



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS RECOMMENDS NOVEMBER 7, 2006 GENERAL ELECTION

✓ YES ON PROPOSITION 1B

Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, Port Security Bond Act of 2006.

Part of the bond package developed to help rebuild California's infrastructure. This bond act would raise \$19 billion for transportation improvements.

✓ YES ON PROPOSITION 1C

Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006.

A bond measure to finance housing-related programs, brownfield cleanup, and parks related to infill development. The League has long been concerned about providing adequate housing.

✓ YES ON PROPOSITION 1D

Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006.

This bond measure would fund new school construction, modernization, relief of overcrowding, and other school infrastructure needs. The League supports improving California's educational infrastructure.

✓ YES ON PROPOSITION 1E

Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act of 2006.

This bond measure will provide funds for flood protection, levee protection in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and storm water management. The League supports protecting our existing water supply infrastructure.

✓ YES ON PROPOSITION 84

Water Quality, Safety and Supply. Flood Control. Natural Resource Protection. Park Improvements. Bonds.

This initiative continues the League's past support of efforts to insure that California has adequate water supplies. This initiative would fund projects for safe drinking water, flood control, protection of rivers, lakes, streams, forest and wildlife conservation, and coastal protection and state parks.

✗ NO ON PROPOSITION 85

Waiting Period and Parental Notification before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy.

Parents rightfully want to be involved in their teenagers' lives, and all parents want what is best for their children. But good family communication can't be imposed by government. Mandatory notification laws may sound good, but in the real world, they just put teenagers in danger.

✓ YES ON PROPOSITION 86

Tax on Cigarettes.

This constitutional amendment imposes an additional 13-cent tax on each cigarette distributed and increases taxes on other tobacco products. The estimated \$2.1 billion in annual revenue will fund children's health coverage, emergency services and nursing education for qualified hospitals, and tobacco-use prevention programs, research, and treatment of various tobacco-related illnesses. The League believes that the overwhelming social benefits of this measure greatly outweigh the potential downside of this earmarked tax.

✗ NO ON PROPOSITION 88

Education Funding. Real Property Parcel Tax.

This measure would impose a \$50 tax on each real property parcel to create the Classroom Learning and Accountability Fund in the state treasury. While the League supports equitable access to quality education, this measure violates the League's State and Local Finances positions and is not real reform. It proposes to earmark funds via a constitutional amendment without providing sufficient funding to even bring education spending up to the national average. It also involves the state for the first time in taxing property.

✓ YES ON PROPOSITION 89

Political Campaigns. Public Financing. Corporate Tax Increase. Contribution and Expenditure Limits.

This measure, the California Clean Money and Fair Elections Act of 2006, would allow candidates running for office to receive public campaign funding by meeting certain eligibility requirements. Funding would be provided for by an increase of 0.2 percent in the corporate income tax rate. This measure also imposes new limits on campaign contributions, and places new restrictions on contributions by corporations and lobbyists. The League vigorously supports practices which will enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office, and which place realistic limits on campaign contributions and expenditures.

✗ NO ON PROPOSITION 90

Government Acquisition, Regulation of Private Property.

This measure redefines the eminent domain process in ways that will make it difficult for government to protect the environment. It will likely increase costs to taxpayers for implementation of environmental protection laws or new consumer protection laws. The measure is, in part, vaguely worded and will likely result in extensive litigation.

The League has no position on Proposition 83 (Sex Offenders. Sexually Violent Predators. Punishment, Residence Restrictions and Monitoring) and will be neutral on Proposition 1A (Transportation Funding Protection) and Proposition 87 (Alternative Energy. Research, Production, Incentives. Tax on California Oil Producers).

VOTE WITH THE LEAGUE ON NOVEMBER 7!

LWV®

VOTER

Volume 39 Number 4

September 2006

Candidates' forums; propositions' pros and cons

Mark your calendars for upcoming free voter forums presenting your candidates for local office and all the propositions on the ballot!

