



Membership Guide & Directory

June 2024

86 Years of Making Democracy Work

League of Women Voters of Wellesley

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League of Women Voters of Wellesley

Membership Guide & Directory

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All information contained in this directory can also be found on the LWVW website (<https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/wellesley>) in the Members Only section. Additionally, information on the purpose and history of the League and the roster of all LWVW Presidents is now stored online (<https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/wellesley/about-lwv/brief-history-lwv>).

This directory and guide is published solely for the use of LWVW members and the information contained herein is to be used solely for LWVW-related purposes. No LWVW member is permitted to give a copy of the information contained in this directory and guide to any person or organization that solicits or is engaged in any commercial or charitable purpose.

League of Women Voters of Wellesley

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters of Wellesley 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.

Policy

The League of Women Voters of Wellesley may take action on local government measures and policies in the public interest in conformity with the principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States. The League of Women Voters of Wellesley shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

League of Women Voters - United States

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Statement

Discrimination or harassment of any kind will not be accepted within the League, including but not limited to race, socio-economic status, age, ability status, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity, or marital status. The League is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging for all people. The League is an organization that respects and values the richness of our community and our members. The collective sum of our individual differences and life experiences represents not only our culture, but our reputation and the organization's mission and achievements as well.

LWV-Wellesley Membership Directory

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Bylaws of The League of Women Voters - Wellesley

As adopted May 24, 1948.

As amended: May 24, 1957; May 9, 1958; May 21, 1959; May 1962; May 1963; May 1964; May 25, 1965; May 23, 1967; May 21, 1968; May 21, 1969; May 21, 1970; May 20, 1971; May 1972; June 1, 1973; May 1974; June 1975; June 1976; June 1977; June 1979; May 1980; May 1981; May 1989; May 28, 1992; June 3, 1999; May 18, 2006; May 16, 2007; May 25, 2011; May 20, 2020; June 27, 2020.

Article I - Name

Section 1. Name: The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Wellesley, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVW. LWVW is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVMA. LWVMA is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVUS.

Article II - Purposes and Policies

Section 1. Purposes: The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. Policies of LWVW are

1. Political Policy. The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.
2. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Policy. The League is fully committed to ensure compliance – in principle and in practice – with the LWVUS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy.

Article III - Membership

Section 1. Eligibility: Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policies of the League of Women Voters of the United States shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership:

- a) Voting Members. Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local Leagues, state Leagues, and of LWVUS;
(1) those who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League; (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members-at-large; (3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from payment of dues; (4) Those who are students are defined as individuals enrolled either as full or part time with an accredited institution.
- b) Associate Members. All others who join the League shall be associate members.

Article IV - Officers

Section 1. Enumeration, Election and Term of Office: The Officers of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley shall be a President, not more than four Vice Presidents, an Executive Secretary and a Treasurer. They shall be elected by the general membership for a one-year term at an Annual Meeting and take office immediately. Throughout these bylaws, the term “president” shall also mean co-presidents.

Section 2. The President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley and of its Board of Directors. The President may, in the absence of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes. The President shall be, *ex officio*, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee and shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 3. The Vice President(s): The Vice President(s) shall perform such duties as the President and Board may designate.

Section 4. The Executive Secretary: The Executive Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and general membership meetings where business is conducted. The Executive Secretary shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 5. The Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors and shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an Annual Report to the Annual Meeting.

Section 6. The Executive Committee: The elected Officers shall constitute an Executive Committee to act in emergencies between meetings of the Board of Directors. Any action by the Executive Committee shall be submitted to the Board at the next regular meeting.

Section 7. Delegation of Presidential Authority: The Board shall decide at its first organizational meeting which Officer will, in the event of absence, disability or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office, until such time as the Board of Directors shall select one of its members to fill the vacancy.

