

League of Women Voters of Woodland County and Local Positions

County Positions

1.County Government -- ~~Adopted~~ 1975

Support of policies which promote efficient structure, administration and financing.

2.Planning - Yolo County - Adopted 1977

Objectives:

- a. Orderly and contiguous development of urban area.
- b. Preparation and adoption of a long- range capital improvement program.
- c. Provisions for green belts and open space, with easements as one way of obtaining them.
- d. Encouragement of agricultural preserves through implementation of provisions of the California Land Conservation Act of 1965.
- e. Coordinated regional bus transportation system with centralized planning body.
- f. Encouragement of inter-community bike routes through implementation of Yolo County Bike Plan. (2/28 draft)

3. WATER - Adopted 1989, Amended and Adopted 2013

Support for prudent management of water resources, both surface and underground to insure quality of water in the Cache Creek watershed, one of Yolo County's major resources of ground water.

Objectives:

- a. Communications: improved communications and coordination among water agencies to resolve water issue problems.
- b. Water Supply
 1. Continued recharge of ground water from Cache Creek.
 2. On-going monitoring and study of chemicals, including boron, in the water supply.
 3. Protection of the aquifer is our highest priority. All activities including mining, must establish that they will not endanger the aquifer. Each new mining area must have a Site Specific Environmental Impact Report (EIR) before permits are issued. Funding for monitoring to maintain EIR standards should be borne by the industry involved.
- c. Pollution
 1. Control release of effluent upstream on Cache Creek or its tributaries; i.e. . Clear Lake communities.
 2. Monitoring, testing , and enforcement of regulations regarding release of contaminants in ground water; i.e.

agricultural, industrial and commercial uses, and septic tanks.

3. Strong monitoring and testing for chemicals in water runoff from mining operations, including Homestake.

d. Erosions and Flooding: a policy that preserves farmlands from erosion and flooding.

e. Riparian and Wildlife.

1. Effective planning to conserve wildlife and riparian habitats and species, including wildlife statuary along Cache Creek.

2. Gravel reclamation plans that include provisions for riparian and wildlife preservation.

f. Support measures to ensure future quality and quantity of surface and ground water in Yolo County for agricultural, urban and environmental issues.

1. Initiation by Yolo County of storing interagency cooperation for the purpose of:

a. Protection of County surface and ground water resource based on a county water management policy.

b. Coordinated data collection and analysis, which is made available to the public, including but not limited to: subsidence, compaction, quality and quantity of supply, pollution and ground water recharge.

c. Development of a Yolo County ground water management plan involving all surface and groundwater users; agricultural, industrial, environmental, private and public.

2. Requirement of an environmental impact report which identifies environmental, hydrologic, economic and third party effects, as well as mitigation measures, prior to evaluating proposal for short or long term transfers of water into or out of the county.

3. The Board of Supervisors should be involved in evaluation and permitting of transfers.

4. Requirements that agreements established responsibilities for third party effects in the county prior to any transfers of water.

g. Water - Yolo County Injection Wells - Adopted 1988 (Incorporated under Water Pollution 1995) Agency Co-ordination: Agencies that affect Woodland and Yolo County

Support the county ordinance providing regulations on injection wells in Yolo County in addition to the regulations established by the State Division of Oil and Gas (DOG).

Such an ordinance and accompanying regulations should provide for citizen input; offer maximum protection to the county's underground aquifers; and contain strong provisions to protect the health, safety, and welfare of county residents. The permitting process shall provide that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements be followed to ensure site specific EIR's and that alternatives be considered. All costs of administering the ordinance and accompany regulations shall be borne by the injection well operators and/or responsible authority.

The following was adopted in June 2013:

Agency Co-ordination: Agencies that Affect Woodland and Yolo

County

- Streamline the number of agencies that have control over water to reduce overlap and increase efficiency.
 - Appoint commissioners on water related boards who have knowledge of water issues and experience in the field.
 - Increase co-ordination and communication between agencies.
- Establish standards for water management with clear lines of authority.

Water well drilling Groundwater: Emphasize importance of preserving and maintaining groundwater.

