

League of Women Voters of La Crosse Area Review Local Positions, March 2011

LWV-La Crosse Position	Review Results (Delete, Re-Study, Edit, No Change)
Education	
1. SUPPORT of <i>the La Crosse area</i> school districts efforts to provide educational facilities and opportunities.	No Change <i>Could expand by replacing “the La Crosse area” with “all area public”</i>
Library Services	
2. SUPPORT the continued membership in and adequate funding of the Winding Rivers Library System <i>by La Crosse County and the City of La Crosse.</i>	Revise: delete “by La Crosse County and the City of La Crosse.”
3. SUPPORT the library services of Books by Mail and Film by Mail for out-county and city residents.	Delete.
4. SUPPORT the current level of services provided by the city and county branch libraries.	No Change <i>Could look into improving services – a quick study.</i>
Government Affairs	
5. SUPPORT efforts of government to provide just and humane programs of social services to the community.	No Change.
6. SUPPORT expansion of the Human Services Board.	No change.
7. SUPPORT of the establishment of an elected County Executive.	Delete and Re-study: Is a County Administrator sufficient? Does a city the size of La Crosse need an administrator in addition to the elected Mayor?
8. SUPPORT intergovernmental cooperation-	No Change
Zoning	
9. SUPPORT of the zoning ordinance of the City of La Crosse as outlined in the City Master Plan with emphasis on the inclusion of a flood plain and open space district.	Delete – position in Planning section covers this.
Parks and Recreation -	
10. SUPPORT of the provision of adequate park facilities and recreational programs <i>for the residents of La Crosse County</i> as a function of [local] government	Revise – delete “for the residents of La Crosse County”. Add “local”
11. SUPPORT planning for these facilities as a combined effort of citizens and the <i>Board of Parks Commissioners</i> [local government].	Revise – replace “the Board of Parks Commissioners” with local government.
12. SUPPORT the funding of <i>city supported</i> facilities and programs by alternative methods which recognize the use by non-residents <i>of the city.</i>	Revise – remove “city supported” and “of the city” to make it a broader statement. Could add specific language, such as “charge fees”?
13. SUPPORT the provision of playground space and facilities uniformly throughout the city of La Crosse, as much as is geographically possible.	Restudy? At least find out if this is necessary.

14. SUPPORT the concept that it is the responsibility of the Parks Board of Supervisors to provide better communication on facilities and programs not only for newcomers to the community but also to keep established citizens aware of programs.	Re-study or Review for necessity?
Reapportionment	
15. SUPPORT a position on reapportionment that encourages municipalities of La Crosse County to coordinate and cooperate with one another and the County to develop reapportionment and redistricting plans.	No Change
Human Resources	
16. SUPPORT of the La Crosse City Housing code prohibiting cooking facilities in rooming units within rooming houses, i.e. a rooming unit without a private bathroom.	Delete
17. SUPPORT of enforcement of compliance with La Crosse City Housing and Building Codes by not permitting an owner to rent a vacated unit until compliance is made.	No Change. <i>Could review "Support compliance and enforcement of existing ordinances and codes" for action or revision of position.</i>
Transportation	
18. SUPPORT of county-wide mass transit service, partially rider-ship and partially tax Supported including senior citizen, person with special needs and major industry shuttle buses, to encourage usage of mass transit through marketing programs and limited parking in central business district.	Review and possible restudy. Action may be required soon.
19. SUPPORT of state bicycle commission, enforceable regulations for cyclists, restricted and shared bikeways, and public safety education programs.	No Change.
Marsh	
*20. SUPPORT as the best use for the marsh: Water and air quality and purification, flood control, wildlife habitat and as an urban green space. Secondly for environmental education and recreation. Inappropriate for transportation and industrial development.	*Combine into fewer positions Revise. Replace with SUPPORT the preservation of the La Crosse marsh wetlands for: Water purification, air quality improvement, flood control, wildlife habitat and as an urban green space. Secondly for environmental education and recreation.
*21. SUPPORT for preservation of the La Crosse marsh wetlands as a priority over more efficient or faster modes of transportation or increased industrial or commercial growth.	Delete
*22. SUPPORT the policy of no further loss of wetlands for La Crosse County.	Delete