The League of Women Voters Alameda will host four forums in October covering the pros and cons of propositions 1A through Prop 90 and candidates for Alameda mayor and city council, Alameda Unified School Board trustee, Alameda Hospital Board and Alameda County Transportation Board.

♦ **Oct. 5**, Hospital Board (9 candidates). Setup is 6:15 p.m.; doors open 6:45 p.m.; event begins at 7 p.m. Harbor Bay Community Center, 3195 Mecartney Road.

♦ **Oct. 9**, ACTransit Board (2) and Pros & Cons (13) Setup is 6:15 p.m.; doors open 6:45 p.m.; event

begins at 7 p.m. 1155 Mastick Senior Center, Santa Clara Ave.

♦ **Oct. 16**, City Council (6) Setup is 6:15 p.m.; doors open 6:45 p.m.; event begins at 7 p.m. Cardinal Point, 2431 Mariner Square Drive,

♦ **Oct. 23**, Temple Israel, Mayor (3) and Alameda Unified School District Trustee (3). Setup 7:05 p.m.; doors open at 7:20 p.m.; event begins at 7:30 p.m. 3183 Mecartney Road.

See 'In Depth' information on propositions at www.lwvc.org, and on each proposition page on www.SmartVoter.org.

The League of Women Voters – a non-partisan political organization – never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. We advocate only on issues that

Volunteers needed to help at forums

For each of the forums we need volunteers to setup and/or cleanup; to moderate, be timers and to sort questions, and act as pages (greet and seat people, hand out pencils and question cards as needed).

Contact jab@borupp.org for copy of In Depth or referral to sites, if needed).

* We have a volunteer presenter already for 1B, 1C, 1D and 1E.

Please send email to borupp2@yahoo.com with your volunteer response by Sept. 29. As always, thank you in advance for your contributions to the education of Alameda voters.

members have studied and come to a consensus on.

Sept. 28 forum: More traffic from new developments

The League of Women Voters Alameda Thursday, Sept. 28 will host a forum, "From Alameda Point to Park Street—What are the Challenges?"

The purpose is to inform the community of transportation and traffic issues resulting from new developments at Alameda Point and at Oak to Ninth streets in Oakland.

The panel discussion

will address how increased traffic will impact Alameda and what mitigations are being planned.

This is a complimentary program to inform the community of impacts of these proposals.

Speakers will be Stuart Cohen, Executive Director of Transportation and Land Use Coalition (TALC); Sherry Hirota, Chair of Oakland Alameda

Chinatown Committee; Mike Ghielmetti, Developer of Oak to 9th Street project. A fourth panelist is being sought.

The forum will be held at the Albert de Witt O Club, 641 West Redline Ave., at Alameda Point, from 7 to 9 p.m.

For more information, call Diane Lichtenstein at 523-1235 or Linda Hudson, Program Chair, at 864-0370.

Election analysis

'In Depth' for the Nov. 7 election is now available at <http://ca.lwv.org/lwvonly/elections/06nov/index.html>. Content from 'In Depth' is also on www.lwvc.org, and on each proposition page on www.SmartVoter.org.

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Board Briefs from July

The Board held a retreat on July 22 to plan for the year ahead.

■ One new recommendation was to create a Community Outreach Committee to explain how the League works, especially in our advocacy role. This role has frequently been misunderstood by the public, and our advocacy of a vote on a "Measure A" revision raised some heated criticisms.

■ The committee agreed to try to get guest editorials in local papers and/or a column in the Alameda Sun.

■ In a related matter, the Board dealt with the problem of who speaks for the League and how to make sure members speaking only for themselves are not understood by City officials or the press as representing the League. We will send letters to City Council and boards and commissions stating that only a speaker authorized by the Board to

speak on the issue in question represents the position of the League.

■ The Board agreed to send letters to Boards and Commissions telling of our support positions. This could be mutually useful, since they are not always able to advocate for ideas they favor.

■ Plans for voter service in the November election were discussed. It promised to be a big effort, since there are many local candidates and a large number of propositions.

■ The calendar was set for most of the year.