Article V - Board of Directors

Section 1. Enumeration, Selection and Term of Office: The Board of Directors shall consist of Officers of the League, not more than nine elected Directors, and not more than nine appointed Directors. Each elected Director shall serve for a one-year term or until a successor has been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors as they deem necessary to carry out the work of the League. Appointed Directors shall serve a term of one year to expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Qualifications: No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an Officer or Director of the organization who is not a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley.

Section 3. Vacancies: Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of resignation, death or disqualification may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting of any member without a valid reason may be deemed a resignation.

Section 4. Powers and Duties: The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct same, subject to instructions from the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such committees as it may deem necessary.

Section 5. Meetings: There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President may call special meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board.

Section 6. Quorum: A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at all Board meetings.

Article VI - Financial Administration

Section 1. Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley shall commence on the first day of July of each year.

Section 2. Dues: The annual dues are payable by November 30. Any member who fails to pay dues by this date shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

Section 3. Budget: A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members two weeks before Annual Meeting.

Section 4. Budget Committee: A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The Treasurer shall not serve as chairman of the Budget Committee.

Section 5. Auditor: The Board of Directors shall periodically appoint an Auditor, who is not a Board member, to conduct a review of the League's finances.

Section 6. Distribution of Funds Upon Dissolution: In the event of dissolution for any cause, all monies and securities owned or under the absolute control of League of Women Voters of Wellesley shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.

Article VII - Meetings

Section 1. Membership Meetings: There shall be an Annual Meeting and one or more meetings of the membership each year. The time and place of these shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Meeting: An Annual Meeting shall be held by June 15th, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting shall:

- a) adopt a local Program for the ensuing year;
- b) elect Officers, Directors and members of the Nominating Committee;
- c) adopt a budget; and
- d) transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. Quorum: Ten percent of non-Board members shall constitute a quorum at all general membership meetings of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley.

Article VIII - Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The Chair and one member, who shall not be members of the Board, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. The nominations for these two members shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The other member shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately following Annual Meeting. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Suggestions for nominations for Officers and Directors may be sent to this Committee by any voting member.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor: The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors and members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members two weeks before Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, provided that the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Section 3. Elections: The election shall be by ballot, except when there is but one nominee for each office, in which case the Executive Secretary may be instructed to cast one ballot for the entire slate. A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

Article IX - Program

Section 1. Authorization: The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of the Program.

Section 2. Program: The Program of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley shall consist of:

- a) action to implement the Purpose enumerated in Article II, Section 1 and
- b) those local and governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

Section 3. Action by the Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:

- a) The Board of Directors shall consider the suggestions sent in by the voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Program.
- b) The Proposed Program shall be sent to all members two weeks before the Annual Meeting.
- c) A majority vote by the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the board of Directors.
- d) Suggestions for Program submitted by voting members two months prior to Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the Annual Meeting, provided that:
 - 1) the Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote, and
 - 2) the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote.
- e) Changes in the Program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that:
 - 1) information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is discussed, and
 - 2) final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Section 4. Member Action: Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley only when authorized to do so by the appropriate local, state, or national Board of Directors. Members may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the League of Women Voters of Wellesley under the provisions of the by-laws of the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.

Article X - National Convention, State Convention and Council

Section 1. National Convention: The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley, at a meeting before the date on which the names of the delegates must be sent to the National Office, shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Wellesley under the provisions of the by-laws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Section 2. State Convention: The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley, at a meeting before the date on which names of the delegates must be sent to the State Office, shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Wellesley under the provisions of the by-laws of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.

Section 3. State Council: The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Wellesley, at a meeting before the date on which the names of the delegates must be sent to the State Office, shall select delegates to that council in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Wellesley under the provisions of the by-laws of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.

Article XI - Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority: The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order-Newly Revised* shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with these by-laws.

Article XII - Amendments

Section 1. Amendments: These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at Annual Meeting, provided that the amendments were submitted to the members in writing at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. These by-law changes shall take effect immediately upon adoption at Annual Meeting unless otherwise noted.

