

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF THE BEACH CITIES

*Serving the people of El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach,
Inglewood, Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach*

The VOTER

Spring 2026

Visit our [Linktree](#)

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President's Message

Gearing Up for Election Season ~ As we move into the coming months, our League is shifting into one of our most important roles—preparing for election season.

The League of Women Voters was founded on the belief that democracy works best when voters are informed and engaged. Every election year gives us another opportunity to put that belief into action.

Across the Beach Cities, our members are already preparing to support voters in many ways:

- Providing **nonpartisan voter information**
- Promoting **voter registration and participation**
- Sharing trusted resources like **Vote411**
- Helping our community understand the issues on the ballot

None of this happens without the dedication of our volunteers. From voter service and communications to events and outreach, our members make it possible for the League to be a visible and trusted resource in our community.

In the months ahead, you'll see many opportunities to get involved. Whether you can help register voters, share information on social media, assist with events, or simply spread the word, every contribution strengthens our mission. You are appreciated!

Election work is at the heart of what we do, and it is one of the most meaningful ways we can support, and defend, our democracy.

Thank you for being part of this work. Together, we help ensure that every voter in our community has the information they need to participate confidently in our elections.

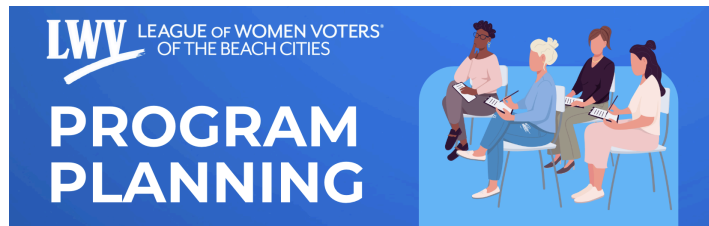
Warmly,



Teri Neustaedter

President, League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities

Program Planning Sets Priorities for the Year



Thank you for joining us to brainstorm and set priorities!

At our Annual PROGRAM PLANNING Session in January we asked these questions:

- What issues do we want National and LA County Leagues to focus on?
- How can we address local issues?

We followed up with a survey of our members and confirmed these priorities:

National: Defending Democracy, *which includes Voting Rights, Election Protection, Redistricting, Individual Liberties, Immigration, The Presidency.* Members also want attention paid to balancing the three branches of government.

County: Defending Democracy, LA County Reform (*Measure G*), District Attorney Office/County Jails, Advocacy with Metro including Transportation and Housing. *There was also interest in supporting Foster Care, but no volunteers who could commit to working on it.*

Local: Defending Democracy, Local Transportation/Climate Change/Water, Housing/Homelessness

This year we focused on National and County issues, and chose what LWVBC will submit as our recommendation on both levels. **All aspects of Making Democracy Work remain our focus for the year at every level (National, State, County, Local).** LWVUS will combine every League's submissions to be voted on at the June Convention. Recommendations for County priorities will be voted on by the LA County Inter-League Organization (ILO) delegates at the April 11th Convention. We also discussed how to implement our local priorities. Your participation helped us determine where LWVBC energy should be spent — Thanks to those who attended and those who responded to the survey!

2026 National Convention



The League of Women Voters (LWV) **2026 National Convention** is set for June 25-28, 2026, in Columbus, Ohio, at the Hilton Columbus Downtown, offering both in-person and virtual participation for members to vote on bylaws, board, and program, and to engage in training. Registration is open; we are allowed 3 delegates – we have 2 more slots to fill!

[Legislative Interviews](#)

Please read our annual interviews with our elected officials!

During February, we interviewed our State Senator Ben Allen and Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi about their legislative priorities for 2026, to ask them about their personal legislative priorities for the coming year, and what they believed the State Legislature as a whole should prioritize this session. These interviews are conducted yearly, and the results compiled in a report to the State of California League to inform our advocacy efforts. Thank you to Dale Petruilis for organizing these annual interviews.

