



NOVEMBER UNITS: GROWTH MANAGEMENT AND OPEN SPACE

The League Summer *Voter* contained an article on page 6 entitled “Managed Growth Initiative Under Attack” which was about Proposition A, the Growth Management Initiative of 1985. This is a follow-up to that article and is further background information for the November Unit discussions on Growth Management and Open Space.

In 1985 the League of Women Voters along with the Sierra Club, Common Cause, and Citizens Coordinate for Century III (C3) were part of a grassroots effort that formed the San Diegans for Managed Growth coalition which authored and shepherded Prop A, a successful ballot initiative whose purpose was to protect land identified in the General Plan as Future Urbanizing Area (as opposed to Urbanized or Planned Urbanizing). **Prop A said that “No property shall change from the ‘future urbanizing’ land use designation in the Progress Guide and General Plan to any other land use designation, and the provisions restricting development in the Future Urbanizing Area shall not be amended except by majority vote of the people voting on the change or amendment at a citywide election thereon.”** The area was to remain in an agricultural zoning with only minimal development rights permitted in that zone unless the voters approved a shift of the land to a Planned Ur-

banizing designation.

The City Council enacted implementation polices CP 600-29 and CP 600-30 and the Municipal Code and General Plan were amended to reflect this new legislation. Over the years eight development projects have been brought to a public vote with only one being rejected, and it is generally agreed that the process resulted in superior development that was respectful of the environment. The vote that failed was Prop C in 1994,



referred to as a “blank check” because it proposed to shift the entire North City Future Urbanizing Area (NCFUA) at one time into a Planned Urbanizing area status.

The proposed Rancho Del Mar development is in the flood plain of the San Dieguito River Valley. The site **would need to be elevated by approximately 14’ to protect it from flooding.** It is a high density Continuing Care Residential (Retirement) Community for seniors on nearly 22 acres which would include 224 dwelling units, a health spa and pool, exercise rooms, dining rooms, theater, lounges, bars, administrative offices and 577 parking spaces. There would also be an on-site restaurant.

(continued on page 5)

Vote with the League

For League recommendations, see front page of the (green) LWVSDC (ILO) section or <http://ca.lwv.org/assets/downloads/2012/2012-11-LWVRecommendations.pdf>

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY AND SILENT AUCTION

Monday, December 10
5-9 pm (pages 8-9)

Lunch with League

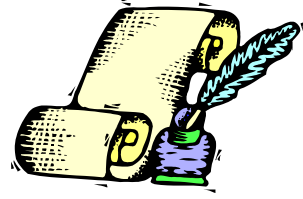
The 2012 Election's Impact on California's Finances
John Chiang
California State Controller
Thursday, November 15
11:30 am (flyer)

President's Message

Dear Members,

As you vote this year, I hope you will consider the League recommendations on the ballot propositions. You can find them online at <http://ca.lww.org/assets/downloads/2012/2012-11-LWVRecommendations.pdf>

After each "Prop talk." people come up and thank the League for their help. California's propositions are confusing and the television ads made them even more so. Along with helping at Prop talks and candidate forums, we have been participating at Politifest, Patriocracy, and putting on two luncheons. We registered new voters, testified at City Council and held a press conference, working to protect the San Dieguito River Valley. This is why it is often called "the silly season".



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San Diego

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Unfortunately the partisanship only seems to be increasing in political campaigns, which is why we are working with Mesa College, our North County LWV and others to increase civility in our community. Let's work to see a definite improvement before the next election. If you are interested in helping decrease the partisanship and improving the civility in all levels of government, from town councils to presidential races, please contact me at jhisten.brown@gmail.com.

Our committees are also busy working as a united League with members from East County on the Program, Education, Natural Resources and Holiday Party Committees, along with being on the Board. We are still looking to have one or more East County members on our Public Policy Committee. Issues such as Quail Brush Power plant and the San Dieguito River Valley project are two examples where the decisions of the City of San Diego affect the county as a whole. I'm sure that there are issues in El Cajon, La Mesa, Coronado, Chula Vista and other cities in our newly enlarged boundaries and we need to know about them. The Public Policy Committee is the place to bring up these issues and make decisions about how the League can work to engage citizens in their government. We need you to bring these issues to our attention.

