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

## THE VOTER

Winter 2023

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### LWVBC's Annual Program Planning Meeting



### Masked Crusaders for Democracy!

Our League met on Saturday, January 21 for our [Program Planning](#) session.

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## General discussion and vote on 3 state issues

Up first for discussion and a vote was whether we support that state continues their three Issues for Emphasis from 2021-2023: **Housing/Homelessness, Climate Change (Water), and Criminal Justice Reform** or if we would like to recommend different issues for emphasis such as Immigration, such as Health care reform, Mental Health and Reproductive Rights. Votes are still coming in; the board will vote in early February before sending our response to State.

## Review of Local Priorities

We also reviewed our local League Priorities from the June 2022 annual meeting. Activities were proposed at the August 2022 Board retreat. We discussed whether we should keep these priorities for 2023.

- **Defending Democracy** - voter outreach, candidate forums, Case Study Spring 2023, Gerrymandering, Local Watchdog, Election Integrity video, Voter's Edge, Ballot Curing with LA CO
- **Housing** - education and advocacy, revise our position, MB Highrose project, advocacy training
- **Low Carbon Local Transportation Networks** - community education and advocacy
- **Mental Health** - website resources, follow legislation, track MHSA funds, Pre-K education/advocacy
- **Seniors/Aging** - monthly speakers, community forum on AARP, Seniors Resources
- **Reproductive Health** - National/State Action Alerts, Women's Marches, post-carding

We then adjourned and enjoyed a potluck lunch prepared by members!



*The League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities, Torrance Area, and Palos Verdes Peninsula/San Pedro*

## Tri-League Buffet Brunch



### Keynote Speakers:

Aaron Baum and David Leger

The Beach Cities League hosted the Tri-League Buffet Brunch at The Depot Restaurant in Torrance on January. It was wonderful to have so many attendees from our three Leagues! Keynote speakers Aaron Baum and David Leger discussed the South Bay Local Travel Network (LTN) which will connect low-speed neighborhood streets to facilitate the safer use of zero-emission micro-mobility devices.



[See the Presentation here.](#)





Photos by Jennifer Agliozzo

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This is only the second time that we held our Tri-League Brunch Buffet in person since the start of the pandemic.

Read this article about how we mitigated the risk and learn how to get together safely in the future:

## **[Meeting Safely During an Airborne Pandemic](#)**

**(And yes, we're still in the middle of one.)** by Dr. Grace Peng, Ph.D

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE BEACH CITIES

# Holiday Service Projects

## Our 3 Holiday Projects Brightened Lives!

### Thanksgiving Food Drive for Project:NEEDS

Thank you to everyone that donated food this year! We were able to deliver over 30 bags of groceries to Donna at **Project:NEEDS** as well as checks and online donations!



Arnette, Anne (Chris' sister) and Chris made the delivery.

### Ham and Turkey Drive for HOY South Bay Outreach Center

Thanks to all who participated this year! We were able to deliver **\$1000** in grocery gift cards for Holiday Hams & Turkeys to Donna Q. at **House of Yahweh South Bay Outreach Center!** Way to go with those online donations!



HOY South Bay Outreach Center has been serving our local communities for 40 years offering food, clothing and help with social services to unhoused and struggling individuals and families. Over 300 families pick up groceries every week.

### Amazon.com donations for A Sense of Home

LWV Beach Cities helped furnish first-ever homes for youth aging out of foster care by donating online to **A Sense of Home** with their Amazon Wishlist. Thank you to all those who donated much-needed household items.



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## Celebrating Our LWVBC Volunteers

It was a busy election season and our volunteers stepped up to the challenges!  
On November 28 we held a "Thank You!" event at Lazy Acres in Hermosa Beach.

Cake, camaraderie, and election-season decompression was had by all that attended.  
(The misspelled cake was delicious!)





