



VOLUME LXXXII ISSUE 4, APRIL 5, 2021

A printable PDF of The Voter will be available at
LWVSpokane.org

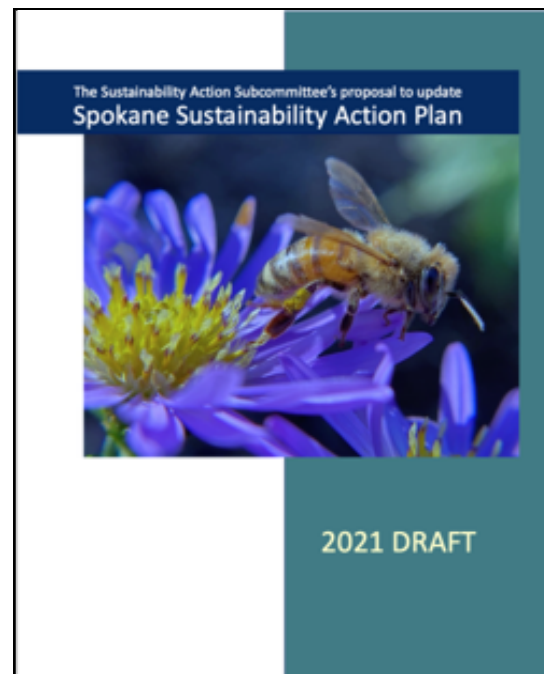
Note: The next general meeting is Tuesday, April 13. Apologies for the previous email that listed the incorrect date.

Dawn Bayman, Communications Chair

**Spring into April General Meeting with the City of
Spokane Draft Sustainability Action Plan**

Ann Murphy, Co-President

The draft Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) is now available for the LWVSA General Meeting on April 13. The Sustainability Action Subcommittee has spent the past two years drafting this proposed update to the city's 2009 Sustainability Action Plan. The proposal takes a holistic approach at laying the foundation for a more resilient and prosperous city in the face of future challenges. This updated Plan also puts Spokane in compliance with State level greenhouse gas reduction requirements.



Kara Odegard, Spokane City Council Manager of Sustainability Initiatives, and Elyse Hochstadt, SAP Communications, will present the plan and guide the discussion.

Please check out the [full report](#) to find out how the plan addresses:

- Buildings & Energy
- Transportation & Land Use
- Waste Diversion & Material Conservation
- Water Resources
- Economic Prosperity
- Natural Environment
- Health & Wellbeing

Confidential Zoom Link for Tuesday, April 13 General Meetings

11:30 am-1:00 pm and 6:30pm-8:00 pm PT

Choose the time that works best for you.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85029109052?pwd=](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85029109052?pwd=Um5PQU1ZUDZpTTJzejFhUTlIUdNxUT09)

[Um5PQU1ZUDZpTTJzejFhUTlIUdNxUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85029109052?pwd=Um5PQU1ZUDZpTTJzejFhUTlIUdNxUT09)

Meeting ID: **850 2910 9052**, Passcode: **264004**

Phone in: **253-215-8782**

And there will be more: LWVSA has scheduled four optional follow-up SAP Workshops to delve into recommendations. The hour-long workshops will launch on Earth Day, April 22 (Thursday) at noon with additional workshops on Thursdays – May 6 at 6:30 pm, May 13 at noon and May 27 at 6:30 pm. Links

and specific sections of the plan to delve into will be announced April 13.



Earth Day is April 22

Every year on April 22, Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970. **The theme of Earth Day 2021 is Restore Our Earth™.**

[Learn more history and about this year's activities.](#)



Looking Ahead to LWVSA 2021 Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 18, 6:30 pm