Non-Partisanship Policy

ACTIVITY	BOARD POSITION	
	President & Voter Service	Other Board Members

I. RUNNING FOR OR HOLDING AN ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICE

Run for Town Meeting Member	Yes	Yes
Run for another office	No	With Board Approval
Accept appointment/election to public office or committee	With Board Approval	With Board Approval

II. CAMPAIGNING FOR CANDIDATES – LOCAL, STATE & NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Sign nomination papers for a candidate	Yes	Yes
Serve on a candidate's campaign committee	No	Yes
Publicly endorse a candidate	No	Yes
Make a financial contribution to a candidate's campaign	Yes – Under limit	Yes – To max
Attend a fundraising event for a candidate	No	Yes

III. CAMPAIGNING FOR AN ISSUE

Publicly endorse* issue supported by the League	Yes	Yes
Publicly endorse* issue which the League opposes	No	Yes
Publicly endorse* issue with no League positions	With Board Approval	Yes

*Serve on PAC or Ballot Committee, hold signs, circulate petitions, make a contribution, sign a support ad, write a letter to the editor, attend a fundraising event, etc.

(Adopted June 2024)

League of Women Voters of Wellesley - Action Policy

The League of Women Voters of Wellesley may, from time to time, attempt to influence public opinion or governmental policy by taking action based upon a League position. Following full and satisfactory discussion of an issue, the Board of the League may vote, or otherwise decide, to make a recommendation to the community on a subject of interest to the League. Such a recommendation is the League's Action Plan.

In order that the Action Plan adopted by the Board shall be as persuasive as possible and the effectiveness of the League is preserved, the following participation shall be required of Directors:

- Each Director shall communicate to the President any aspect of an issue that she/he believes needs to be part of the Board discussion, unless she/he knows that it is to be included;
- Each Director shall contribute to the Board discussion by asking pertinent questions, offering amendments modifying a proposed Action Plan, expressing reservations, as well as attempting to persuade the Board to a particular point of view.

As with the procedure of discussion and consensus and, in some cases Board vote, it is expected that not all Action Plans will be adopted with unanimous consent. The League expects all Directors to support the action decisions of the Board. This support can take the form of active participation in some aspect of the Plan (leafleting, drafting letters, speaking before hearings, etc.) or by refraining from expressing dissenting views publicly.

The philosophy behind our Non-Partisanship Policy as well as this Action Policy is that candidates come and go, but the issues remain. If our conscientious Directors resign when they find themselves in the "minority", their point of view may be lost to the Board and the League for the next discussion of that issue. At that future time, those Directors who wish to persuade the Board to a different Action Plan will want to find intact the League's prestige and reputation as a disciplined organization with an internally fair process for reaching decisions.

The extraordinary case may occur where a dissenting Director, after having considered the consequences for the League, determines that the issue is one of sufficient gravity and importance that she/he must be heard publicly in opposition to the League's stand. It shall be the policy of the League that an issue is sufficiently grave and important to come within the scope of this exception if, in the judgment of the Board or the Executive Board:

- The Director's point of view is unlikely to be voiced in the public debate without her/his active, public and personal advocacy, or
- The Director's strongly held belief requires her/his public disassociation from the League recommendation on the issue.

In such rare and extraordinary cases, this Policy requires Directors, who so intend to dissent publicly from an Action Plan adopted by the Board, to give prior notice of such intention to the President or the Board as soon as possible after the vote adopting such a Plan. In order to ensure that future discussions of the same issues are complete, this notice shall include the reasons for the public dissent.

The Board or Executive Board shall make a determination as soon as possible after such notice that the Director's dissent falls within the scope of the above exception to this Action Policy. If it does, the Director is free to dissent publicly while retaining her/his seat on the Board.

If, in the judgment of the Board or the Executive Board, the circumstances do not warrant such a determination and the Director cannot accept the Action Plan, even to the limited extent of refraining from public dissent, the Board will reluctantly accept her/his resignation without prejudice to future Board service.