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## Event Calendar 2023

### JANUARY

**1/24 Tue Health and Wellness Committee** 1:00 - 3:00pm This month members will join the Zoom meeting of the California Department of Aging (CDA) Meeting: Implementing the Master Plan for Aging in California Together (IMPACT) Stakeholder Committee Zoom Meeting. [Get CDA Zoom Info here](#)

**1/25 Wed Local & National Action on Immigration** 5:30pm Zoom Webinar by LWV San Diego [Register here](#)

**1/25 Wed LWVBC Discussion Group** is cancelled this month.

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**1/28 Sat LA County Winter League Day** 9:30am - 12:30pm *Zoom* Topic: **Sharpen your Advocacy Skills: Using the Housing and Homelessness Action Policy.** Go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/477660494397> to register by noon on the 26th. The ZOOM link will be sent out on January 27th.

**1/31 Tue Know Your Rights: Public Meetings in California** 12:00-1:00pm PT by LWVC and First Amendment Coalition [Register Here](#)

## FEBRUARY

**2/1 Wed Board Meeting** 3:00-5:00pm *Zoom Meeting*

**2/8 Wed LWVBC Mixer** 6:30-8:00pm **Mederos Cocina Mexicana** 231 S Pacific Coast Hwy, Redondo Beach

**2/9 Thu WIG - Water & Infrastructure Group** 7:00pm See [Natural Resources page](#) for information.

**2/16 Thu Learn about LWV State Interest Groups** 7:00pm via Zoom. Check out the wide range of LWVC groups available to join. [Click here for more Information](#) [Register Here](#)

**2/22 Wed Impact on Issues: 2022-2024 Webinar** 12:00 - 1:00pm PT LWVUS will share a new, updated *Impact on Issues* document which includes the updates made at the 2022 Convention. Please join us to learn about the content of the League's policy position document and how to use it to inform your advocacy. [Register Here](#)

**2/22 Wed LWVBC Discussion Group** February topic: Immigration Issues. 4:00-5:30pm at St. Cross. (Prepare by attending the [LWV San Diego 1/25 webinar](#) Local & National Action on Immigration)

**2/22 Thu Grappling with Racism, Discrimination and Bias in the South Bay** 7:00 pm Sidney Morrison, Torrance's first Black public school principal, will speak about racism, discrimination and bias in the South Bay, including what he has personally experienced. *Sponsored by LWV Torrance.* [Sign up here.](#)

**2/28 Tue Health and Wellness Committee** 1:00 - 2:30pm [Zoom](#)

## MARCH

**3/25 Sat Annual Convention of the LWV of Los Angeles County ILO** 9:30 am to 12:30 pm *Details coming soon.*

CLICK HERE FOR THE MOST UPDATED CALENDAR ONLINE

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The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County

**LA County Winter League Day 2023**



**Saturday, January 28, 2023**

**9:30 am – 12:30 pm**

**Virtual on Zoom**

**Gloria Chun Hoo, LWVC Vice President for Advocacy/Program**, will kick off the morning, followed by:

- An overview of how LWV supports a bill through the CA legislature and educates the public about it
- Insights on the RHNA process and a letter on the topic of builder's remedy
- How did Pasadena get a rent control initiative passed in 2022?
- A look at how OC supports its housing endeavors
- A Q&A panel of our speakers.

*One of the most visible things the LA County Intra League Organization (ILO) does is put on quarterly League Days where Leaguers from around LA County meet to socialize, conduct business and share a learning program about issues facing our county. All League members are invited to these meetings.*

**Register by noon on the 26th. The ZOOM link will be sent out on January 27th.**

**[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR LA COUNTY WINTER LEAGUE DAY](#)**

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## **Our League endorses Two Redondo Beach Measures**

The upcoming Redondo Beach election on March 7, 2023 includes two measures that reflect the fundamental goals of the League of Women Voters.

### **Measure CA3 – Gender Neutral Language**

**Redondo Beach will be voting on CA3, a charter amendment to use gender-neutral language throughout the city's charter**

Words matter. The charter is an expression of the city's values, and the LWVBC strongly endorses CA3 to make the Redondo Beach charter more inclusive by using gender-neutral language.