CA Sen. Ben Allen SD24 [Ben Allen Legislative Interview Notes](#)

CA Asm. Al Muratsuchi AD66 [Al Muratsuchi Legislative Interview Notes](#)

[Lunch and Learn: Policy Discussions](#)

By Joan LeSage

The topic for our first LUNCH & LEARN zoom meeting was [Corruption in Government](#). Where to start? There was a lot to discuss! Ethics codes for presidents and judges. Money in politics: dark money; public financing options. Presidential pardons. The articles we read provided a great deal of background. The Brennan Center has proposed possible solutions. Our group had a good turnout including both new and existing members. It was a free wheeling and thought provoking conversation. If you missed it you can read more about the topics here [Money in Politics](#).

We also discussed the [California Fair Elections Act \(SB 42\)](#) which will be a proposition on the November ballot. It tries to deal with Money in Politics by allowing individual cities to enact systems for public financing of local campaigns.

SB 42 will not create public financing of campaigns or require any government to offer public financing. It will simply remove the ban on public financing so that every California jurisdiction has the same opportunity that charter cities have to enact systems of public financing of campaigns that work for them. Read more at: [Cal Matters](#) and [Fair Elections](#). Several of our participants may volunteer to help with passage of this League co-sponsored legislation.

JOIN US on [Zoom](#) ! The next important and timely **LUNCH & LEARN** discussion will be Tuesday, March 24 at noon. The topic will be the proposed position on **Protecting the Rights of Immigrants** from LWVWA; it will be voted on at the national convention in June. [Find discussion materials here](#) Visit our webpage on [Immigration](#) for additional resources.



[Join us for Coffee with the League!](#)

Thursday, March 19th and Wednesday, April 15th

9:30 -11:00

Mychal's Cafe 2302 Artesia Redondo Beach

Stop by and chat!

Valentine's Day Service Project

[Thanks for supporting El Camino College Students](#)

Sharonda Barksdale, the Basic Needs Coordinator, said we brought tremendous smiles to the faces of these hard working kids. LWVBC donated 28 Valentine bags filled with candy kisses, whimsical socks, lotions, journals, and \$50 gift cards.



[Get Involved](#)

It's fun and rewarding to meet other members and make a difference!

See our [☰ Volunteer Opportunities](#)
Not sure how you want to help?
[Contact us!](#) We'd like to meet you.

[Observer Corps](#)



Become an Observer for local Government Meetings!

Within Advocacy, Observer Corps is the veritable watchdog of our Beach Cities area. The Corps reports on groups like local city councils, and councils of government, so we remain current with what is happening in our community— we are not there to support or resist any issue; it is just fact gathering. However, once a concern is brought up, our Advocacy arm comes into play, where we take a stand on an issue using LWV positions for support. **Please join us!** [Read more](#)
Training Wed. April 8th 7pm Zoom. Contact: [Grace Peng](#)

[Communications Needs You](#)

The Communications Team plays a key role in sharing our League's work with members and the community. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with several important positions.

Immediate needs:

- *VOTER* newsletter editor
- Webmaster
- Social media coordinator

We are also seeking coordinators for: event flyers, Mailchimp, print ads, presentations, and photography. Whether you enjoy writing, design, technology, or outreach, your skills can make a real difference in helping us inform and engage our community. Our next meeting is Tuesday, **March 10 at 5:00 PM**. We welcome anyone interested in learning more. [Contact us!](#)

Join Us! [No Kings 3](#)

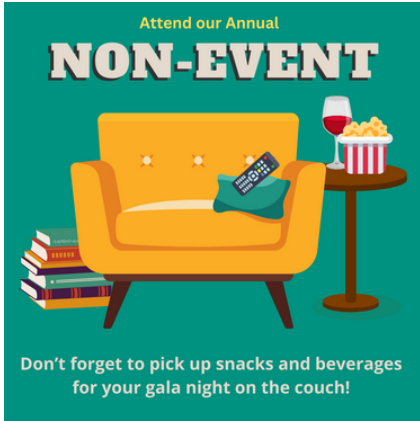
Saturday, March 28 10:30am - 12:30pm
Torrance City Hall. 3031 Torrance Blvd.
March from El Prado Park at 9am to join Protest & Rally at City Hall at 10:30am LWVUS is a [No Kings](#) national partner. [Contact us to volunteer!](#)



[Annual Non-Event Letter](#)

[Thank you for your support!](#)

DONATE



**DON'T MISS OUT
ON THIS YEAR'S NON-EVENT
FUNDRAISER!**

Where: Your home!
When: Whenever!
What: A gala where the honoree, sponsor, and entertainment is YOU!
Attire: Casual-casual. Pajamas preferred. Sweatpants are an acceptable alternative.