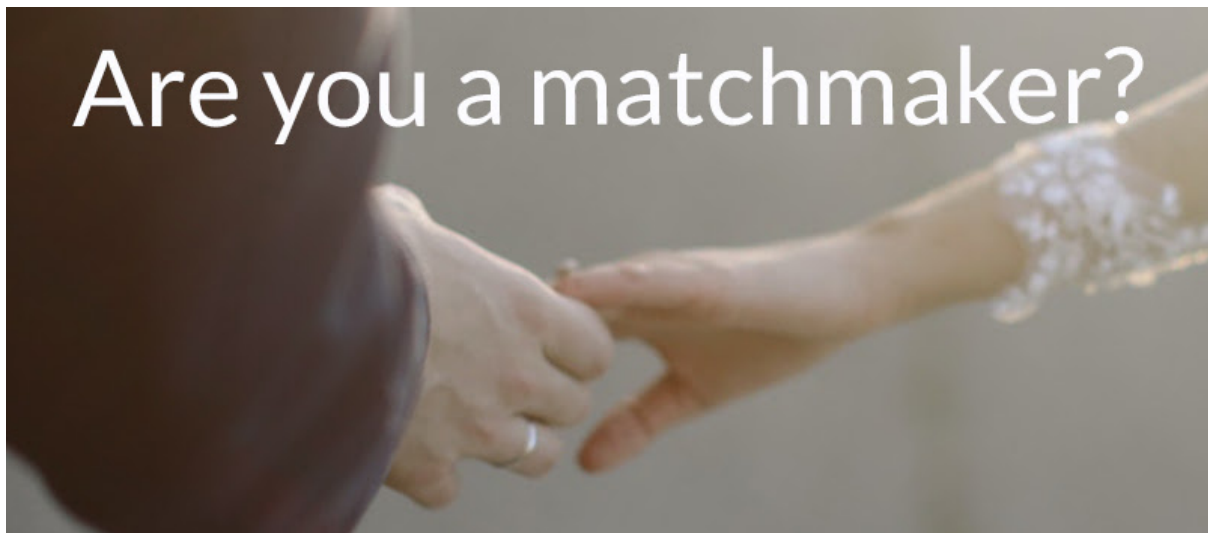
Tuesday, May 18, will be LWVSA's Annual Meeting. This is our business meeting for the organization where we will provide direction for our next year by approving Program of Work items, adopting a budget, amending bylaws, and electing officers and directors. There will be one meeting at 6:30 pm.

More information will be provided:

1. The Call to Annual Meeting will be published no later than April 28 (per our bylaws)
2. The ***Let's Chat*** sessions on April 29 will provide an intro to the Annual

Meeting: what it is all about and what we will do at the meeting.

**Be on the lookout for invitations
for voter registration events. We are starting to
schedule some opportunities in the next few
weeks.**



Do you know a few Spokane League members and want to get to know a few more? Here is a way to get acquainted with a lot of nice LWVSA members: join next year's Nominating Committee. We match people with skills to openings on our Spokane League's Board. This is an important annual task that starts in January 2022--perfect for procrastinators--and should be completed by April. Your League needs you and who knows, YOU may have hidden matchmaking abilities! [Contact Mary Weathers](#) and let our current team know that you are interested.

Action CORNER

Legislative Session Update

Aruna Bhuta, Action Chair

Please check the **Legislative Newsletter** email sent by LWVWA for many bills that need action in the areas of elections, social justice, housing, health care and climate change. At this point most of the bills are out of both policy committees and fiscal committees.

SB 5038 prohibits openly carried weapons on the state capitol grounds and at rallies and gatherings on public property. The bill not only protects public safety but also enables free, unintimidated speech. This bill has passed out of both the Senate and the House and awaits the Governor's action.

HB 1078 passed both houses. This bill restores voting rights to persons convicted of a felony after they are released from jail. This bill does not impact public safety but restores dignity and encourages successful reentry into society. Also, rates of recidivism are lower in individuals engaged in civic activity. Currently, individuals who are under community supervision cannot vote when released from jail. But once this bill goes into effect January 1, 2022, if the person is out of jail they can register to vote and participate in elections.

SB 5148 (concerning harassment of election officials) passed the Senate. it did not pass out of the House Public Safety Committee, so it is dead for this session.

SB 5182 regarding the elimination of advisory votes, and HB 1156 regarding ranked choice voting as a local option, did not make the March 9

deadline to move from the house of origin. They will be brought up again in the next legislative session.