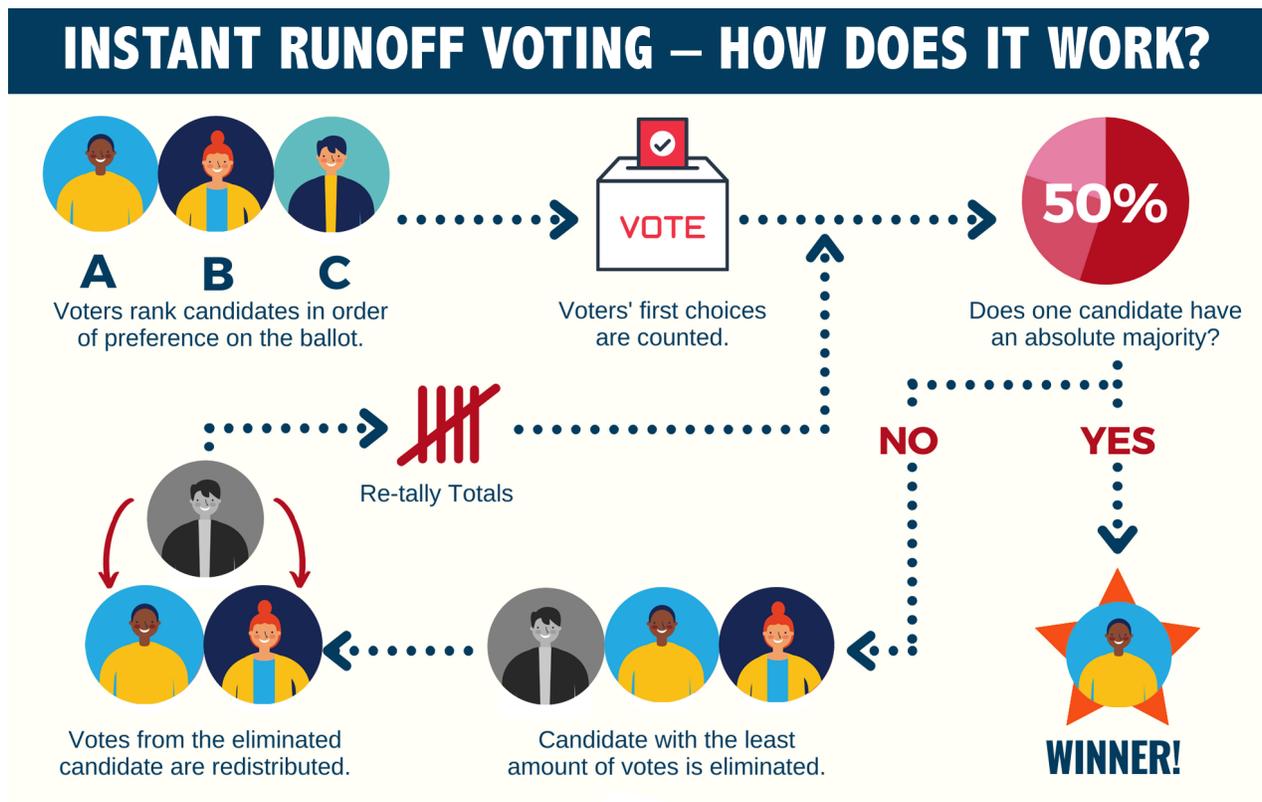
Diversity, equity and inclusion are central to the League of Women's Voters' goals of engaging all

individuals, households, communities and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

## Measure CA5 – Instant Run-off Elections

Redondo Beach will be voting on a charter amendment to eliminate runoff elections for city offices and require the council to adopt and use an instant runoff voting (IRV) system. Run-off elections tend to have significantly lower turn-out than general elections.

In instant runoff voting, voters rank all candidates that they could support in the order they prefer. If no candidate receives 50% + 1 first place votes, then the candidate with the fewest first place votes is eliminated, and the votes for this candidate are redistributed to the second choice of their voters. This process continues until one candidate has 50% + 1 votes.



No method is perfect, but IRV promotes sincere voting over strategic voting, poses no additional security risks, is economically efficient by eliminating runoff elections and may encourage more positive campaigning. The LWVBC strongly endorses CA 5 to improve electoral methods in Redondo Beach.