If you are interested in attending a Public Policy Committee meeting, their schedule is on our website or contact Joan Dahlin at joandahlin@yahoo.com.



November 6 is fast approaching. A pox on the first person who mentions 2016! Let's have a break.

— Your Co-President, Jeanne Brown

LWVSD CALENDARS


We do our best to make sure everything is correct when we go to press. If changes happen, up-to-date information can be found on our Google Calendar: <http://lwvsandiego.org/calendar.html>

Unit Calendar — November — Prop A: Growth Management and Open Space


No Unit Meetings in December

Sat, Nov 10 10 am-noon	East County	El Cajon Library, Community Room 201 East Douglas Avenue, El Cajon 92020	Marietta Lassaline...619-448-6270
Sat, Nov 10 10 am-noon	Southeastern	Malcolm X Library, Multi-media Room 5138 Market Street, San Diego 92105	Sue Rogers.....619-233-1744
Mon. Nov 12 9:30-11:30 am	Rancho Bernardo & Scripps Ranch	The Gateway – TV Room 858-487-1197 12751 Gateway Park Rd. Poway 92064	Claire Weiner.....858-679-7350 Betsy Stevens.....858-451-5653
Tues, Nov 13 9:30-11:30 am	La Jolla	La Jolla Community Center 6811 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla 92037	Joan Dahlin.....858-454-5019
Tues, Nov 13 1-3 pm	University City	North University City Community Library 8820 Judicial Drive, San Diego 92122	Mariette Kobrak....858. 450-1521 Catherine Stoll.....858-755-4119
Wed, Nov 14 1-3 pm	Tierrasanta	Tierrasanta Library 4985 La Cuenta Drive, San Diego 92124	Carole Porter.....858-279-5474
Wed, Nov 14 5:30-7:30 pm	Mission Valley	Mission Valley Library, Meeting Room A Fenton Pkwy., near Ikea, San Diego, 92108	Debra Blum.....619-225-0353
Thurs, Nov 15 9:30-11:30 am	East San Diego	College Rolando Library 6600 Montezuma Road, San Diego 92115	Barbara Evje.....619-463-0673

LWVSD Board/Committee Meetings — November - December

1st Fri	Nov 2	10 am	LWVSDC ILO Board, Scripps Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Dr, San Diego 92131
1st Tues	Nov 6	4 pm	LWVSD Board, 3rd floor conference room, 7710 Balboa Avenue, San Diego 92111
1st Thurs	Nov 8	9:30 am	Unit Council, Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library, 9005 Aero Dr., San Diego 92123
Thurs First Meeting	Nov 8	9:30 am	FDA Future Study Committee, League office, 7710 Balboa Ave., Ste. 224A, San Diego 92111. We will research how the FDA operates and is funded for approving medications in anticipation of proposing it as a national study in 2014. Meetings will probably be bi-monthly for about eight months. If you are interested or were inspired by Donald Light's presentation at the October luncheon, help us design a scope for the study and do some "at home" research. Beryl Flom, 858-459-4406, edflom@sbcglobal.net
			
2nd Fri	Nov 9	9:30 am	Public Policy Committee, County Administration Building
2nd Wed	Nov 14	9:30 am	Education Committee Meeting, 3160 Camino del Rio S., suite 101, San Diego 92108
3rd Fri	Nov 16	9:30 am	Program Committee, 4374 Santa Cruz Ave, San Diego 92107
1st Tues	Dec 4	4 pm	LWVSD Board, 3rd floor conference room, 7710 Balboa Avenue, San Diego 92111
2nd Wed	Dec 12	9:30 am	Education Committee Meeting, San Diego County Office of Education
2nd Fri	Dec 14	9:30 am	Public Policy Committee, Tierrasanta Library, 4985 La Cuenta Drive, San Diego 92124

Special Events — November – December

Fri, Nov 9, 6 pm.	Women's Museum Celebrates Women of Broadcast History. See page 6.	
Sat, Nov 10, noon-2 pm	Common Cause Meeting (with LWVSD), Mission Valley Library. See Google calendar.	
Thurs, Nov 15, 11:30 am	Lunch with League: California State Controller John Chiang. See flyer.	
Mon, Dec 10, 5 pm	LWVSD Holiday Party; The Good Samaritan Church hall. See pages 8, 9.	
Sat, Dec 15, morning	Redevelopment Forum with Rep. Toni Atkins, Sen. Darrell Steinberg, and others; check Google Calendar for details. http://lwvsandiego.org/calendar.html	

El Cajon is Now a Charter City



In the June 2012 election, Proposition D in the City of El Cajon passed by a 58% to 42% margin. This proposition changed the City of El Cajon from a general law city to a charter city. In California 120

cities have changed to charter cities.