- Acknowledge connection between groundwater and surface water.
- Groundwater monitoring needs to be done for quality and quantity including for drinking, agriculture and wastewater uses. This monitoring needs to be easily available to the public including through internet access.
- Establish both active and passive aquifer recharge.
 - Active includes pumping clean water into existing aquifers.
 - Passive includes designing drainage areas, such as retention ponds, that will slowly infiltrate into existing aquifers.
- Require permits for drilling and have those permits mandate sustainability and quality of water for reuse.
 - Water well drilling
 - Gas well drilling, mining and associated water usage

Expand underground storage and groundwater banking to both stretch available water supplies and replace that lost to a shrinking snowpack.

- Identify and manage pollutants (nitrates, pesticides, selenium, etc.) at the point of origin.
- Build adaptive capacity for agricultural water usage to deal with changes in the environment, climate, and economy.
- Develop co-operative approaches for agricultural water management.
- Develop innovative approaches to deliver water.

Climate Change and its affect on water supply

Include Consideration of Climate Change in all water plans and projects.

- Preserve groundwater by encouraging conjunctive use, innovative approaches, etc.
- Conserve water (see Climate Change Position on Water from 2011).
- Balance ecosystem preservation with agriculture and urban need.

4. Health Care of the Elderly in Yolo County - Adopted 1989

Support of programs, which provide the Social Services Agency with the tools and financing to promote the rehabilitation of recipients and the prevention of problems.

Objectives:

- a. Initiation by the county of long range planning and action to see that the missing elements in the health care continuum are supplied, including: day health care centers, hospice programs, expansion and coordination of transportation, and coordination of other services.
- b. Encouragement by the county of adequate record keeping to ensure the availability of necessary statistics for identifying needs for new and existing programs .
- c. Participation in planning by citizens who are educated to the needs of the elderly, and who observe and monitor governmental agencies which deal with the elderly.

5. County Social Services - 1975

Support of programs, which provide the Social Service Agency with the tools and financing to promote the rehabilitation of recipients and the prevention of problems.

Objectives:

- a. Personnel and administration policies aimed at securing and keeping the best possible staff for the Social Services Agency including: salaries competitive with neighboring counties, educational leave positions and in-service training; use of volunteers and case aides; and increase of clerical assistance to eligibility and case workers to lighten their work load; and constant effort to raise morale of entire staff.
- b. Services for recipients including: day care centers for low income families; food stamps for all eligible applicants.
- c. A coordinated program of county services by the Health Services Agency, the Social Services agency, and the Probation Department, the schools and private agencies.
- d. The continuation of contractual arrangements with established adoption agencies.

6. County Library System - - 1975

Support of adequate financing to maintain and extend library services for a growing population.

7. County Parks and Recreation -1975

Support of the County General Plan for Parks and Recreation. Objectives:

- a. Action by Yolo County in the field of regional countywide parks and recreational facilities.
- b. Citizen participation in planning.
- c. A balanced, diversified program.
- d. Coordination of public and private development plans.
- e. Adequate financing to maintain and extend services for a growing population; investigation of all sources of revenue for parks and

recreation; encouragement of participation by private groups and individuals.

8. Juvenile Justice in Yolo County - 1975 - Revised 1988

The Juvenile Delinquent and the Pre-Delinquent

Support of programs of counseling and the guidance for the first- time juvenile offenders and for their parents as a primary alternative to the legal processes involving arrest, detention and court hearings.

Objectives:

- a. Effective cooperation and coordination of agencies within the county (public, quasi-public and private) which serve juveniles, in order to provide a greater scope of resources and alternatives and a higher degree of services to children who need it.
- b. Availability of diversionary programs of counseling and guidance based on countywide guidelines to ensure quality, yet to permit flexibility of these services.
- c. Programs of research and study of correction and rehabilitation techniques applicable to the delinquent and pre-delinquent juvenile.
- d. A well-trained and adequate staff of probation officers as an essential part of the administration of juvenile justice.
- e. Housing facilities of various types, including group homes, to meet the needs of pre-delinquent (601) and delinquent (602) juveniles with support services including counseling, crisis resolution and other appropriate specialized services.