This Action Policy should not be construed as an attempt to restrict any Director's exercise of her/his rights and responsibilities as a Town Meeting Member. It is intended to serve as a vehicle, which will make the exercise of freedom of speech more comfortable for conscientious Directors who wish to protect the long-term effectiveness of the League even when they find that they must take a different stand on a particular issue.

(Adopted June 2024)

The League of Women Voters of the United States

League of Women Voters of the United States

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202-429-1965
Website: www.lwv.org

The National League issues **Impact on Issues**, a guide to its public policy statements every two years. The current version is for 2022-2024. It can be found at <https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues>

Impact on Issues can also be accessed from the Advocacy tab of the LWV Wellesley website:
<https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/wellesley/advocacy>

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts

League of Women Voters of Massachusetts

Elizabeth Foster-Nolan, Co-President
Marie Gauthier, Co-President
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The Massachusetts League issues **Where We Stand**, its program book which is the collection of League of Women Voters of Massachusetts positions, with a brief history and summary of action taken under each position. The current version can be found at <https://lwvma.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Where-We-Stand.2023.pdf>

Where We Stand can also be accessed from the Advocacy tab of the LWV Wellesley website:
<https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/wellesley/advocacy>

The League of Women Voters of Wellesley

What is a League Position?

The LWV Wellesley takes enormous pride in its role as a nonpartisan source of information about candidates for voters and never supports individual *candidates* for elected office at any level, whether local, state, or national. However, after following a deliberative study process, the LWVW may decide to take a **position** on a particular *issue*. The collection of positions, developed over many years, is known as the LWVW Program. League positions at all levels inform any subsequent action policies taken by the LWVW.

Process to Develop Positions

The process to develop a local position begins when League members decide a particular issue should be explored so the League can advocate for related Town government action. A proposal to study the issue is submitted to the LWVW Board, at least two months before the Annual Meeting. If approved by the Board, the proposed study is presented to the general membership for adoption at the Annual Meeting.

After adoption of the study, a study committee of interested members develops a plan to explore the issue as thoroughly as possible. The committee members set a timeline and meet regularly to discuss the information they have gathered through published materials, interviews and other sources. The committee develops questions to present, with Board approval, to the general membership at one or more **consensus** meetings.

Consensus within the LWV is not a vote, but rather an agreement among a substantial number of members, reached after study, leading to the formulation of a position statement. At a consensus meeting, members of the study committee present background information with pros and cons for possible solutions. A **Discussion Leader** guides the members' discussion of responses to the consensus questions and an official **Recorder** keeps track of the developing consensus.

The study committee uses this consensus to form a position statement which may have multiple parts. This is presented to the Board for approval. After Board approval has been made, the proposed position statement is presented to, and voted on by, LWVW members at the Annual Meeting. If adopted, the position becomes part of the LWVW Program and can be used as the basis for subsequent action. When and how to take action using a local position is a Board decision. Local positions cannot contravene positions taken at the LWV State or National level.

A slightly different process could be used to arrive at a position through **Concurrence**. In this case the issue in question has already been studied. Leagues may concur with a statement or position arrived at by another League, a position stated by a study committee based on its research or reflecting widely held views, or a position of long standing which they wish to reaffirm. Concurrence is an agreement among a substantial number of members, reached after study, leading to acceptance, reaffirmation, or rejection of a previously formulated statement of position.

THE LOCAL PROGRAM

KEY: (Added in 2017)

Bold = Actionable

Plain text = Accomplished and seen as settled

Italics = Further study required before action can be taken. Reasons for further study include: current situation substantially different from time of study; consensus of today's members is unclear based on feedback or changes in the community.