General law cities draw their powers from the state while charter cities have more legal and financial flexibility. Charter cities are able to adopt ordinances on matters of local concern without having to seek authority under state law. Charter cities must still comply with state law relating to employer-employee relations, conflicts of interest, environmental protection, governmental transparency, and other matters of statewide concern. The California and United States Constitutions apply to both general law and charter cities.

Key provisions of the charter include:

- The City is granted all powers that may be exercised in a charter city over its municipal affairs, and further provides that all local laws in conflict with the charter remain in effect unless repealed, amended, changed, or superseded.
- The existing Council/City Manager form of government remains as well as the method of electing the Mayor.
- The City is exempted from state statutes regulating public contracting and purchasing except as provided by the charter, an ordinance, or an agreement ap-



proved by the City Council. Public Works contracts for less than \$50,000 will be exempt from public bidding and follow procedures for open market hiring of contractors, or purchase of supplies, set by the City Council. The Council establishes all aspects of the bidding, award, and performance of contracts greater than \$50,000.

In order to avoid the issue with the new state law withholding grant funds if a city bans Project Labor Agreements, the charter would prohibit the City Council from requiring the payment of prevailing wages on City public works contracts unless prevailing wages are required by state or federal grants or laws, the contract does not involve a municipal affair or is paid for (in whole or part) using state or federal funds, or the contract requiring the payment of prevailing wages is authorized by the City Council.

Those in favor of a charter city claim it will save millions of dollars, promote fair and open competition for all city projects, allow greater protection from unfair state revenue grabs and unfunded mandates by Sacramento, provide maximum constitutional authority over municipal affairs, and continue the existing Council-Manager form of government.

Those against a charter city say job opportunities will shrink and lead to substandard construction that taxpayers will have to pay to fix which will be especially hard in El Cajon which has a high percentage of population living below the poverty line.

— Donna Bartlett-May, Co-President

Membership

The "Yearbook" with the calendar, Board lists and roster for 2012-13 has been printed and is available at the office or at Unit meetings. Other information that used to be in the Yearbook is now on the website. Some people have re-joined since it was published:

Barbara Filner - 92115; Mike Jenkins - 92115; Jacque Nevels - 92037; and Beatrice Parnes - 92122.

Remember that no one is staffing the office now, so call or email if you are coming by. The office phone is 858-483-8696 and the email is lwvsd@san.rr.com.

— Beryl Flom. Vice President



(continued from front page)

Last December, at the applicant's request, the Development Services Department (DSD) brought the proposal to the Planning Commission for the sole purpose of asking Commissioners if they thought the project could be **identified as an "Intermediate Care Facility" with the hope that if it could be so identified then, according to the applicant's attorney, the development could proceed** under Conditional Use Permit (CUP) conditions in place in 1984 and would somehow not be subject to the 1985 Prop A vote requirement. This is based on the contention that Intermediate Care Facilities were permitted in an agricultural zone in 1984.

Attorneys for the Sierra Club, Joint Powers Authority for the San Dieguito River Park and the Protect San Dieguito River Valley Coalition disagree. The definition of an Intermediate Care Facility in the Health and Safety Code is: **". . . a health facility that provides inpatient care to ambulatory and non-ambulatory patients who have recurring need for skilled nursing supervision and need supportive care . . ."** **But even this use is specifically prohibited by a land use ordinance passed in 1990 to implement the initiative and therefore would not be allowed without a public vote.**

Further, both the North City FUA Framework Plan (a part of the General Plan) and City Council Policy 600-29 make it clear that in order for a CUP to proceed in **what are now called "Proposition A Lands," the project must be natural resource dependent, non-urban in character and scale, or of an interim nature which would not result in an irrevocable commitment of the land precluding future uses.** Rancho Del Mar meets none of these requirements.

