

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTHWEST WAYNE COUNTY

POSITIONS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (1967, affirmed 2016)

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County supports a local governmental structure which encourages informed citizen participation at the various levels of the political process. We believe local government should be comprehensible to the voters, with clearly delineated lines of authority so that responsibility can be easily pinpointed. Further, we believe local government should encourage use of best management techniques to ensure efficiency and economy of operation, including the employment of competent personnel in elected, appointed or civil service positions.

LAND USE (1987, affirmed 2016)

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County urges the development of plans, procedures and policies that will achieve the goals of the community and ensure orderly growth. To this end, the LWV supports:

- A Local Planning Department which is performing advanced planning and which is adequately financed and staffed.
- An ongoing and adequate interpretation to the public of the Master Plan and local land use policies.
- Careful consideration of new industrial and commercial development as well as close attention to amenities such as adequate parking, service drives, pedestrian walkways, landscaping, traffic control and overpasses. The Leagues opposes the concept of strip zoning on major arteries.
- An effort through imaginative and create land use policies to improve the quality of life:
- Strict enforcement of existing ordinances
- Site plan approval by the local authority.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM (1984, affirmed 2016)

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County supports:

- A library system which is adequately financed,
- A library system which serves the needs of the community,
- A library which provides free access to ideas and
- A library system headed by a professional librarian.

SENIOR SERVICES (1973, affirmed 2016)

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County supports the expansion of transportation services for the senior citizens, encourages the building of housing for the retired, and believes that there is a need for senior citizen outreach programs to inform the retired person of the help and programs available.

TRANSPORTATION (1973, affirmed 2016) (Also see DMA Position)

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County believes that a public transportation system is essential to the entire metropolitan Detroit area. In order to implement transportation which services the needs of area residents and is at the same time economically feasible, the League supports: the development of transportation, both local and regional in scope, the funding of a transportation system from local, state and federal sources, and the creation of a transit system which uses both flexible and fixed routes.

COUNTY HOME RULE (1966, affirmed, 2016)

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County supports county home rule, which provides flexible, adequate and efficient government in Wayne County, according to the positions taken in 1966, and including support of a county executive.

***EDUCATION** (2007, affirmed 2016)

The League supports an adequately and fairly financed public education system that provides each child equal access and equal opportunity, and a safe environment to develop his/her potential as a contributing member of society.

We support:

- Educational opportunities for all children, including special needs children,
- Adequate classroom facilities, special services (art, music, etc),
- Adequate salaries for personnel,
- Advisory involvement of administration, teachers, and citizens,
- Alternative education programs,
- Cooperation between school districts and other units of government,
- Before and after school programs,
- Community education.

LWV DETROIT METROPOLITAN AREA POSITIONS
Adopted by LWV Northwest Wayne County 2014

***TRANSPORTATION** (2001, affirmed 2016)

The League supports

- A Detroit Metropolitan Area Regional Transit System, which includes all governmental units under a single transportation agency. Governmental units should not be able to opt out of this system.
- A transportation agency governed by an appointed board of 8 to 13 members which would include members from the general population and governmental units. Appointments should be by a combination of agencies to include SEMCOG and the Governor. The Mayor of Detroit and the County Board of Commissioners could be included in the appointing combination of agencies.
- A minimum level of service provided to all: urban and outlying areas, the elderly and the handicapped.
- Funding for public transportation from a combination of federal, state and local taxes and statewide general purpose transportation fund.

HOUSING (2001, affirmed 2016)

Support of equal rights for all regardless of race or sex. Action to provide equal access to housing. Promotion of equal housing opportunity and encouragement of stability of integrated neighborhoods in the Detroit metropolitan area through implementation of open occupancy laws and promotion of an adequate supply of housing for lower income families.

***WASTEWATER TREATMENT/RIVER BASINS** (2001, affirmed 2016)

The League supports treatment of a river basin in its entirety. Work for adequate studies, consideration of all the needs of the river basins, coordination of actions of governmental agencies, protection of the flood plains from misuse and filling, evaluation of the need for improvements, and elimination of water pollution. The League supports measures that:

- Encourage saving and planting of vegetation.
- Protect wetlands and flood plains.
- Require on-site detention in areas of new development.
- Encourages open space preservation.

*Greater position detail available upon request.