DONATE HERE



Welcome New Members!

- Linda Igo
- Joanne Edwards
- Janet Webb
- Elizabeth Kebschull
- Tal Levy
- Samantha Mortlock
- Chelsea Schreiber
- Jennifer Donnell
- Diane Portillo

For Membership Questions, contact [Carol Patterson](#)

Visit our website for [Join/Renew](#) information.

RENEWING MEMBERS: Many thanks and much gratitude to our members who have renewed their membership, and to those who have made an additional contribution toward the operating expenses of the LWVBC and towards the scholarship fund. Your support is vital to our continued success!

Student membership age 16+ is free if you are active in the league. Please complete the online [Student Membership form](#) or contact [Grace](#). In addition, LWVC just launched a new Youth Circle, the next meeting is March 12. [Read more](#)

The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County
LA County Convention 2026
Saturday, April 11 in person 9:30 - 2:00



REVISED FIRST CALL
LWV OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY - ANNUAL CONVENTION
SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026

- What:** The 64th Annual Convention of the LWV of Los Angeles County.
- When:** Saturday, April 11, 2026 - 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Where:** Steven's Steak House – 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce – Lunch with beverage service during the meeting - Early Bird Registration: **Now through March 14 - \$40/person. After March 14 - \$45/person.** Watch for meeting details as they become available.
- Who:** Convention attendance is open to all. This in-person meeting is an opportunity to network and meet with old friends and make new ones. Encourage others to attend.
- How:** Registration is required for all attendees. The Registration Flyer will follow soon.

Business of Convention – LWV/LAC Bylaws Article IX, Sections 1 through 8 govern the composition, business, and notice of the Convention.

- Elect Officers and Directors, Nominating Committee Chair and Two Members
- Adopt 2026-2027 LWV/LAC Budget
- Adopt 2026-2028 Program
- Give guidance to the Board on matters within its purview
- Keynote Speaker to be announced
- Transact other appropriate business.

Voting Delegates are: *The president of each local League, or an alternate, the delegates chosen by the local Leagues, and the members of the Board of Directors of the LWV/LAC. In addition to the local League President, each local League is entitled to additional delegates as follows:*

Members	Delegates	Members	Delegates
50 or fewer (inclusive)	1	251-300	6
51 – 100	2	301-350	7
101-150	3	351-400	8
151-200	4	401-450	9
201-250	5	451-500	10

Margo Reeg, President of the LWV of Los Angeles County (An Inter-League Organization)

Dated: February 10, 2026

Save the date – Saturday, April 11, 2026

[Advocacy & Action](#)

The League takes action on an issue or advocates for a cause when there is an existing League position that supports the issue. Here are several ways to get involved: Receive Action Alerts! Join groups at the National, State, and local level. Commit to Unite & Rise! Look for ways to support LWVC ballot measures. [Read more.](#)

[Unite and Rise 8.5](#)



Take action together to protect our democracy! Unite and Rise 8.5 is a nationwide nonpartisan, non-violent initiative of LWVUS to engage and mobilize 8.5 million voters from now until the 2026 midterm elections.

How League members ACT locally ~ Register Voters ~ Get Out the Vote ~ Observe Election Processes ~ Join Observer Corps ~ Participate in peaceful rallies.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCAL ACTION ACTIVITIES!](#)

[LWVUS Action Alerts - Act Now!](#)

Speak up on the issues that matter:

- [Urge your Members of Congress to oppose interference in DC!](#)
- [Tell your members of Congress to protect the freedom to vote and support the passage of the JLVRAA.](#)
- [Tell your Senators to oppose the SAVE Act.](#)
- [Urge your members of Congress to stand up for our democracy.](#)
- Demand passage of the [Equal Rights Amendment!](#)
- Support [Voting Rights Expansion!](#)

California Advocacy

Ballot Measures [Read more](#)

The LWVC will be fighting for voters in the upcoming midterm election. Here are a few statewide ballot measures we're taking action on this year.