<p>*23. SUPPORT full and adequate participation by the public in the determination and subsequent decision involving the use of our natural resources.</p>	<p>Revise. Replace with SUPPORT full and adequate participation by the public in the determination and subsequent decision involving the use of our natural resources, and continue the moratorium on further filling pending the outcome of any current study process.</p>
<p>*24. OPPOSE further industrial/commercial development in marshlands north of Highway B and up to Highway SS.</p>	<p>Revise. Replace with OPPOSE any further loss of wetlands for La Crosse County. Wetlands are inappropriate for any further transportation, industrial, or commercial development.</p>
<p>*25. SUPPORT a moratorium on further filling of the marsh pending the outcome and current study process.</p>	<p>Delete</p>
<p>26. SUPPORT alternatives to alleviate future traffic congestion or to improve traffic flow such as mass transit within the metro area, scheduling of employee hours to facilitate movement of traffic, shifting lights, removing parking from heavily traveled streets, using other means of transporting commercial goods such as by air or rail, and designing express lanes for use by vehicles which carry more than one person during peak traffic hours.</p>	<p>No Change. Move to Transportation category</p>
<p>26. LIMITED SUPPORT for adding lanes to current highway and streets on a selective basis.</p>	<p>No Change. Move to Transportation category.</p>
<p>Teen Pregnancy Prevention</p>	
<p>27. SUPPORT of (1) sexuality education, most preferably through targeting students most in need of building self esteem or by incorporating a series of shorter units in support areas such as biology, English, home economics, social sciences, etc. in the high schools at an earlier age than the 11th grade, (2) promoting parent involvement in their children’s sexuality education particularly by providing information to parents through parent/school associations, (3) providing extra training, possibly through in-service to teachers who do not deal directly with sexuality education to make them more aware of issues relating to sexuality among teens and pregnancy prevention efforts and (4) making Family Living through home economics a requirement in high school.</p>	<p>Revise. Replace with “SUPPORT of 1) Sexuality education that is K-12, comprehensive (includes information on birth control), medically accurate, accessible, and age appropriate. 2) Promoting parental involvement in their children’s sexuality education (Solving the Puzzle, Family Guided Sexuality Education: available free at Options Clinic). 3) Promoting Health Education as a graduation requirement.</p>
<p>28. SUPPORT for [comprehensive] community efforts related to preventing teen pregnancy.</p>	<p>Revise. Add “Comprehensive”</p>
<p>29. SUPPORT increased programming within the La Crosse County Department of Human services relating to enhancing self-esteem among teens</p>	<p>Revise. Replace with “SUPPORT for teen access to barrier free, low-no cost, confidential sexual health care.”</p>

identified as “high risk”, i.e., sexually abused, sexually active, members of dysfunctional families, generational teen pregnancies.	
30. SUPPORT a request to the League of Women Voter of Wisconsin to support an amendment to Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 38, Section 48.981 to include “pupil services” personnel as an exception to the reporting requirement so that school counselors, social workers, and teachers can provide confidential counseling and serve as information resources for students who want to talk about sexual issues and behaviors.	Delete.
Planning	*Combine into one position and include local and county master plans
*31. SUPPORT of local planning as well as [regional] planning <i>on an area-wide basis</i> with the cooperation of the local governments involved.	No change. <i>Could adjust the language to include “regional”.</i>
*32. SUPPORT of the mapping of specific zoning districts, compliance and performance standards with those districts which include conditional uses, nonconforming uses and the review process[, <i>with emphasis on the inclusion of a flood plain and open space district</i>].	Revise. Add “with emphasis on the inclusion of a flood plain and open space district.” This would replace the position in section labeled Zoning .
*33. SUPPORT of subdivision regulations including preliminary plat consultation, education for local official and sub dividers, and stricter enforcement of existing regulations.	No Change.
34. SUPPORT of conservancy zoning districts <i>for the city and county of La Crosse</i> with variable means of acquiring public rights to property .	Revise. Delete “for the city and county of La Crosse” to make it regional. <i>Could restudy and clarify “variable means of acquiring public rights to property.”</i>

I would like to thank all the individuals who came to the 2 meetings where we discussed all these positions. Most were written and adopted many years ago, so we had some history to learn about each position. As we still have many league members active in most of the issues, the topics are as current as when adopted. We attempted to revise when language changes would reflect the content of the original position, but tried to increase our scope, which is more regional and multi-county. We should be able to act on most legislation that concerns us locally. A few positions we found outdated, and some do need re-study before revisions. We will vote on each of these at the annual meeting.

Ellen Rosborough