■ Li Volin, Kate Quick, Honora Murphy, Liz Rogers, and Karen Scanlon were appointed as directors.

■ A committee to recruit officers for the vacant president and vice-president positions was established with Honora Murphy, Li Volin, and Lena Tam as members.

Revving up for Clean Money, Fair Elections

The League of Women Voters of California has become an active co-sponsor of Proposition 89, the Clean Money Initiative.

Take a look at the Prop. 89 web site at <http://www.89now.org>.

Proposition 89, the California Clean Money and Fair Elections Act, is on the ballot this November. Special interests like big oil companies, the drug giants, the insurance industry, and HMOs are going to spend millions to try to defeat it. This is a grassroots effort to hold government accountable to the voters instead of to special interest campaign contributors.

The initiative qualified after 620,000 Californians signed on to a petition drive sponsored by the California Nurses Association.

The Clean Money portion of the initiative is based on language developed by the California Clean Money Campaign for AB 583 to provide an effective and affordable voluntary public funding system for statewide and legislative election campaigns. It also has language lowering contribution limits and banning contributions by lobbyists and state contractors.

The bill had an impressive 33 co-authors and the strong leadership of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez. Momentum for Clean Money in California is also demonstrated by the nearly 150 statewide, national, and local organizations that have endorsed Clean Money because they know that California's many problems will not be solved until the influence of lobbyists and big money in politics is lessened and new candidates with good ideas are able to compete on a level playing field.

For more information, Info@CAclean.org or at (800) 566-3780. www.CAclean.org.

Keep in touch with your League

Have you moved? Have you changed your phone number or email address? Does your League have the best ways to get in touch with you? Send any new contact information to Golda Mason, 406 Central Ave. Apt. B, Alameda, 94501. Call her at (510)812-2873 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.; e-mails to ImaBagLady@aol.com.

Send any new contact in-

The League of Women Voters of Alameda

Current and past issues of the *Voter* are posted on our

website: www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org

The *Voter* is published 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Alameda. The *Voter* Editor is Cara Watkins

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Data sought on women's progress in Alameda city workforce

From: American Association of University Women and the League of Women Voters, Alameda Branch

To: Ms. Karen Willis, Alameda Director Human Resources

Dear Ms Willis,

The Alameda branch of the American Association of University Women and the League of Women Voters of Alameda have a long standing interest in the advancement of women in the workforce. We are aware that the City of Alameda employs a large number of women. We are pleased

that many of them hold top positions in their departments.

We are requesting information, that is part of the public record, to help our organizations understand the progress of women in the City of Alameda. The following information would provide concrete data.

1. How many women are employed by each of the different City departments, including the Fire and Police departments and Alameda Power and Telecom?

2. What is the percentage of women employees (out of the

total number of employees) in each department?

3. How many women are in the top three positions in each of the City's departments, including the Fire and Police departments and Alameda Power and Telecom?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. We await your response.

Sincerely, Susan Meyer, AAUW President, Donna Vaughn, AAUW Public Policy Chair and Kate Quick, president, LWV Alameda, Karen Butter, LWV Action Chair

League offers assistance toward climate protection task force

From: The League of Women Voters Alameda

To: Mayor Johnson and Members of the City Council

Dear Mayor Johnson and Members of the City Council,

The League of Women Voters of Alameda lends its strong support to the Alameda County Climate Protection Project and the resolution before you (The City Council) - Participating in the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI).

We are delighted to see Alameda's participation in ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) campaign. We join cities throughout the nation and around the world in this coordinated, countywide effort.

We congratulate Alameda for its leadership as a 'green' city in a 'green' county and look forward to the action plans that will lead to better public health, better quality of life and a more sustainable future.

This CCP campaign is designed to allow local governments to understand how municipal decisions can be used to mitigate global climate changes while improving quality of life.

Since these decisions will require changes in practice by governments and citizens, the formation of a Task Force with representatives of selected boards and commissions and the public is

an essential part of the process. The Task Force would assist in goal setting, developing community action plans, and establish a process for broad community involvement.