Please note the bills on the [League Legislative Issue Web Pages](#) that interest you and continue to support them. Check out the [Current Actions](#) page too.

Thanks to everyone for communicating with your elected officials to support these and other important bills.

LWVUS Supports Reform of Senate Filibuster

LWVUS released a public statement calling for filibuster reform in the US Senate.

[Read the statement on LWV.org.](#)

[Share the Tweet.](#)

In releasing the statement on March 30, Virginia Kase, Chief Executive Officer for LWVUS, also noted that talking points and FAQs are available on the [League management site](#).

When the Senate returns from their recess this week, LWVUS plans to publish a lengthy blog post on LWV.org with more historical reference.



[Politics of the Possible in Action](#) is excited to present the public premiere of the video version of *Many Maps, One Voice* on Saturday April 24, 4:00pm PT. This stage show portrays Mary Ellen McCaffree's efforts to redistrict Washington State - a lively look at the gears of citizen-driven change.

[Details and registration.](#)

And for a Spokane connection.... Mary Ellen McCaffree is portrayed by Jane Fellows, sister of LWVSA Co-President, Ann Murphy. Ann and Jane grew up in a League household as their mother, Margaret Fellows Portman, was an active League member in both LWV Spokane Area and LWVWA.



Redistricting – Day of Action – April 29

LWVUS is promoting redistricting nationally with a **Day of Action on Thursday, April 29**. Washington is way ahead of most states with LWVWA Speak Up Schools that train community members how to effectively testify before redistricting commissions. LWVSA held a Speak Up School in February, and is looking ahead to follow-up sessions in May and this summer. More info to follow!

LWVWA has several things for the week surrounding April 29:

- 1) **Saturday, April 24.** Public premiere event of [Politics of the Possible in](#)

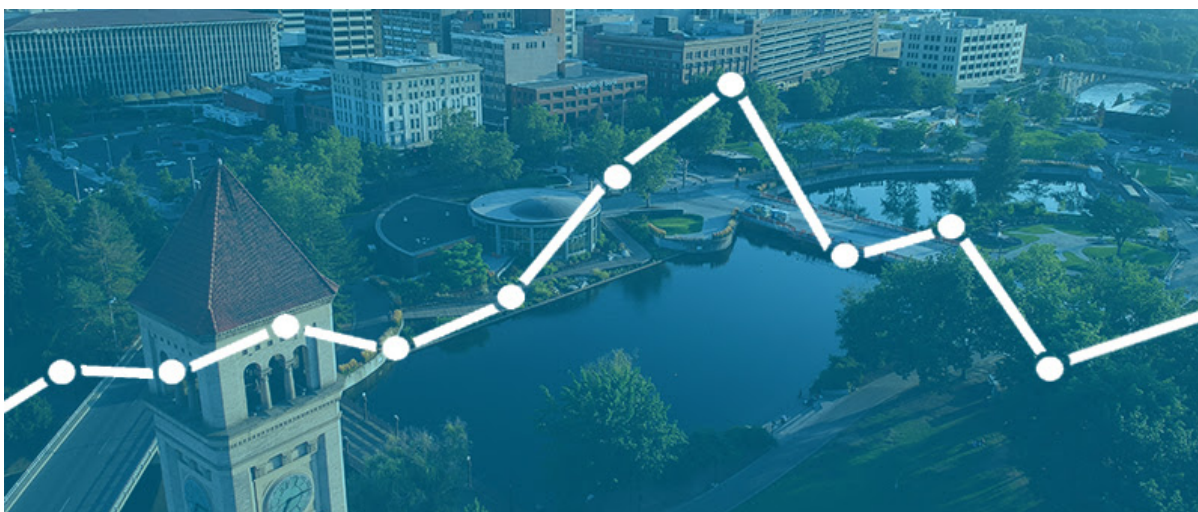
Action's play **Many Maps, One Voice** - now in video. (see above article)

2) **Thursday, Apr 29, 5:00-6:00 pm, Statewide Map Listening**

Session: LWVWA is planning to reveal a draft map and then have groups by region discuss pros and cons.