The League of Women Voters supports electoral methods that:

- Encourage voter participation and voter engagement
- Encourage those with minority opinions to participate, including under-represented communities
- Are verifiable and auditable
- Promote access to voting
- Maximize effective votes/minimize wasted votes
- Promote sincere voting over strategic voting
- Implement alternatives to plurality voting

- Are compatible with acceptable ballot-casting methods, including vote-by-mail

For more information on the upcoming Redondo Beach election and additional measures, [click here](#).

## Walking the talk: What does mobility justice look like?

By Dr. Grace Peng, Ph.D

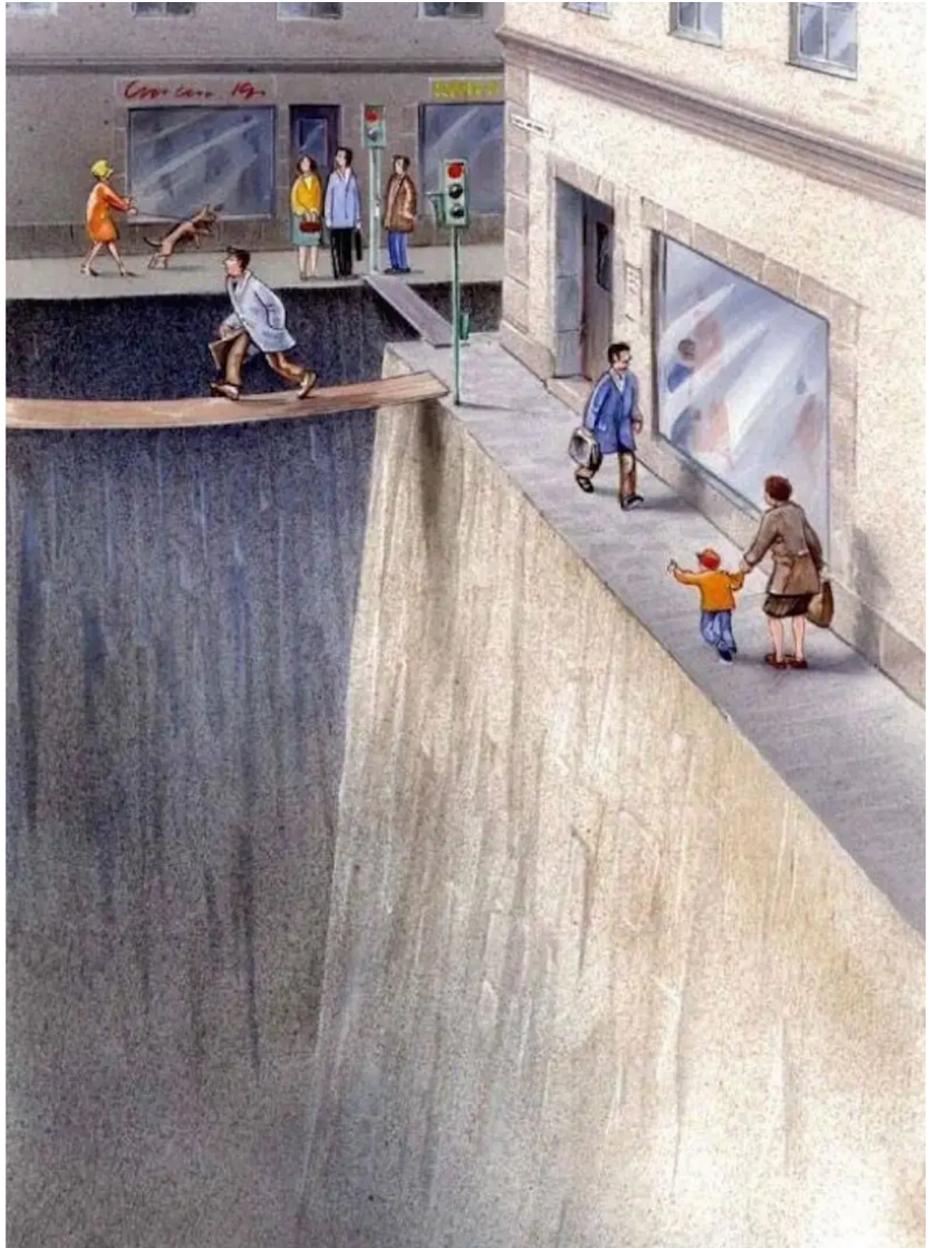
As a League volunteer, you already understand that issues are complex and inter-related. It's no exaggeration that the issue we are discussing is related to all of our issues for emphasis.