Through community discussion and grassroots participation in the development of the City's goals for ICLEI we can raise awareness on issues of global warming, environmental pollution, and resource stewardship and develop ways we can all participate. We urge the City to include a strong focus on public participation.

League of Women Voters is ready to work on this effort and serve on groups that are formed. The League of Women Voters is a national grassroots, nonpartisan, political organization. Its members -- men and women -- are committed to making democracy work.

The League encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Our support of this resolution is based upon work and study of the issues and is reflected in national and state positions supported by the membership.

Sincerely, Karen Butter, League of Women Voters Alameda, Action Committee

The formation of a Task Force with representatives of selected boards and commissions and the public is an essential part of the process.

Measure A letter creates discussion, questions

On June 27, 2006 The League of Women Voters Alameda voted at its annual meeting to send a letter to the Alameda City Council encouraging it to place on the November ballot whether voters would like to change Measure A. To date, the council has taken no action on the request. The letter follows:

Dear Mayor Johnson and City Council Members:

The League of Women Voters of Alameda urges the Council to place on the ballot for November 2006, a measure amending the City Charter to exempt Alameda Point from the provisions of Article XXVI .-"Measure A". In order to allow the voice of all Alameda citizens to be heard on this vital matter, the rules governing the development of Alameda Point should be put to a vote.

As we move closer to finalizing the development plans for the Point, the community has become increasingly anxious and polarized about what it will mean to

restrict or allow certain types of housing and development. Some feel that the current provisions of Measure A should be preserved at all costs; others contend that the current issues and electorate are not the same now as when Measure A was passed in 1973. During the many public meetings and workshops there was considerable interest in changing Measure A to allow a greater mix of housing types. Putting the matter to a vote will allow the community to move beyond contentious dialogue to a constructive and thoughtful implementation stage. It may avoid costly lawsuits and further delays.

We commend the Council for its admirable effort to include the public in the planning process for the Point. The League of Women Voters holds as one of its most fundamental principles that democratic government depends on the informed and active participation of its citizens.

Thank you for your consideration of this request to put a mea-

Planning Commission open to Measure A discussion

At the August 2006 meeting, except for one, Planning Board-members supported the idea of a mediated forum to educate and inform the Planning Board itself and the community; learn the history of Measure A; bring together different perspectives from all sides of the issue in order to develop a community-wide consensus.

As a next step the Board president is working with the City Planning director to develop a Plan of Action for review at the next Planning Board meeting this month. Also, the Board has asked City Staff to develop a report on Measure A.

sure changing the City Charter to exempt Alameda Point from Article XXVI on the ballot.

**Sincerely, Karen Butter,
League of Women Voters Alameda**

————— Please turn to PAGE 5

Frequently asked questions on League actions

The work of the League of Women Voters is going on every day, and we are eager to use this column to let the public know about our activities to promote and encourage good government in Alameda. First, a bit about the League as an organization:

Established in 1920, the League of Women Voters is a national, grassroots, nonpartisan, political organization. Its members -- men and women -- are committed to making democracy work.

The League of Women Voters of Alameda is a member of The League of Women Voters (LWV) of the United States. Like its sister leagues throughout the nation, its mission is to encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Our advocacy reflects the consensus of our members reached after engaging in thorough study and discussion of selected issues.

The LWV of Alameda meets regularly and organizes community events throughout the year. We conduct meetings on issues of interest to Alameda. The public is invited to attend our meetings.

Recently, we've had a lot of questions, and we would like

to take the time to answer them as best we can.

QUESTION: Why did the Alameda League take action in asking City Council to put exemptions to Measure A on the ballot?

ANSWER: Last year the membership completed a study on housing and transportation in Alameda and adopted a new position on this topic. We have been attending the community meetings on the proposals for new development at the old Naval Air Station (Alameda Point) and have noted the struggles with designing the new space with the constraints of Measure A, as well as some interesting alternatives which would only be possible with amendments to Measure A. We feel that the public should be able to discuss and choose whether they want the design to be 100% in conformance to Measure A, or amend Measure A to allow for other alternatives.