3) **Thursday, April 29, 6:00-7:30 pm, Data Lenses Workshop:** Explore the demographics of Washington state and the implication of changing district lines along these demographics. This session will give an overview of the state and have examples from the Kitsap Co. area.

4) Check out links to other events that are available on lwvwa.org/speakup
Check back to that page for the latest on planned events.



Upcoming Event on Data Use

As LWVSA looks to learn more about the data used in deliberations, using homelessness as a context, this session from PEG (People for Effective Government) looks most interesting.

Data Science for Social Good in the Smart City - A panel discussion featuring Shiloh Deitz, David Lewis, and Shawna Ernst

Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 7:00 pm via Zoom

Click this link at 6:55 pm to join the webinar: <https://>

zoom.us/j/94861360210

Data are ubiquitous in our society. We produce and consume data in almost every social activity, yet key ethical considerations of data in general and big data in particular, have largely been overlooked. While data are assumed to be objective, they aren't. So who benefits? Who is most likely to be harmed? And how can we harness data for positive social change?

Drawing from a local case study, using data to understand and ameliorate the issue of homelessness, our panel exemplifies the variety of perspectives needed at the table to unpack complex issues.

David Lewis, Community Management Information System (CMIS)
Administrator, City of Spokane

Shawna Ernst, Law Enforcement Technology and Operations Manager at
Spokane Police Department

Shiloh Deitz, Community Data Coordinator, Spokane Public Library

For additional information on data science for public good, read these links:
[Catherine D'Ignazio and Lauren Klein wrote the book *Data Feminism*](#)
[Article from Harvard on using homelessness data:](#)

If you do not have internet access, you can join by phone:
US: 206 337 9723
Webinar ID: 948 6136 0210

**Also plan to join PEG in May and June for *Law Enforcement and Racial Justice* –
Part 1 on May 19, 7:00 pm and Part 2 on June 9.**



LWV Spokane Youth Ambassador Rosie Zhou on Anti-Asian Violence

Rosie Zhou spoke movingly at the **Stop Asian Hate Vigil** in Spokane's Riverfront Park on Saturday, March 20, a memorial for the victims of the shootings in Atlanta. She has written an essay calling upon us to learn from the mistakes of the past, and to teach them, so that these these victims are not forgotten. [Read essay here.](#)

Her speech is also featured in the April issue of The Fig Tree. [Read speech here.](#)



Vigil in support of the government of Myanmar, opposing the military coup.

News from Myanmar Friend

Readers may remember that LWVSA hosted Miko and Zin Thu (Fellows from Myanmar) in the fall of 2019. Lunell Haught received this recent communication:

"Thanks for the write ups. We are still safe. Now we are just about to lose our internet access. Our mobile internet were already cut off 16 days ago. Now is the time for wifi access. Since you been reading about Myanmar, you might know how terrible it is. They are using all forms of violence upon the civilians. They even burn a person alive. They destroy the citizen's properties such as cars, bikes, shops, everything on their way to crack down the protesters. Raid houses and arrest people and some beaten to death. They even shoot kids playing on sidewalk. In March alone, 526 civilians were brutally killed. Really barbaric here. And they are lying everything on their broadcast channels accusing the civilians/protesters of creating violence. It's kind of depressing to share the unpleasant news all over.

"But one great thing is some of our elected MPs who were able to avoid their arrest since the coup formed a Government with the help of like-minded

intellectuals and with support of our civilians. Now is in the middle of battle between the coup group and our newly form government (CRPH) to gain legitimacy all over the international community. The coup are driving all kind of fears into public while the new government is gaining public support. We now have some ethnic armed groups who denied the coup offers for cease-fire and side with us. So some of our ethnic group, civilians are also suffering civil war in their region for not siding with the coup group. Some trying to refuge, some hiding and praying. Real chaos!

"But all of our people are still defending and fighting for democracy, so with the continuous strike, we hope things will turn out better.

"Please also share with the league. We miss you all.
I might delete the mail after since it is not safe.

With warm regards,
MiKo"



Meet Our New Members!

