of foster care in Humboldt County are the physical, emotional, and social protection, care, and growth of each child.
2. Support coordination, cooperation and open communication among all agencies providing services to families and children.
3. Support policies to reduce psychological disruption of the child.
4. Support efforts to ensure compatible matches of child and foster home by increasing the number of licensed foster homes available to children in need.
5. Provide enough emergency placements for the number of children needing placement.
6. Support family reunification when it is in the best interest of the child.
7. Support separate staff positions for recruiting, training, and retaining foster parents.
8. Support public education to inform citizens of the need for foster parents.
9. Support a grievance procedure in which biological and foster parents can address concerns without fear of reprisal.
10. Support respite care, by trained workers, for foster parents.
11. Special recognition should be given to the needs of elderly foster parents.

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12. Support funding for additional social workers and health providers for foster children.
13. Support adequate funding for childcare and extracurricular activities of foster children.
14. Support appropriate educational services from pre-school to higher education.
15. Require rigorous adherence to federal and state laws pertaining to children in foster care, specifically Indian Child Welfare Act.
16. Support efforts to place foster children in culturally similar environments.
17. Support efforts to ensure that foster children of legal age are encouraged to register to vote.

# NATURAL RESOURCES

## Land Use Planning - 1973, 1999, 2000, 2012

**Position Summary: Support of aesthetic and economic utilization of Humboldt County land resources which should be protected by thoughtful planning with full consideration of present and future needs.**

### Positions:

1. Planning for residential, commercial and industrial developments in urban and adjacent areas should include establishment of procedures for aesthetic review of new developments in the Humboldt Bay area, provide for natural open spaces, preserve ecologically valuable and scenic areas, and encourage preservation of historical sites and buildings.
2. Extension, development and promotion of Humboldt Bay recreational activities with further development in all county beach areas being compatible with the natural terrain.
3. Acquisition of more beach property by the county with the first priority being land still in its natural state; education of the public in the care of beaches; provision of more maintenance of county beach parks; enforcement of anti-littering ordinances; encouragement of public access (visual and physical) to Humboldt Bay and bay-oriented activities, consistent with conservation of wild life.
4. Prohibition of motorized vehicles from public beaches and provision of other areas for their uses. This prohibition shall not apply to vehicles which ingress and egress the beaches for the purposes of: Rescue, retrieval of gear by fisherman, legal commercial fishing, and legal salvage of materials by local "split makers" and driftwood gatherers who sell materials for income or to supplement income. The amount of material removed should be monitored to determine that its removal is not environmentally damaging. Off road vehicles should not be allowed in areas such as dunes, where their use will damage the environment or endanger pedestrians or equestrians also using the beaches.
5. Preservation of agricultural land, whenever possible, as a land use priority.
6. Coordinated interagency planning and action are critical to successful management and to the accomplishment of the following objectives:
  - Rivers and streams should be left in their natural states whenever possible, with each case considered on its own merits. Total watershed management, including preservation and restoration, should be coordinated by qualified professionals so that economic interests, aesthetic issues, and health concerns can exist in harmony in our county and our future water supply can be provided adequately.

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Restoration is no substitute for adequate protection of existing healthy streams. We support restoration of degraded streams, provided existing healthy stream sections are protected. County general plan should include stream protection zones. Greenbelts and trails along urban stream corridors are desirable because they increase public awareness and appreciation of the importance of streams.

7. Implementation of recreational zoning as shown on the general plan.

### **Resources and Development of Humboldt Bay - 1968, 2000, 2013**

**Position Summary: Support of the orderly development of Humboldt Bay and adjacent lands for industrial, shipping, commercial, recreational and intangible uses with full consideration of the conservation of the Humboldt Bay's natural resources and stewardship of the Humboldt Bay as a whole.**

#### **Positions:**

1. Continue to support a publicly elected centralized authority with full powers to function that oversees and enforces a master plan for Humboldt Bay.
2. Continue to support a long-term master plan for Humboldt Bay which includes completion, adoption and implementation.
  - A. A periodic review of the plan with actively recruited public input.
  - B. Development of the Humboldt Bay which conforms to the plan.
  - C. The plan should be based on adequate scientific data and research.
  - D. Encourage integration of city and county general plans in alignment with the adopted plan.
3. Protection through zoning and regulation for natural resources including fish and wildlife habitat areas of Humboldt Bay with adequate funding for monitoring and enforcement.
  - A. Monitor and guard against pollution from all sources.
  - B. Monitor and guard against introduction and spread of detrimental non-native species.
  - C. Maintain and enhance greenbelts and other watershed areas to preserve the natural integrity of Humboldt Bay.
4. Encouragement of industrial, commercial and recreational development which does not hamper the enjoyment of Humboldt Bay's potential for other purposes and preserves the natural resources of Humboldt Bay.
  - A. Include industrial and commercial coastal dependent development that enhances and complements Humboldt Bay and its resources.
  - B. Promote activities which preserve, enhance or restore the natural resources of Humboldt Bay.
  - C. Any importation of natural products should be from sustainably managed resources.
  - D. Development and maintenance of an integrated transportation system for Humboldt Bay.
5. Recreational development on Humboldt Bay should include the following considerations:
  - A. Appropriate public access for low-impact activities.
  - B. High-impact activities only where appropriate and in designated areas.
  - C. Public physical and visual access to Humboldt Bay for the enjoyment of both residents and visitors.



