

The ILO represents the Leagues of San Diego City and North County.

Summer 2012

SAN DIEGO COUNTY BUDGET MONITORING PROJECT



The San Diego County Board of Supervisors is poised to approve a two-year budget for 2012-2012 and 2013-2014 on August 7, 2012. The first year is an actual

budget. The second year is a proposed plan which **helps guide county planning until next year's budget cycle is completed.** For 2012-2013, the budget is \$4.80 million. This includes 16,010.75 staff years. For 2013-2014, the proposal is for \$4.65 million and 16,114.75 staff years. You will note a very slight decrease in the budget dollars and an increase in the staff years.

It is important to understand the structure of the San Diego County budget because all money is allocated to specific areas. Every citizen of San Diego County receives some services from the County of San Diego. San Diego County organizes its services into five (5) areas. Just read over this list and marvel at the complexity of services offered and the budget of each service area.

2012-13 Proposed Budget

Following is the category (with the various departments under that category), the cost for 2011-2012 Adopted Budget (in millions) and what percentage of the adopted budget goes to that area. Following each area is the amount, percent of total budget and percentage of adopted staffing for the last fiscal year 2011-2012.

1. Public Safety **\$1,446.1.....30.3%**
 Includes Sheriff, San Diego County Fire Authority, Public Defender, Medical Examiner, Emergency Services, **District Attorney, Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board, Child Support, and Executive Office.** 44.3% of SDC staffing.
2. Health and Human Services \$1,928.9 40.5%
 Strategic Planning & Operational Support, Regional Operations, Public Health Services, Public Administrator/Public Guardian, Child Welfare Services, Behavioral Health Services, Aging & Independence Services, Administrative Support. 33.3% of SDC staffing.
3. Land Use & Environment Group \$387.9 8.1%
 Public Works, Planning & Land Use, Parks & Recreation, Farm & Home Advisor, Executive Office, Environmental Health, Air Pollution Control District, Agriculture, Weights & Measures. 9.1% of SDC staffing.
4. Community Services Group \$302.7 5.9%
 Registrar of Voters, Redevelopment Agency, Purchasing & Contracting, Housing and Community Development, General Services, Executive Office, County Library, Animal Services. 6.0% of SDC staffing.
5. Finance & General Government \$340.8 7.1%
 Treasurer/Tax Collector, Human Resources, Grand Jury, Executive Office, County Technology Office, County Counsel, County Communications Office, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Civil Service Commission, Auditor & Controller, Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk. 7.4% of SDC staffing.

— Anne Omsted, ILO Budget Chair

League of Women Voters
San Diego County ILO
Board of Directors 7/12 - 6/14

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Marge West Memorial

A well attended memorial was held at Wilder-
ness Gardens Preserve in Pala for former ILO
President Marge West. Benches dedicated to
Marge have been placed at the Preserve

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Read all about LWVUS Conven-
tion on the LWVUS website. See
videos of the speakers.

California was a force at the LWVUS
Convention in June and San Diego
County was exceptionally well repre-
sented by nine delegates.



We promoted California's Smart Vot-
er and League Easy Web, attended workshps and caucus-
es, worked to pass program items and heard inspiring
speakers. Among those who spoke were Attorney Gen-
eral Eric Holder, political pollster John Zogby, DC's Elea-
nor Holmes Norton, and Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Profes-
sor of Communication at the Annenberg School and the
Director of the Annenberg Public policy Center at the
University of Pennsylvania.

Jamieson challenged us to participate in the program
"Stand By Your Ad" to reduce false political advertising by
using flackcheck.org and factcheck.org. Please watch her
video at [http://library.lwv.org/content/address-kathleen-
hall-jamieson-convention-2012](http://library.lwv.org/content/address-kathleen-hall-jamieson-convention-2012).

In addition to the adoption of positions and budgets, there
was much more to absorb. The Florida League and others
were applauded for their fierce battles against policies that
disenfranchise voters. Eleanor Holmes Norton, non-voting
Delegate to the United States Congress representing the
District of Columbia, and the DC League still want full en-
franchisement for their citizens. The importance of cam-
paign reform was mentioned again and again. The conven-
tion adopted the LWVUS Board-recommended compre-
hensive program to educate members and communities
on the issue of campaign finance.