TOWN GOVERNMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE (1975, language amended 2017)

Support of:

- **Broad coverage of the Advisory Committee in the news media as well as publishing of the minority opinions of committee members.**

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS (1968-69, amended 1976-77)

Support of:

- **Making available more information about Town Meeting Members' points of view and how members vote on particular issues.**

HOME RULE (1977-78, language amended 2017)

Support of:

- **Expanded cooperation and communication among officials, departments, boards, and citizens for better town government and an adequately funded and broad-based study of town administration.**
- *A highly qualified Town Manager whose salary would be commensurate with the responsibilities of the office. The Town Manager would serve at the will of the Select Board and, with their approval, would have the authority to hire and fire personnel and to reorganize departments under his/her jurisdiction.*

BUDGET PROCESS (1982-83)

Support of:

- The development of a town-wide budget for facilities and equipment with consideration given to town-wide priorities as well as departmental priorities.
- **The recommendation that town-wide priorities should be made by an objective body.**
- **Early development of budgets in preparation for the upcoming fiscal year, including:**
 1. **Thorough review of budget details - not relying on last year's figures alone.**
 2. **Setting department priorities.**
 3. **Written policies as guidelines to budgeting decisions.**
 4. **Long-range projections of personnel needs and capital needs.**

Support for the following responsibilities:

Advisory Committee Statutory mandate to review all budgets and to make recommendations to Town Meeting.

Select Board Authority to encourage communication and cooperation among boards.

Town Meeting Knowledge of detailed budget information and the consequences of Town Meeting decisions.

Departmental Boards Familiarity with department's budget with an understanding of its responsibilities to the town as a whole.

Departmental Staff Provision of detailed and reliable budget information to the boards.

The Public Informed and active participation in government. Public understanding of and participation in the budget process and the right of easy access to public information.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES (1983-84, language amended 2017)

Support of:

- The role of the elected assessors as policymakers and as a board of review.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING (1990-1991)

Support of:

- Comprehensive town-wide multi-year planning, coordinated by a person or a group with the authority to move planning forward.
- A planning process that includes development of a Vision Statement for Wellesley with broad-based input from Town Officials, Town Meeting members, representatives of community groups, and other citizens.
- Development of a Multi-Year Plan derived from the Vision Statement.
- An assessment of the structure of government as part of the planning process.
- Adoption of the Vision Statement and Multi-Year Plan by Town Meeting.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND LAND USE

CHARLES RIVER (1963-66)

Support of:

- Measures leading to an overall plan for the Charles River watershed, recognized multiple uses such as pollution control, water supply, recreation, beautification, conservation, requirements of housing and urban development, industrial needs, flood control, and low-flow alleviation.

CONSERVATION (1967-68)

Support of:

- Measures to protect wetlands.
- Measures to ensure clean ground and surface water through pollution control and testing.
- Continued measures to prevent pollution at the Town disposal area.
- Participation in regional solutions to waste disposal problems.

LAND USE (1961-63, 1970-71, 1973-74, amended 2021)

Support of:

- **Long range planning including a flexible plan developed with citizen participation and consideration given to the impact of development on town services and the environment. For maximum effectiveness, Town Meeting approval is desirable.**
- **The establishment, preservation, and protection of open space zones which could be used for passive and/or active recreation where environmentally sound.**
- **Measures to broaden the tax base while concentrating future commercial development within existing commercial areas.**

METROPOLITAN PLANNING (1959-60, reaffirmed 1973-74)

Support of:

- **Measures leading toward effective regional planning for the Metropolitan Boston area.**

TRANSPORTATION (1973-74)

Support of:

- **Flexible, intra-town, group transit and inter-town mass transit service.**

EDUCATION

KNOW YOUR SCHOOLS STUDY (1960-63)

Support of:

- **Measures to improve the standards of public education and adequate funds for recruiting, retaining, and rewarding superior personnel; for facilities and equipment; and for special services. Support is based on the provisions that the schools are studied frequently and that such programs are consistent with sound fiscal policy.**

A STUDY OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACILITIES (1967-68, added words 1973-74)

Support of:

- **Flexible use of facilities with consideration given to such factors as the safety of children, economic feasibility, and educational justification.**