Jennifer Montgomery

Jennifer was raised in the San Francisco Bay Area and is a graduate of Mills College. She and her husband lived on Donner Summit for 30 years, where she served as a County Supervisor and worked for the State of California. She was appointed as The Director of the Governor's Forest Management Task Force, focusing on fire protection and forest enhancement, structure hardening,

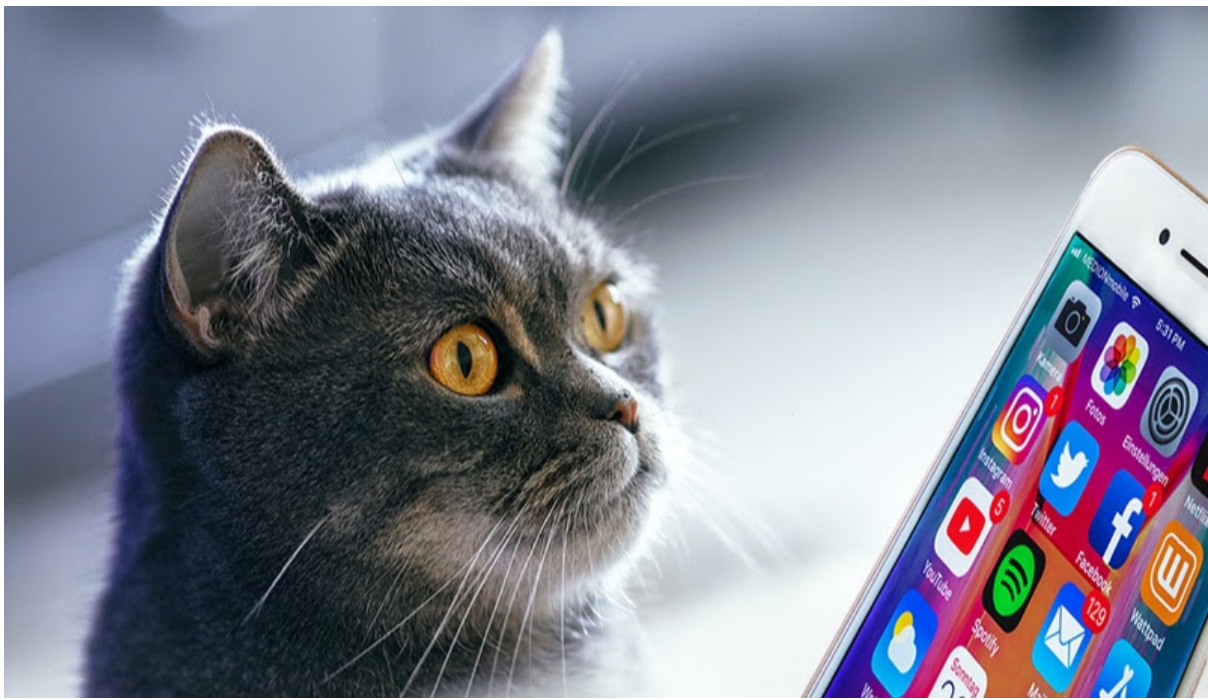
evacuation planning, carbon neutral and fiscally responsible wood product development and strengthening rural forest based communities. She and her husband retired last year and moved to Spokane to be closer to family. She says, "I look forward to seeing how I fit into the political landscape of the Greater Spokane area and am looking for opportunities to help with Urban Greening projects in lower income and disadvantaged communities."

Danielle Mudd

Danielle is happy to have moved back to Spokane after 20 plus years away. She is a busy mom to her three children (and to their silver Labrador retriever and two guinea pigs). She anticipates returning to teaching in the near future where her background involves teaching bright students with learning differences. Her political interests lie in both education and special needs legislation. Danielle looks forward to making new friendships through LWVSA and to building a better community through action and education.

Amber Oosting

Amber is a Spokane native attending SFCC with a goal to double major in Sociology and Political science. She fully supports Black Lives Matter, advocates for equal human rights and criminal justice reform, and believes in the importance of voter education and engagement in elections at the local level.



Are You A Social Media Animal?

We're getting a team together to post for LWVSA on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and maybe TikTok. Many hands make light work... and more fun! [Contact Dawn Bayman](#) if you'd like to help.