Other findings that the Council must make to approve a CUP include:

- a) The proposed development will not adversely affect the applicable land use plan;
- b) The proposed development will not be detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare;
- c) The proposed development will comply with the

regulations of the Land Development Code including any allowable deviations pursuant to the Land Development Code; and

- d) The proposed use is appropriate at the proposed location.

Jeanne Brown, Joan Dahlin, Diane Coombs, Consultant Jay Powell, and Protect San Dieguito River Coalition member Cory Hao met with Sherri Lightner recently as a follow up to communication requesting that the City Council Housing and Land Use Committee (LU&H) schedule a workshop on enforcement of the Managed Growth Initiative and review the status of all remaining Prop A lands in the City. It became clear that in order to do this we would need the practical approval of the Office of the Mayor, which seems unlikely.

As of this writing, concerned individuals and organizations, including the League, are planning a news conference for Monday, October 22 prior to the 2 pm City Council meeting with the intent of speaking during the public comment period at the beginning of the meeting. The purpose of the press conference is to bring attention to how the City appears to be circumventing the intent of Prop A with respect to the Rancho Del Mar Project and violating the sanctity of the citizens initiative to require a public vote to urbanize open space lands zoned for agricultural uses.

These issues plus a broader look at open space based **on the County LWV land use position which states, " . . . promotes conservation of critical natural resources, including valuable agricultural lands and open space, and protects or improves air and water quality," will be part of the November Unit discussions.**

According to SANDAG, "The San Diego region is a "hot spot" for biodiversity and species endangerment, containing more rare, threatened and endangered species than any comparable land area in the continental United States." That is why we have a special responsibility to encourage development that protects habitat and respects the environment.

— Joan Dahlin, Director, Public Policy



Fall 2012 Candidate Forums

One part of Voter Service is to have trained moderating teams available to respond to requests from community groups for the League to moderate their candidate forums.

This fall, 14 members of the San Diego League served on moderating teams for Candidate Forums being sponsored by various community groups.

The League has a time-tested format for candidate forums and specific requirements that must be agreed to in order for a moderating team to be made available. A League moderating team includes a moderator, a time-keeper, and at least one question sorter. On some occasions, pages who collect the questions are also available from the League.

Beginning in September, we sent moderating teams to six forums which included those for city council candidates in Santee, Imperial Beach, and Poway, and school board candidates in San Diego and Poway.

Donna Bartlett-May and Joan Eisenhower organized League-sponsored candidate forums for city councils in La Mesa and El Cajon.

If you are interested in becoming part of a San Diego League moderating team, please phone or e-mail the League office.



— Mary Jean Word, Voter Service

WOMEN'S MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA

celebrates ●●●●●●●●

RECEPTION • DINNER • PROGRAM
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2012



Women of Broadcast History

Friday, November 9, 2012

6 pm Reception ~ Drawings

7 pm Dinner ~ Program

McMillin Event Center, 2875 Dewey Road, San Diego 92106

\$125 per guest \$100 per guest (groups of 4+)

To purchase tickets, please go to
www.womensmuseumca.org

Or send a check to Women's Museum

Proceeds to benefit the Women's Museum of California

Presenters Include:

Geni Cavitt

Kathi Diamant

Carol LeBeau

Gayle Falkenthal

Marti Emerald

Allison Ross

Bree Walker

Dr. Natasha Josefowitz



**With a Special Tribute
to Gloria Penner
(1931-2012)**

San Diego County Redistricting



Last year Supervisor Greg Cox proposed that San Diego County redistricting should have future redistricting lines drawn by a commission of retired judges. He explained that this was step one in a three-step process.

Cox's proposal would first have to be passed by the San Diego Board of Supervisors. The proposal passed 4-1. (Horn opposed).

The second step was to have the California State Legislature pass a bill that gave authority over redistricting for San Diego County to an independent commission. Senator Christine Kehoe introduced the bill that would create a panel of five former judges that would hold at least seven public hearings and adopt a map for the five San Diego supervisorial districts after the next census in 2020. That bill was signed into law by Governor Brown on September 24, 2012. Our county is the only one that was included in that law. There were those who wished that this commission were composed of individual citizens but that seemed too diffi-

cult to get through that legislature. Retired judges are often suggested as an alternative to citizens when looking for redistricting commissions.