AN ATTITUDINAL STUDY OF THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (1968-70)

Support of:

- **Administrative and financial measures that provide for innovative changes in curriculum, teaching methods, and materials, including use of community resources and facilities, and continuing emphasis on students who may not be continuing their education beyond high school.**
- **Adequate library services and facilities.**

A STUDY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION (1971, language amended 2017)

Support of:

- **Public education to teach all children.**
- *Provision of classes, counseling, and related services in order to implement the education of students with disabilities.*

- *Uniform testing of all children entering the Wellesley Public Schools to detect disabilities as early as possible.*
- *Acceleration of the process from referral through testing to placement as necessary.*

CURRICULUM STUDY (1983-85, language amended 2017)

Support of:

- **Increased structured and informal communication among the elementary, middle, and high school levels of the school system.**
- **Systematic review of curriculum.**

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY (1987, language amended 2017)

Support of:

- **Existing state and federal legislation for school bus safety.**
- **Community awareness program for school bus/transportation safety.**
- **Increased penalties for a motorist who illegally passes a school bus beyond the state proposals (1985-86).**
- **School transportation safety programs throughout the school system.**
- **Bus contracts for large buses that meet the highest safety standards.**
- **Same standards for all buses, including METCO, fieldtrip and spare buses.**
- **Compliance of 7D vehicles with regulations for large buses.**

SOCIAL POLICY

AFFORDABLE HOUSING (2020-2021)

Support of:

- Policies, including zoning regulations, that promote a broad range of housing types and prices throughout the town.
- Policies and activities that promote affordable housing options that allow for diversity of age, income, ethnicity, race, and physical ability.
- Town government establishing, implementing, and reporting progress on housing diversity and affordability goals.
- Affordable housing that is sustainable in planning, construction and ongoing maintenance with the goal of reducing fossil fuel use and improving the health of both the environment and residents, by considering:
 - Integration of lifecycle costs of affordable sustainable housing in planning for both new construction and the retrofitting of existing housing.
 - Housing that supports residents' needs for healthy air quality, comfort and overall wellbeing.
 - Housing in areas near shops, transportation, parks, schools and other neighborhood destinations for its sustainable benefits.
 - Rehabilitation and use of existing buildings in scattered site locations with the buildings in character with others in the area.
 - Utilization of current industry standards for sustainable housing when planning, building, and maintaining affordable homes.

CABLE TELEVISION (1982-83, language amended 2017)

Support of:

- *Local public access to the cable system guaranteed by provision in the contract between the licensee and the town.*
- *An independent, not-for-profit, citizen's organization to manage local public access to the cable system. The organization should be representative of Wellesley's community groups (such as the League of Women Voters), and should have a board of directors elected from its membership, a paid staff, and a stable source of funding derived from a percentage of the gross revenues of the licensed cable company.*

DAY CARE (1981-82, language amended 2001 & 2017)

Support of:

- Adult day care programs, as needed in the community, as a viable alternative to residential care for elderly and handicapped persons.
- Public funding of these programs augmented by private funding and tax incentives.
- The state acting as the regulatory agency for adult day care with local regulation in the areas of safety and zoning.
- Sufficient childcare alternatives being available to meet the needs of Wellesley families.
- The State Department of Children and Families being responsible for regulation and licensing.
- *Local ability to follow up on complaints and make inspections related to the well-being of children.*
- *Tax incentives for industries to offer day care as a benefit to employees.*
- *Parents who are paid workers continuing to receive tax credits for childcare expenses.*
- Family day care, as defined by the Department of Children and Families being a home occupation that should be addressed under a separate amendment of the current local zoning by-law which would exempt family day care from special permit requirements as long as the provider is licensed by the Department of Children and Families.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (1994-1995)

Goals: Long-Term: To eliminate any incidence of domestic violence in Wellesley.