While we are discussing sharrows and golf carts, think about the democratic processes that led us here. Why do automobiles get over 90% of public road space? Why do the rest of us fight over scraps? How do we treat people who don't have the health or wealth to drive an automobile? Why do we accept 40,000 traffic deaths and 3M severe injuries/year?

Then there's climate change. I stood before you in Jan 2020 and talked about how transportation, oil & gas drilling and refining account for half of LA County GHG emissions. Despite the pandemic, that has changed very little while other nations took advantage of lockdown to remodel their streets to be more bicycle-friendly.

The Legislative Analyst's Office has said that CA is not on track and lacks a clear strategy to meet our 2030 climate goals.<sup>1</sup> LAO says we need to reduce VMT by 25% & stop selling gas-powered cars by 2030; and lower VMT 30% and stop driving gas-powered cars by 2035.

Geopolitical changes such as wars and authoritarianism have added to physical constraints on the supply chain. The



Karl Jilg/Swedish Road Administration

battery on one BEV SUV could produce 200-400 eBikes. This is why the world excluding North America has decided that eBikes and smaller BEVs like mopeds and eTrikes are the way to go. We need to make safe spaces for them.

Then there is water. Tire and brake particles are the top heavy metal and microplastic contaminants in our waterways. Fuel refining is a drain on our water supply. They consume tens of millions of gallons of scarce water every day.

Then there is air pollution. A recent UCLA study shows that tailpipe emissions & tire and brake particles are 2/3 of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> air pollution that plague the LA region. <sup>2</sup>

This is related to housing and homelessness because we have been building homes in the areas with the worst air pollution, while blocking housing in the safest and cleanest areas. We are also building much more housing in the periphery in our region, far from people's jobs—making VMT reduction even more difficult.

Last, but not least, it touches upon criminal justice reform. I don't want to ride my eBike on the sidewalk any more than pedestrians want to share the sidewalk with me. But, it's sometimes the only way I can get places by bike without risking life and limb.

Yes, it's illegal to ride bicycles of all types on some sidewalks, but, if it's the least bad option, I do it. My city council representative also does it. Service workers who can't afford to commute in cars do it. But we are not treated the same. An LA Times investigation shows that black and brown bicyclists are disproportionately stopped by the police. <sup>3,4</sup>

I ride my eBike illegally on sidewalks to get to the grocery shop right in front of the police and they let me do it. Yet, Eduardo Mendoza, executive director of the Livable Communities Initiative <sup>5</sup>, received a \$400 ticket for riding in the exact same area while doing field work for his graduate research.

So, as we listen to this presentation about a local travel network that is entirely off arterial roads, but takes roundabout paths through residential neighborhoods, think about the danger to black and brown service workers who might use this network at night. Will people on NextDoor call the cops on them? Will they get home alive? Will they receive expensive traffic tickets that prevent them from paying their rent that month and wind up homeless?

We say that mobility is a human right. But we have much work to do to make it a reality.

Every inch of road space is contested. Whenever we propose to fulfill our past promises of on-street protected bike lanes, someone will show up to defend their right to that free parking spot. So we back off on road remodeling, and tell ourselves that the side roads are fine. But, we need to show up for the service workers who take care of us and then bike home at night while we sleep comfortably at home.