Apr 13 - LWVSA General Membership Meetings

Apr 15 - Observer Corps Information Session, 11:30 am or 6:30 pm

Apr 21 - LWVSA Board Meeting, 10:00 am. [Contact Ann Murphy](#) if you wish to attend

Apr 22 - Earth Day and the Launch of the Enviro Issues Spokane Sustainability Plan Workshops, noon

Apr 24 - Public premiere of Politics of the Possible in Action's "Many Maps, One

Voice" video

Apr 25 - Last day of the Legislative Session as allowed by constitution

Apr 27 - Special Elections

Apr 28 - Deadline to distribute *The Call* to Annual Meeting - check your email

Apr 29 - Let's Chat, 11:30 am and 6:30 pm. Get a preview of how the LWVSA Annual Meeting works! (If you're planning to attend the Redistricting Day Data Lenses workshop, below, you may want to attend the morning session.)

Apr 29 - Redistricting Day of Action - Statewide Map Listening, Data Lenses Workshop (recordings will be available)

May 6 - Enviro Issues Spokane Sustainability Action Plan Workshop - 6:30 pm

May 13 - Enviro Issues Spokane Sustainability Action Plan Workshop - noon

May 18 - LWVSA Annual Meeting, 6:30 pm

May 27 - Enviro Issues Spokane Sustainability Action Plan Workshop - 6:30 pm

Jun 24-28 - LWV Washington Convention (virtual)

Your 2020 - 2021 Board

Ann Murphy - Co-President & Program for Focus Chair

Sylvia Oliver - Co- President & Voter Services Chair

Jan Wingenroth - Secretary

Denise Campitelli - Treasurer

Jean Alliman - Director & Membership Chair

Dawn Bayman - Director & Communications Chair

Aruna Bhuta - Director & Action Chair

April May - Director & Speak Up Schools Chair

2020 - 2021 Committees

The following people are currently leading each of these program areas. Your help is needed! Questions? Would you like to volunteer? Please reach out to the appropriate chair, below. Check your Member Directory for contact info.

VOTER SERVICES – Sylvia Oliver

- Registration Scheduling – Sally Phillips
- Ballot Parties – Becky Dickerhoof
- Ballot Translation – Susan Hales
- Forums (Local) – Susan Gray
- Forums (State) – Michael Bell
- Youth Vote Project – Kate Telis
- Civics Education – Beth Pellicciotti

MEMBER SERVICES – Jean Alliman

- New Member Contact – Marilyn Darilek
- Member Retention – Jean Alliman
- Meetings/AV – Lin McGinn
- Member Publications – Ann Murphy, Dawn Bayman
- Member Engagement Leadership

ACTION - Aruna Bhuta

- Observer Corps – Sylvia Oliver
- Local League Liaison to LWVWA Lobby Team – Aruna Bhuta
- Speak Up Schools – April May

COMMUNICATIONS – Dawn Bayman

- The Voter – Dawn Bayman
- FB/Social Media – Kate Telis, Dawn Bayman
- Webmasters – Mary Hughes, Jan Wingenroth

PROGRAM FOR FOCUS – Ann Murphy

- Affordable Housing – Marilyn Darilek, Sherri Gangitano
- Homelessness Solutions – Dawn Shuster
- Environmental Issues – Ann Murphy (acting)
- Criminal Justice - Melkam Tesfaye & Victor Frasier; Smart Justice Spokane Liaison - Kate Telis
- Spokane County Government - Ann Murphy, Sylvia Oliver

OTHER COMMITTEES

- State Convention (June 2021) - Ann Murphy
- Strategic Planning – Ann Murphy, Sylvia Oliver, Denise Campitelli, Beth Pellicciotti
- LWVWA Diversity, Equity, Inclusion – Beth Pellicciotti
- Health Care Interest Group - April May

Need a Member Directory?



A printable pdf of the most recent issue of the member directory can be found on the Members Only page of LWVSpokane.org. If you're not able to access it, [please email Dawn Bayman](#) and she'll send you one.

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.



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