The Neglected, Abused, or Deprived Juvenile:

Support of the development of additional programs, to provide more alternatives in serving children in this category and support of measures which would improve and expand the existing programs of the Child Protection Service.

Objectives:

- a. Strengthening of the foster home programs by frequent evaluation, in-service training, and guidance programs for foster parents.
- b. Local group homes for juveniles in this category as a supplement to the foster home program.
- c. Homemaker service for families in a risks situation as well as for families in need of guidance and training in home-making skills.

9. Climate Change Position – Adopted 2011

The LWV Woodland supports efforts throughout Yolo County to adapt to climate change and to reduce (mitigate) greenhouse gas emissions in the following sectors:

Agriculture

- **Apply fertilizer according to soil and tissue tests**
 - o Reduce nitrogen fertilizer applications rates
 - o Follow a nutrient management plan.
- **Reduce fossil fuel consumption in field equipment.**
- **Reduce energy use in agricultural irrigation pumping.**
 - o Use high efficiency pumps and/or solar powered

pumps.

- o Use water more efficiently.

- **Use integrated pest management (I.P.M) to reduce pesticide applications.**
- **Sequester (or store) carbon in agricultural landscapes.**
 - o Grow high residue producing crops.
 - o Grow cover crops and install buffers to prevent runoff from going directly into lakes and streams.

Supporting Measures

- o Conservation tillage (use minimum tillage).
- o Increase consumption of local agriculture products.
- o Conserve agricultural lands
 - ❖ Provide adequate funding to restore the Williamson Act
 - ❖ Maintain conservation easements between cities.
- o Use local data and local input prior to the adoption of any regulations.
- o Add voluntary measures and incentives to ensure that these directives will happen.

Forestry/Urban Forests

- **Encourage flexible approaches for forest management**
- **Replant areas destroyed by fire with plants appropriate for a changed climate**
- **Develop options to help ecosystems adapt to new conditions**
- **Encourage urban forests within communities**
 - o Monitor the city's role in maintaining and improving urban forests within its jurisdiction
- **Increase tree planting on lands not currently in the forest**
 - o Restore riparian forests and establish hedgerows
- **Encourage the planting of trees to modulate heating and cooling costs**
- **Recycle wood products**
- **Use native species where appropriate**
- **Support the Urban Forest Protocol, adopted by California Air Resources Board and the California Climate Action Registry**

Water

- **Encourage conservation and storage of water**
 - o This should include floodwater and reclaimed water
 - o Have a comprehensive water conservation strategy
 - o Encourage conservation in each household/ establishment by having residents/owners examine their carbon footprint and to then take appropriate action to decrease it
 - Encourage efficient irrigation systems in both households and commercial establishments.
 - Correct leaks in systems
 - o Encourage Rainwater Capture and Storage
 - Control Runoff

- Manage storm water on site
- **Encourage Creation of Water Efficient Landscapes**
 - Use drought tolerant plants when possible
 - Use reclaimed water when possible
 - Place plants according to water needs
- **Examine the amount of water it takes to produce all products and consider this in production choices. This could include**
 - The water necessary for energy production
 - The energy necessary to deliver and process water
 - The water necessary for food production
- **Encourage local farmers and university researchers to interact in ways that are compatible with and encourage local innovation in agricultural practices while addressing climate change**

Human Health

- **Support governmental measures that help the public safety network be prepared for human health problems that arise from climate change. The areas include the following:**
 - Extreme heat
 - Increase in poor air quality both from rise in ozone and/or wildfires
 - Droughts and floods
 - New diseases from warmer climates
- **Encourage education of the public in human health risks associated with climate change. The areas include the danger/ effects of the following:**
 - Extreme heat
 - Increase in poor air quality both from rise in ozone and/or wildfires
 - Droughts and floods
 - o New diseases from warmer climates
- **Support general mitigation efforts to lower greenhouse gas emissions and therefore slow the onset of the human health effects of climate change.**

General Mitigation Measures:

- **Energy**
 - Reduce burning of fossil fuels

- Increase the use of low carbon renewable fuels such as solar and bio based fuels
- **Housing/Buildings**
 - Retrofit existing buildings for lower energy usage. This could include
 - More efficient appliances, lighting, windows, etc.
 - Installation of renewable energy sources such as PV solar , solar hot water, and others
 - Planting trees to limit heating and cooling needs
- Encourage increasing energy efficiency in new construction with the long term aim of zero carbon footprint (no net CO₂eq emissions)
- **Transportation**
 - Increase Vehicle Efficiency (mpg) - applying it to all forms of transportation
 - Lower the carbon intensity of fuel
 - Encourage public transportation and land use planning measures that reduce vehicle miles traveled

Policy- Local, State, National and International

The LWV Woodland encourages local, regional, state, national and international municipalities to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change

- Encourage the adoption of climate action plans

Local Positions

1. Library - Adopted 1977

Support the continuance of the City's commitment to better library services. Support for adequate funding for a sufficient properly trained staff, maintenance of the facility, and a collection meeting minimum standards and community needs. The library should provide an attractive environment for the community. The public should be keep informed of the services available at the library.

2. Boards and Commissions - Adopted 1979/Revised 1995

- Support increased communication between City Council, staff, and board and commission members through establishment of goals to coincide with the beginning of each new mayor's terms and an evaluation of those goals at the end of the mayor's term.
- Support an extensive outreach campaign to encourage greater diversity of the citizens serving as board and commission members by charging the Personnel Board with the task of developing a recruitment policy that would encourage diversity.
- Support organizational changes to the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Commission on Aging and the Child Care Commission to be changed to the Commission on Parks and Facilities, the Commission on Adults and the Commission on Children and Youth.

3. Industrial Land Use - Adopted 1985/Revised 1988

Support steady, planned industrial growth in Woodland, maintaining a balance between industrial development, housing development and city services capability.

Objectives:

- a. Encourage clean, stable, non-polluting industries which have modest water needs and which offer employment opportunities for persons of varied salary and skill levels.
- b. Discourage industry tied too closely to the national economic picture, any polluting industry, and those that put a heavy demands on city services including water.
- c. Support inclusion of police and library building funds in development fees (as fire building fund is present).
- d. When attracting new industry to Woodland, the availability of housing and city services and the issue of environmental protects are to be considered highly important; status of current labor pool and enrollment availability in local schools are considered fairly important.

4. Yard Refuse - Adopted 1987

- Support a yard refuse system that is efficient, economical and environmentally sound.

The city ordinance should be reviewed, and a system

should be dated that includes: enforceable regulations, mandatory participation ; education of consumers; and continuation of recycling.

5. Housing – Adopted 1982

- Support provision of quality and safe housing for all persons in the community regardless of income or ethnic background.

Objectives:

- a. Encourage the rehabilitation and revitalization of deteriorating housing.
- b. Support Yolo County's Housing Code enforcement program to eliminate substandard rental housing units with the city.
- c. Support the City's efforts to apply for and use as many state and federal housing programs as possible to improve and restore existing rental units, as well as build new rental housing units.

6. Bicycle Transportation - Adopted 1988

Support for the increase use of bicycling as a quiet, economical, healthful and significant alternative to auto use as a means of improving air quality, traffic flow, energy conservation and efficient use of parking facilities.

Objectives :

- a. Expansion and/or improvement of bicycling facilities, including bike routes and paths, storage and enterprise.
- b. Citizen education for all ages on bicycle laws, rights and privileges, safe bicycling habits, bicycle maintenance and repair.
- c. Strict enforcement of vehicle and bicycle laws.
- d. Coordination of efforts of interested groups for bicycle safety.
- e. Planning efforts to regularly update and review the master bicycle circulation plan and to provide budget moneys for capital improvements a needed.
- f. Consideration of parking ordinances with provisions for bicycle parking.
- g. Prioritization and implementation of Goals, Objectives, Policies and Implementation Measures (GOPIMS) of the Circulation Element by the City Council.