Q. Where can I find the League's position?

A. On our web site at www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org.

Q. So, if the League wants Measure A amended, why didn't it go out and get signatures for the ballot measure instead

————— Please turn to PAGE 5

The League sent this letter to the local newspapers.

Alameda Journal, Alameda Times Star, Alameda Sun

"Dear Editor:

On July 5th the League of Women Voters of Alameda spoke before the City Council and presented the request that follows. Since our letter generated a great deal of community interest, we wish to share our letter to the City Council.

"The League of Women Voters of Alameda urges the Council to place on the ballot for November 2006, a measure amending the City Charter to exempt Alameda Point from the provisions of Article XXVI + "Measure A." In order to allow the voice of all Alameda citizens to be heard on this vital matter, the rules governing the development of Alameda Point should be put to a vote. We, the League, do not endorse or oppose the possible exemption of Measure A for

Alameda Point development. Placing this issue on the ballot will allow the community to move beyond contentious dialogue to a constructive and thoughtful implementation stage and may avoid costly lawsuits and further delays."

While there is still considerable work remaining to complete the transfer of the property to the City, planning for the area is moving forward. Development of a parcel the size of Alameda Point will have major impact on our community. We commend the City Council and Planning Board for public meetings held to date. However, there are critical issues related to the development of Alameda Point that still should be considered. For example, the public should have an opportunity to discuss the two Preliminary Development Concepts for Alameda Point, one with Measure A in place and one where development at Alameda Point would

be exempt from Measure A.

In order to consider all options the public should have an opportunity to discuss and vote on this issue before 2008. We have asked the City Council to place the issue on the ballot instead of an initiative due to the amount of time required to gather signatures and so that the development plans reflect the vote of the community. If this were a simple matter of zoning we would still encourage open meetings to rationally discuss the issue.

I want to emphasize that the League of Women Voters is not supporting or opposing the possible exemption of Measure A for Alameda Point. Our motive is to urge the City Council to give the citizens of Alameda an opportunity to discuss and vote on this matter.

Karen Butter, League of Women Voters of Alameda, Action Committee

QUESTIONS continued from PAGE 4

of taking the lazy way of asking the City Council to put it on the ballot?

A. The City Charter can be amended by the people by voting on measures proposed by a citizen initiative or by the Council. The Council put a Measure A amendment before the voters in 1991. The issue is urgent as the planning for Alameda Point is moving rapidly to a place where decisions have to be made as to the types of housing and mix of uses are going to be finalized.

Q. Why isn't the League being specific about the amendments it wants to propose or support?

A. The League is not supporting or opposing any specific amendment at this time; it just wants the Council to allow the citizens to vote on amendments the Council would feel are appropriate to insure a good planning process. Once the City Attorney, at the direction of the Council, has ballot language finalized, the League would review it, compare it to our position, and decide if we could support it.

Q. Measure A has protected our community from over development, why does the League want to let the developers in to wreck Alameda, as we know it?

A. The League has never proposed amendments to Measure A for other than Alameda Point, which is undeveloped land. We would like to see the development proceed in ways that reflect our position, arrived at through study and consensus. We recognize, from comments made in many public meetings, that the Measure A constraints might make such de-

velopment impossible, since they pretty much allow only single or two family homes which may result in little or no open space, crowding of too big houses on too small lots, and a lack of affordable units and other amenities for children, families and the elderly. We would like to see these alternatives discussed in public, and for the public to decide what they want the Point to be like.

Q. Won't amendments to Measure A result in high rises, such as are proposed for the Oak to Ninth project in Oakland?

A. The Council has the right and obligation to set height limits for anything included in the plan. If the Council were to set height limits and densities similar to existing Alameda, no high rises would be built. The City cannot be forced to accept height limits set by a developer.