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1 Assessing California's Climate Policies: The 2022 Scoping Plan Update [https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4656?utm\\_source=t.co&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=4656](https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4656?utm_source=t.co&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=4656)

2 <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.est.2c02788>

3 <https://www.calbike.org/blockbuster-la-times-investigation-shows-police-bias-in-bike-stops/>

4 <https://www.latimes.com/projects/la-county-sheriff-bike-stops-analysis/>

5 <https://www.livablecommunitiesinitiative.com/about-us>

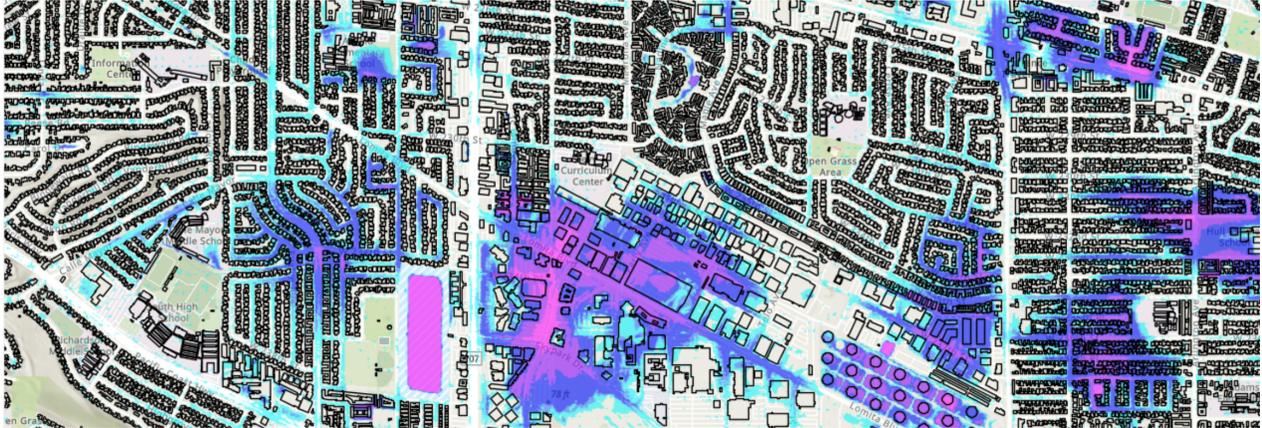
*Anyone can submit articles for inclusion in the LWVBC Voter newsletter. Do you have an idea for an article? Contact the editor, Chris Davis at [chrisdavis.lwv@gmail.com](mailto:chrisdavis.lwv@gmail.com)*

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## COMMITTEE UPDATES

# Water & Infrastructure Group (WIG)

## Talking about flood risk before the floods



If you are not attending our monthly Water and Infrastructure Group (WIG) meetings, you are really missing out. On the second Thursday of every month, we meet on Zoom and discuss a topic related to Water, Infrastructure, and Climate Change as it impacts Southern California.

We often get big name outside speakers. UC Irvine Professor Brett Saunders was part of a group of researchers that made a big splash in the premier science journal, *Nature Sustainability*, and in the *LA Times* on October 31, 2022 with their paper, [Large and inequitable flood risks in Los Angeles, California](#). He spoke to WIG ten days later on November 10, 2022. [Watch the presentation here](#).

Professor Saunders is part of a large and interdisciplinary group that collected reams of climate, geophysical and engineering data in Los Angeles and Orange County and modeled water flows using large computers. Inputs included new NOAA estimates of the range of rainfall intensities we can expect to experience due to climate change, USGS elevation and soils data, and engineering data about the size of culvert and our built stormwater system.

Their conclusion is that we are at much higher risk than previously realized. Most people correctly assume that flood risk is high near waterways such as the Los Angeles River and Ballona Creek. We build infrastructure to protect communities such as dams, levees and channelization of the LA River to hold water back or to move it away quickly. However, most people miss the risk of pluvial flooding, surface flooding due to rain. Pluvial flooding is the most common risk in the Beach Cities.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

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# Health & Wellness Committee

The Health & Wellness Committee (HWC) is focused on older adults in the Beach Cities. We will continue to follow and give input to the 10-year implementation of the California Master Plan for Aging (MPA).

Two programs we have been working with are included in the MPA.

- The Village Model where we have a relationship with the Westside Pacific Villages (WPV)
- The AARP Age-Friendly/Livable Communities Program that we are working to expand in the Beach Cities.



We are also focusing on the area of Transportation – one of the areas included in the Age-Friendly/Livable Program. We are looking into E-bike/bike safety regulations and researching the availability/convenience of local transportation for older adults who can no longer drive.