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6. Public education that develops responsibility for appropriate uses of Humboldt Bay, including:
  - A. Year-around environmental education.
  - B. Pollution prevention measures.
  - C. The inherent value of Humboldt Bay's resources.
7. Encourage all governmental entities to work cooperatively in the stewardship, management and development of Humboldt Bay.

### **Hazardous Wastes in Humboldt County – 1985, 2011**

**Position Summary: Support of safe storage, management and disposal of hazardous wastes generated in Humboldt County, with special emphasis on reduction of wastes to be disposed of, increased awareness of hazardous materials use and disposal, and realization that all users of hazardous materials should share in the responsibility for costs of hazardous waste management.**

#### **Positions:**

1. All hazardous wastes in the county must be disposed of safely.
2. All users of hazardous materials should share in the costs of the safe storage, management and disposal of hazardous wastes in the county.
3. A transfer station should be supported in the county, for county wastes only, provided it meets stringent health, safety, environmental and land use standards.
4. If a Class I Hazardous Waste Disposal Site becomes a requirement in Humboldt County, it should accept only hazardous waste generated in this county, and the site must meet the LWVUS Hazardous Waste Siting Criteria; additionally, it should not be near facilities frequented by large numbers of people.
5. Responsibility should be designated locally to inventory hazardous wastes in this county, and to determine appropriate alternatives to land disposal, i.e. recycling and source reduction.
6. Support thorough and comprehensive training for local existing emergency response personnel and a well trained and properly equipped local team capable of responding to hazardous waste emergencies throughout the county.
7. Support measures to increase consumer awareness and education for people of all ages, regarding hazardous wastes in the home, community or county.
8. Support the consumer's right to know what hazardous materials are used and what hazardous wastes are generated and/or transported within the county.

# GOVERNMENT

### **Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury System - 1991, 1995, 2000, 2015, 2016**

**Position Summary: Support improved understanding of and participation in the Civil Grand Jury system. Strengthen resources and support for the Civil Grand Jury, so that it can carry out its investigative functions.**

#### **Positions:**

1. Increase accurate information to the public about the Civil Grand Jury process and procedures through the Presiding Judge, the Jury Commissioner, community groups, media and former Grand Jurors.

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2. Support the existence of a Civil Grand Jury composed of citizens, willing to serve, selected from a cross section of the community.
3. Improve resources and support to Civil Grand Jury by providing adequate office and meeting space, childcare, clerical help and reimbursement for travel.
4. Encourage publication of Civil Grand Jury report and responses to the report by a community-wide newspaper.
5. Encourage the Jury Commissioner to distribute recruitment information to prospective Grand Jurors through all available media outlets.
6. Encourage comprehensive orientation and training for Grand Jurors.
7. Support the use of a standardized format for comprehensive official responses to the Civil Grand Jury Final Report findings and recommendations.

## **Library Facilities – 1970, 2012**

**Position Summary: Support of improved library facilities in the Humboldt County Library District.**

### **Positions:**

1. Improve quality and quantity of materials.
2. Increase staff to meet basic state library standards.
3. Improve multi-media services.
4. Increase accessibility and convenience to the public throughout the county.
5. Apply for state and federal funds available to assist in reaching these goals.
6. Increase financing to provide for present and future needs.

## **Eureka City Government – 1976, 2011**

**Position Summary: The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County supports retaining a city charter that insures a council/manager form of government which provides for well-trained and qualified personnel for the complexities of city management, is flexible and easy to understand, conforms to the provisions of state law and contains the basic direction of city government with the majority of issues to be dealt with by ordinance procedure.**

## **Local Government Financing in Humboldt County - 1980**

**Position Summary: Support of adequate local government financing to maintain government services to meet the demands of the community.**

### **Positions:**

1. Strengthen local government revenues through appropriate economic development activities such as business retention and recruitment, and advocacy at the local, regional, state and federal levels to provide sufficient flexible funding, with local control, to support programs that serve vulnerable populations and improve the quality of life in Humboldt County.
2. Increase efficient use of local government expenditures by avoiding unnecessary duplication of efforts, contracts and personnel who perform similar services. Consolidate special districts when economically feasible, and where transparency and accountability are not compromised.