Q. Measure A has protected us well, opening it up to amendment, even for just the Point, is dangerous. We should not be even talking about it, as discussing amendments means it might be compromised, and we don't want that!

A. The League believes that in a democracy, all matters of public policy should be open to discussion in public. There can be no "forbidden topics." Public dialogue may lead us to a positive and "safe" resolution of this planning dilemma. Not talking about it just promotes the existing tensions and inability to move forward as a community. It is only in dictatorships that public issues are forbidden to be discussed and resolved; we are encouraging openness and full citizen participation in the decision making process and trust the voters to decide.

Elected vs. appointed superintendent studied

In December 2004, the League of Women Voters Alameda County authorized a restudy of its 1996 position on the Alameda County Office of Education and the Alameda County Board of Education.

The restudy was based on the League of Women Voters of California position, entitled "Intergovernmental Relationship" which states, "Support an efficient, effective and equitable balance of responsibility and authority among the levels of government with accountability to the public."

A study committee was appointed with a representative of each of the seven Leagues in Alameda County and it has met monthly since its inception. The committee focused on, "The Efficacy of Elected vs. Appointed County Superintendent of Schools."

This issue came up during the original 1996 study, but was not included in the final position.

In 53 of the 58 counties, both the County Board of Education and the County Superintendent are elected. The five counties with appointed Superintendents

are: Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara and Ventura.

County Boards of Education, under Education Code provisions, are responsible for: setting the superintendent's salary; approving the county budget; hearing appeals on expulsions and suspensions from districts; and act-

or change the budget, unless both parties agree to such an arrangement.

County Superintendents are responsible for: Hiring and firing of staff members; developing and presenting the county budget; operating the Juvenile Court and other county schools; ensuring the fiscal viability of the school districts in the county; and providing other services to districts if mandated or needed. Recently, County Offices have been given additional responsibilities such as reviewing and monitoring school districts under provisions of the Williams law suit settlement.

A team of two members from the LWVACC study committee are prepared to assist local Leagues in studying this issue and reach consensus on questions listed below.

The committee will then compile the results of those meetings and prepare an updated position which local Leagues can present at their next Program Planning meeting.

Questions? Contact Lynn Groh at lynnandjimgroh@earthlink.net or Eleanor Parker, eliparker@sbcglobal.net, who co-

Consensus questions for Alameda County Superintendent Study Update

1. Which method—elected or appointed County Superintendent of Schools (CSS)—would improve the effective and equitable balance of responsibility and authority between the County Superintendent and the County Board of Education? Why?
2. Which method—elected or appointed CSS—would improve accountability to the public? To the County Board?
3. Which method is a less expensive way to implement?
4. How would an appointed CSS affect the responsibilities and authority of the County Board of Education and would that be positive or negative?
5. Should the results of this study be used to support a statewide change in the method of selecting a CSS? Please explain.

ing as a school board for the Juvenile Court School and other community day schools operated by the county.

When a County Superintendent is elected, the County Board does not have the authority to evaluate the elected superintendent's performance, establish work goals,



Your quick guide to:

- ☞ The election
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League joins alliance with Overseas Vote Foundation

Overseas Vote Foundation (OVF) recently announced a sweeping list of new Alliance Partners including the League of Women Voters, the National Campus Voter Registration Project, the National Defense Committee, the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas and the Election Administration Research Center, University of California, Berkeley.

The new OVF Alliance Partners join the National Association of Secretaries of State to establish a broad spectrum of support for Overseas Vote Foundation. Each OVF Alliance Partner

More organizations recognize that by working with OVF they can effectively reach overseas and military voters who were often inadvertently left out of core voter registration efforts.

further OVF's outreach efforts toward a new community of voters or voter-oriented organizations.

"We are encouraged by the level of engagement our Alliance Partners exhibit, including their

participation on the OVF Advisory Board. Together our Alliance Partners represent a strong and diverse underpinning of support for the mission of Overseas Vote Foundation," said Susan Dzieduszycka-Suinat, OVF Executive Director.