Short-Term: To guarantee the physical safety of victims, including children, at the point of crisis. To make available to both victims and abusers a full array of on-going services designed to end the cycle of violence.

Support of:

- The "pro-arrest" policy of the Wellesley Police Department.
- The use of specially trained domestic violence police officers to manage cases of domestic violence in town.
- Domestic violence training programs for professionals in other town departments (especially public school employees and staff of the Department of Public Health) who may come in contact with victims of domestic violence and/or their abusers.
- The formation of a local domestic violence coalition. The mission of this group would be threefold: 1) to heighten public awareness about the incidence of domestic violence and sanctions against it, 2) to support enforcement of the laws, and 3) to publicize available support services for victims and abusers. Members of this coalition would include, but not be limited to, certain town departments, local social service agencies, clergy, shelters, community organizations, medical and mental health facilities, and victims.

LIBRARY (1963-65, 1975, reviewed in 1992)

Support of:

- **Measures leading to the best public and school library service feasible within the bounds of sound fiscal policy, including:**
 - **personnel; facilities; services; book and non-print material collections;**
 - **receptiveness to new technologies and services;**
 - **coordination and cooperation among school, public and private library collections in Wellesley;**
 - **the role of Wellesley in the regional public library system; and**
 - **methods for prevention of misuse of library facilities and property.**

RECREATION (1971, language amended 2001 & 2017)

Support of:

- **Unstructured supervised physical activities for adolescents.**
- **A drop-in area for adolescents.**

YOUTH NEEDS I (1974-75, language amended 2001 & 2017)

Support of:

The following vehicles to implement the community's responsibility for providing an environment which fosters the growth and well-being of its diverse adolescent population:

- **Youth Commission** - Supporting the Youth Commission to fulfill its stated purpose of "carrying out programs which may be designed or established to meet the opportunities, challenges, and problems of youth."
- **Coalitions** - Establishing coalitions among existing resources such as houses of worship, social service and town government agencies, recreational groups, schools, adults, and youth.
- **Alternatives** - Establishing new alternatives such as broad-based citizen advocacy groups for youth that develop their goals and implement a course of action.
- **Participation of adolescents in the planning and financing of programs involving them.**
- *Exploring services and resources with other agencies to find ways to increase community utilization and education; increased inter-agency coordination.*
- *Supporting and publicizing existing services and programs to aid the family unit and developing new ones as needed.*
- **Constructive efforts by schools, social service and town government agencies, police, and courts to prevent and address destructive social behavior.**
- **Adequate funding from both public and private sources to implement programs and services.**

YOUTH NEEDS II (1975-1976, language amended 2001)

Educational Alternatives

Support of:

- *Existing alternative programs at Wellesley High School and increased coordination of these programs.*
- *Exploration of alternative programs and career possibilities prior to senior high school.*
- *Regional cooperation to expand programs with careful consideration of student needs and community support.*
- *Increased community involvement in the planning and implementation of alternative programs at Wellesley High School, with the support and participation of parents, residents, and community resources.*

Juvenile Offenders in Wellesley (1975-76)

Support of:

- **Dialogue between the Wellesley Police Department and the community.**
- Appointment of a well-qualified youth officer(s).
- **Open and clear lines of communication between the Wellesley Police Department and the Wellesley School Department.**
- Wide distribution of the School Committee's Policy on Vandalism.
- Guidelines for behavioral expectations from each school appropriate to the age levels within the school. These should be developed by administrators, staff, custodians, students, and parents working together.
- **K-12 educational programs on law enforcement topics with cooperation of the Wellesley School Department.**

Elected Officials as of June 2024

President of the United States of America

Joe Biden
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Web Form Email: www.whitehouse.gov/contact

United States Senators

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202-224-2742	617-565-8519
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Elizabeth Warren	2400 JFK Federal Bldg.
309 Hart Senate Office Bldg.	15 New Sudbury St
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Congressional Representative

4th District: Precincts E, F

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Katherine Clark	
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State Representative

District: 14th Norfolk
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