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3. Accommodate county or city needs by providing general services instead of creating new government structures.
4. Encourage the use of fees that positively impact the community overall when services result in specific individual benefit. Fees should be reviewed at budget time to reflect the cost of services.
5. Use assessment districts to help finance capital improvements and maintenance within those areas. Allocation of public and private benefits of the capital improvements must be carefully determined. Payment of assessment for those on fixed incomes may be deferred until the property is sold or inherited.

### **The Role of Government in Economic Development in Humboldt County – 1982, 2005, 2014**

**Position Summary: Support of economic development in Humboldt County by local government defining goals, setting priorities, providing appropriate planning and implementation, understanding and implementing environmental regulations, facilitating coordination and funding, and promoting public awareness of the procedures for economic development. Support of tourism and recreation as important to the economic development of Humboldt County.**

#### **Positions:**

1. Local government in Humboldt County should promote economic development which is favorably evaluated using the following criteria: Is acceptable environmentally; is labor intensive; uses existing local labor force; complements present business (including tourist business, arts and artisans); is water and energy efficient; makes best use of native resources (including agricultural and timber lands), renewable resources and waste products.
2. Local governments can become more effective in encouraging economic development by: Completing general plans and implementing general plans; long range capital improvement planning; facilitating the permit process by various procedures, for example: a) check list, b) plan review, c) scoping sessions; supporting transportation development which will enhance prospective economic development; promoting equitable rates and schedules.
3. Local governments should become more effective in coordinating economic development by: Promoting economic planning and development countywide as well as for individual areas; promoting understanding and cooperation between the different entities and agencies involved in economic development; establishing a centralized location in the county for dissemination of information related to economic development, staffed by trained and qualified persons.
4. An effort should be made by the County Board of Supervisors to determine the effectiveness of present promotion and advertising efforts.

### **Transportation in Humboldt County – 1984, 2013**

**Position Summary: Support of a balanced transportation system which includes rail, water, air, road and alternative ideas of transportation, and provides for improvement and funding adequate to maintain a coordinated system.**

#### **Positions:**

1. Encourage improvements to state and county highways within Humboldt County, taking into consideration environmental impacts.
2. Public funds should be used if necessary to subsidize roads, public transportation, airports, railroads, trails and harbor facilities

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3. Shortfalls in funding for state and county roads should be mitigated by increasing fuel and electric vehicle taxes. Roads largely serving private benefits should be funded by the specific property owners; for example, through organizations similar to homeowners associations. The least desirable alternative is for government to abandon roads.
4. The League should help the public understand the need for transportation system maintenance by disseminating information through all possible means including media, publications and public forum.
5. In planning for road use and maintenance, tourism should receive high consideration. Heavy industry, such as lumber, should be encouraged to use available accessible, affordable and alternative modes of transportation, such as water or rail, which will increase cost effectiveness and lessen wear and tear on the roads.
6. Public transportation should be accessible and affordable. Public transportation should be encouraged by improving bus services and providing rail transportation on the existing right of way. Facilitation should be provided using various means such as coordinating schedules, providing parking facilities, developing promotions and public education, adding bus routes when warranted, and meeting tourist, pedestrian, and cyclist needs. Para-transit is an important service to be coordinated and maintained at an adequate level. Para-transit is defined as an alternate mode of transportation that does not follow fixed routes or schedules including mini buses, shared taxis and jitneys, and includes special transportation services for people with disabilities.
7. Para-transit is defined as an alternate mode of transportation that does not follow fixed routes or schedules including mini buses, shared taxis and ride services and includes special transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities.
8. Decisions about alternative modes of transportation should include attention to climate change i.e., sea level rise, environmental impact, sustainability, accessibility, and affordability.
9. Water transportation should be coordinated with other current and future modes of transportation. Passenger service into Humboldt Bay is desirable as a tourist attraction.
10. Local governments should provide incentives to encourage air carriers and routes. However, environmental concerns and new, reduced carbon emission technologies must be considered when evaluating increased airport usage.

## Civic Engagement - 2016

**Position summary: The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County supports public participation in government as a civic responsibility that makes government work effectively.**

### Positions:

All governmental bodies and organizations should:

1. Facilitate equitable access to current information about all public meetings open or closed. This shall include all information about the meetings, agendas, and reports. This information should be made accessible to the public with reasonably sufficient time for citizen response and/or input.
2. Ensure that equitable opportunities exist for public input from multiple platforms and provide ample opportunities for citizens to participate in the civic process.
3. Ensure that sufficient input from citizens is allowed at public meetings and recorded in the minutes.

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4. Comport with State and local laws regarding the recording of public input and availability of public meeting minutes.
5. Ensure transparency for citizens about all policies, practices, evaluations, and decisions of the organization.
6. Conduct regular and consistent evaluations of civic engagement processes utilized in the gathering of public input in order to improve citizen participation and public trust with the goal to improve governmental effectiveness.