"This action from our Alliance Partners is evidence that more organizations recognize that working with OVF they can effectively reach overseas and military voters who were often inadvertently left out of core voter registration and GOTV efforts," said Dzieduszycka-Suinat

Who speaks for the League of Women Voters?

With the upcoming election season upon us, and a whole variety of local Leagues engaging in Action this fall, it seems like a good time to review the "rules of the road" with respect to League communications.

Each League should have a written policy about who speaks for the League. There are two main points to be considered in formulating such a policy:

■ The person speaking must be designated by the local League board to be the League spokesperson on the matter at hand, must identify themselves as to their

League position and that they are "speaking for the League of Women Voters of xxxx", and

■ The person speaking should have no conflict of interest in the matter being addressed. This means the person moderating a candidate's forum may not be an endorser of any of the candidates appearing at that forum. If the person usually speaking for your League is employed by an organization that will benefit by League support or opposition of a measure or program topic, choose someone else to speak to that issue or lead that meeting.

What to do if someone violates the policy

The violator should be admonished in writing as to the improper use of the League's name and asked not to do so again.

What if a member who is "heavily identified" with League wants to speak as an individual

The remarks should be prefaced with "I am so and so and I am speaking as an individual and not as a member of any organization to which I belong." League should not be mentioned.

Calendar of events

All members and the public invited

- **Thursday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m.** - Board Meeting, Conference Room C, Alameda Hospital, 2070 Clinton Ave.
- **Thursday, Sept. 28, 7 to 9 p.m.** - Public meeting: "From Alameda Point to Park Street - What are the Challenges?" Albert de Witt O Club, 641 West Redline, at Alameda Point. (See story on cover).
- **Thursday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m.** - Voter Forum. Hospital Board (9 candidates). Harbor Bay Community Center, 3195 Mecartney Road. (See cover story).
- **Monday, Oct. 9 - 7 p.m.** - Voter Forum. ACTransit Board (2) and Pros & Cons (13). 1155 Mastick Senior Center, Santa Clara Ave.
- **Monday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m.** - City Council (6). Cardinal Point, 2431 Mariner Square Drive.
- **Thursday, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m.** - General and Board Meeting: Consensus discussion on the Alameda County Council study on elected vs. appointed county superintendent of schools, 1546 East Shore Drive, Alameda. (See story Page 6).
- **Monday, Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m.** - Voter Forum. Temple Israel, Mayor (3) and Alameda Unified School District Trustee (3). 3183 Mecartney Road.
- **Monday, Oct. 23.** - Deadline to register to vote in the November election.

Please consider making a donation of \$5 or more to our Education Fund, the lifeblood of our public outreach activities. No amount is too small.

Last year we had no donations, so we are trying to increase awareness this year.

Your donations are tax deductible.

Mail your check to:
League of Women Voters of Alameda,
P.O. Box 1645, Alameda, CA 94501

Include your name, address, phone, and email and the amount you've enclosed.

Thank you!

The League of Women Voters – a non-partisan political organization – encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major policy issues, and influence public policy through education. The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. We advocate only on issues that members have studied and come to a consensus on. In an era of proliferating and powerful special interests, the League's advocacy in the public interest is increasingly recognized as an essential voice of democracy.

With membership comes the opportunity to work with well-informed, grassroots activists on a broad range of public policy concerns. Learn valuable, transferable skills, including how to organize and run productive meetings, write more effectively, speak in public, organize and run effective campaigns, conduct research studies, and coordinate general civic leadership training. The League invites your comments, letters and articles. They may be sent, faxed or e-mailed to the LWVA.

Join or Renew

Cut out, fill in and mail this coupon with your check to: League of Women Voters of Alameda, P.O. Box 1645, Alameda, CA 94501.

Dues: \$53 for a single membership; \$20 for an additional membership at the same address. Students pay \$25, and dues assistance is available. Questions? Contact Golda Mason at imabaglady@aol.com or call (510) 812-2873.

Make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Alameda.

Joining at the local level makes you a member at all levels: Local, county, Bay Area, state and national.

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