Two HWC informative presentations on Transportation: [Local Travel Network \(LTN\) 10/25 Aaron Baum & David Leger](#) and [“MOVE IT! Senior Mobility and a Healthy Community” 12/13 Grace Peng](#).

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**Did you know...**

**You can buy an annual pass to park free at some beaches if you are over 62?**

[\(Click here for more information\)](#)

**Beach Cities Health District Promotes E-Bike safety for young riders?**

[\(Click here for more information on e-bikes, risks & responsibilities, and state and local bike laws.\)](#)

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**The LWVC Convention is back IN-person in San Francisco, CA!**

**May 19-21, 2023**

at the [Hyatt Regency Downtown SOMA Hotel](#).



Get a dose of inspiration that can empower you to increase your civic engagement at the state convention on May 19–21 in San Francisco.

It's a great way to meet members across the state and learn from their experience.

Questions? Email [convention@lwvc.org](mailto:convention@lwvc.org)

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## Welcome, New Members

Please welcome the following new members who have joined since September 2022:

- Casey Dalton Schutt of Sherwood Forest
- Gina Kirkpatrick of Rolling Hills
- Pat Goodman of Redondo Beach
- Aileen Harbeck of Manhattan Beach



*New Members Are Joining*

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**Nominations are open for LWVBC Officers  
and Board Members for 2022-2024**



**Would you like to be an officer?  
Have you thought about joining the Board?**

**Now is the time - let us know that you are interested.  
We are looking for more help!**

Nominations for officer positions: President, VP, and Secretary, and Board seats, may be sent to Roz Fanello at fanellopeter@gmail.com. Consider nominating yourself as well as others! Send your Nominations NOW! The term starts in May at the Annual Meeting. Your input and participation is critical to create a strong League!

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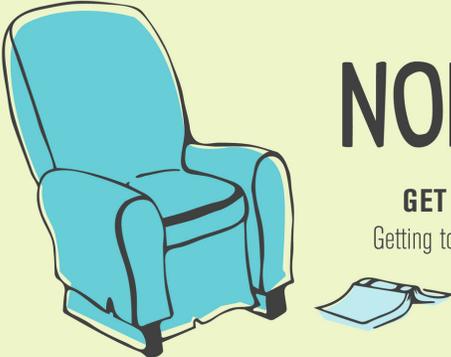
**DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS YEAR'S NON-EVENT**

**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.



**NON-EVENT EVENT!**

**GET YOUR TICKETS TO THE HOTTEST EVENT IN TOWN:**  
Getting to stay home in your pajamas with a book . . . and maybe some wine.

TICKETS TO GOING NOWHERE ARE GOING FAST!

Instead of the traditional fund-raiser that makes demands on time for planners and attendees, our **League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities** hosts an **Annual NON-EVENT** that lets you to provide support without leaving home. This saves guests and the organization both time and money by not going through the extra effort of organizing and attending an actual event. Look for your Non-Event letter in your snail-mail box soon!

"We are so excited to have you **not attend!** Cocktail hour **will not start at 5:30** and **no one is going to give a speech at 7:00 pm.** In lieu of attending this event that **no one else will be attending**, we respectfully request you do something else nice for yourself."

Your past contributions have enabled us to continue our program of voter registration, candidate forums,

citizen education, school outreach, special events and advocacy activities.

Every contribution, small or large is appreciated! Go on line to [LWVbeachcities.org](http://LWVbeachcities.org) – [Donate](#) or use the return envelope that comes with your letter. You can mail your check to 629 19th Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Be sure to enjoy your own personal non-event! LWVBC is a charitable 501C3, so your contributions are tax deductible.

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## **Who do I contact for information? LWVBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023–2024**

### **League Lingo**

Confused by some of the terms we use?

Check out our [Glossary of Terms](#)



### **THE VOTER**

League of Women Voters  
of the Beach Cities

629 19th Street  
Manhattan Beach, CA  
90266  
310 379 6663  
[www.lwvbeachcities.org](http://www.lwvbeachcities.org)

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