The third step will be for County voters to approve changes to the County Charter for those changes to take effect. The League will be following the progress of this third step. Once completed, it will make San Diego County the only county in California and possibly in the U.S. that will have their redistricting done independent from politicians. It would also make San Diego City citizens the only ones to have their city, county, state and congressional redistricting done by an independent commission. We can and should be a model for the rest of the country. Now will our elected officials live up to it?

— Jeanne Brown, Co-President



ABCs of the Parent Trigger Law

The Parent Empowerment Law, or the "Parent Trigger," is an historic new law that gives parents in California the right to transform their child's failing school. If 51% of parents at a failing school come together and sign a petition, they have the power to force their school district to transform their school in one of five options:

1. Turnaround - It forces the school district to push the reset button by bringing in 60% new staff and a new principal.
2. Transformation – It forces the school district to find a new principal and make a few other changes.
3. Charter Conversion – Parents can choose a charter school program that will continue to serve all the same students that have always attended the school.
4. Bargaining Power – If parents want smaller changes than those laid out in the other options, parents can use their signatures as bargaining power for whatever changes they want.
5. Closure – This option would close the school altogether and send the students to other, higher-performing schools nearby.



For detailed information on schools that are eligible for the Parent Trigger Law, go to www.upfored.org.

— Penny Adler, Chair, Education Committee





LWVSD Holiday Party Silent Auction — What can you donate?

Most of us no longer want more things; we want more experiences and we want to continue to learn. So, as we did last year, think about what you could donate this year that other League members would love to experience and/or learn. Could you donate

- 1) a couple of days or a week in your condo or time-share?
- 2) a lesson on how to knit, crochet, play mahjong?
- 3) bridge lessons?
- 4) babysitting?
- 5) a tutoring session in one of your best subjects?
- 6) a lesson in grant-writing?
- 7) landscape consultation?
- 8) a lesson in Powerpoint or other computer skill?
- 9) a ride on your yacht or plane? or
- 10) whatever you are passionate about and would love to pass on.

Got a donation idea? Please fill out the form below and send it into the office at by November 7.



LWVSD Holiday Party Silent Auction Donation Form

Item _____ Estimated Retail Value \$ _____

Description _____

Name of Donor/Business/Contact Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please copy this for your files and return this form with your donation to:

League of Women Voters of San Diego, 7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224 A, San Diego, CA 92111

858-483-8696 lwvsd@san.rr.com www.lwvsandiego.org

*The League of Women Voters of San Diego
Invites You and Your Guests to*

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY AND SILENT AUCTION

Monday, December 10, 2012 -- 5-9 p.m.

*Come enjoy friends, a catered traditional turkey and ham dinner at 6 p.m.,
guitarist Kice Simko and bassist Paul Tillery, and the Silent Auction.*

\$35 per person (cash or checks)

GOOD SAMARITAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ROETTER HALL
4321 Eastgate Mall, San Diego, CA 92122
(Same location as the last holiday party)

Make checks payable to LWVSD and mail to:

7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224 A, San Diego, CA 92111 Phone: 858-483-8696.

Or go to the League website at www.lwvsandiego.org and click on the "Donate" button.

Use 'Holiday Party' as the purpose.

For more information: Jeanne Brown at (619) 857-1807 or jhisten.brown@gmail.com



LWVSD Holiday Party Monday, December 10, 2012



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Amount enclosed (\$35 per person) _____. Please respond by December 6, 2012

I am unable to attend but wish to support the LWVSD with a donation of \$_____



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
 OF SAN DIEGO
 7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224 A
 San Diego CA 92111
 858-483-8696

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 San Diego, CA
 Permit No. 422

TIME-DATED MATERIAL ENCLOSED

LWVSD Diversity Policy

The LWVSD, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there should be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League of Women Voters on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. LWVSD recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. LWVSD subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the **values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.** LWVSD affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Americans in its Board, staff, and programs.

JOIN THE LEAGUE

___ Individual Membership \$65 (yearly) ___ Additional Household Memberships \$35 ___

___ I am unable to join at this time, but I am enclosing a tax-deductible* contribution of:

\$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$150 ___ Other _____ ___ Please contact me with more information

Name(s) _____ Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone(s) _____ E-Mail _____

How did you hear about LWV? _____

Please make your check payable to: League of Women Voters of San Diego
 7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224a San Diego, CA 92111 Phone: 858-483-8696

* To be tax-deductible, please make check to LWVSD Education Fund.