The California Fair Elections Act

California Recall Election Reform

Dangerous Voter ID Ballot Initiative

Women's Day Rally **Still We Rise!** Voices, Action and Community

League and community members gathered on Saturday, March 7th at Veteran's Park in Redondo Beach to celebrate women and the power of civic engagement. A panel of inspiring women encouraged attendees to volunteer, take action, run for office, find community, be kind, model integrity, and lift one another up. Many thanks to organizer Arnette Travis and moderator Trisha Murakawa for an uplifting, informative, and fun event!



Photo from left to right we have:

Host: Arnette Travis, activist, advocate, author.

Moderator: Trisha Murakawa, El Camino College Board of Trustees, President of Murakawa Communications.

Panel members:

- Tonya McKenzie, chair of the LA County Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs and founder and president of Sand and Shores, a public relations and sports marketing firm
- Grace Peng, climate scientist; Natural Resources director for League of Women Voters of LA County and Beach Cities
- Penny Wirsing, former environmental engineer with Torrance Refinery, former president for Society of Women Engineers
- Priya Ramcharan, Editor-in-Chief of the nationally acclaimed Redondo Union High School student newspaper and news site [High Tide](#), Senior at Redondo Union High School
- Maureen O'Neill, retired pediatrician, former adjunct teaching associate professor at UCLA med school
- Joan Irvine, community leader and advocate and for women aged 50+ for wellness and health
- Carrie Wirsing, former US Attorney, US DOJ, Southern District, Houston



Tell Congress to oppose the SAVE Act Suite of bills

From LWV Santa Monica

Americans do not need MORE obstacles to vote. The SAVE Act would create one more barrier to the voting process, as many eligible voters do not have easy access to the necessary documents. **Tell Congress to oppose the SAVE Act suite of bills. Read on...**

... In the 119th Congress, three major pieces of legislation have been introduced to require DPOC (Documentary Proof of Citizenship) to vote, including:

- The Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act, which passed the House in 2025 and would require citizenship documentation to register to vote, and, more recently
- The [SAVE America Act](#) and the [Make Elections Great Again Act](#), which have even stricter components than the SAVE Act, like requirements for voters to present DPOC both at registration and the polls, and for absentee ballots to be received by election day.

It is already illegal for noncitizens to register and vote in federal or state elections. Requiring documentary proof of American citizenship to register to vote in federal elections is unnecessary; it seeks to divide us and creates another barrier to voting. Many communities of eligible voters would be unnecessarily burdened by the requirements of the SAVE Act. Among them are:

- **Military voters**, who would be required to present documentation every time they re-register to vote when their family moves.
- **Families who have been impacted by natural disasters and lost important documentation**, who would be required to jump through hoops to replace these documents while also going through the traumatic process of rebuilding their lives.
- **Married women and other Americans who have changed their names**, who would also be required to secure updated documentation to register to vote.
- **People of color.** Compared to white US citizens, citizens of color are [three times more likely](#) to lack documents such as birth certificates, passports, naturalization certificates, or certificates of citizenship or face difficulties accessing them. For example, while approximately half of all American adults possess a passport, two-thirds of Black Americans do not.

For more information go to: <https://www.lwv.org/save-act>



Where do we stand?

[Impact on Issues](#) [2024-2026: A Guide to Public Policy Positions of the League of Women Voters](#)

The definitive publication on LWVUS positions. – **A paperback version is available for [purchase on Amazon.com](#) for \$6.99.**

Having the print version allows you to quickly research League positions – which apply at all levels – and the history of how they've been used.

2026 will be a busy year...

We need your involvement & support as we help save democracy!

Please join us in upcoming events - check out our [online calendar](#)

DONATE



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Phone: 310-379-6663

Website: lwvbeachcities.org

Linktree: [LWV Beach Cities Linktree](#)

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.