There is not enough space here to tell you all how im-
portant it is to attend a convention at the national level.
Your leaders shared ideas, become energized and learned
in person about the awesome work of other local
Leagues.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

— Roni Seay, President

EDUCATION



The California County Superintendent's Association (CCSESA) was successful in being awarded a California Mental Health Services Act grant. The grant is a regional K-12 Student Mental Health Initiative. See: <http://stanislausmhsa.com/pdf/public/5-30-12/Region%206%20SMHI%20summary.pdf>

One member of the SDC school board spoke passionately about the importance of pre-K and early childhood education. He stated that he would put together a resolution proclaiming such if a draft were presented to him. I will frame one using our new LWVU position on education.

I want ILO to form a coalition of healthcare and education stakeholders to advocate for children from birth to three years. The most current peer-reviewed research concluded that these years are critical for future education success.

— Adrienne Schere, Director, Education

You can find a longer version of this article on our website:

<http://sdcilo.ca.lwvnet.org/>

LWV of San Diego County Convention May 16, 2012

At its convention the LWV of San Diego County, an Inter-League Organization (ILO), elected new officers and directors for two-year terms (see page 2). It adopted a budget. It voted to retain all current program positions and to update the Structure of Government in San Diego County and Region position with a focus on San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

Retiring Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (in photo) and North County Magazine Editor Miriam Raftery spoke about County Government and the need for free and diverse voices in the media respectively.

We sincerely honored two long-time League leaders, Anita Reith and Liz Kruidenier, and presented them with certificates and orchid plants.

Board members from other local Leagues attended our Board training/planning meeting in June, conducted by Sylvia Hampton. Effective communication with the public and among the Leagues in the County was emphasized



— Roni Seay, President

Quail Brush Power Plant

San Diego League and the ILO opposes the Quail Brush Community Plan Amendment which would make way for a fossil fuel generation plant which would affect the County as much as the City. League believes the plant is both unnecessary and against League policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



San Dieguito River Park and Prop A

The LWVSD and the ILO are opposing the Rancho Del Mar development in San Diego which would adversely affect the River Park and is in violation of Prop A which was passed with LWVSD support in 1985. LWVSD is part of a coalition to oppose this development.



Statement by the League of Women Voters of San Diego County

To: San Diego County Board of Supervisors

Re: General Plan Amendment Workplan
Options for Property Specific Requests

On June 20 ILO Natural Resources Director Josan Feathers tried to present this letter to the San Diego Board of Supervisors. But because of time constraints and arcane BOS rules, neither she nor Nan Valerio (on June 27) were allowed to speak. The letter was carried in the Voice of San Diego.

The League of Women Voters has commented throughout the evolution of the General Plan, supporting the principles of compact growth, livable village communities, preservation of habitat and open space, as well as identifying and safeguarding agricultural land. The League of Women Voters emphasized the need to enforce fire-safe development. Additionally, it highlighted the belief that in regard to land **use planning and regulation, “government must provide** for involvement of citizens in the earliest planning and regulatory stages and throughout the process, developing mechanisms to minimize conflict of interest on the **part of persons who make land use decisions.”** Those principles and beliefs are now being jeopardized by the **Board of Supervisors’ recommendation to process private General Plan amendments at the public’s expense.**

What is at stake here is the increased density of almost 16,000 acres consisting predominantly of sensitive wildlife habitat, agricultural land, steep slopes, wetlands and even flood plains contrary to the principles of the new General Plan. The requests under consider-

ation are not minor changes. These properties, when developed, will be incompatible with surrounding properties requiring changes in the General Plan’s Land Use map and/or Mobility Element network, in turn, impacting the Transportation Impact Fee program. Some requests also include evaluation of additional properties beyond the original request in order to maintain consistency in land use mapping. Consequently, the County’s professional planning staff recommended that none of the requests be adopted.

The direct transfer of up to \$1.56 million tax dollars, with no public benefit and considerable private gain, to a select group of landowners would be compounded by permanent public subsidies to provide

infrastructure and services to dispersed development, exacerbated by the creation of even more development in high fire hazard areas. Typically, the project proponent pays for the costs of the General Plan amendment, not the taxpayers. These subsidies are inappropriate; private profit needs to be privately funded. The County has already expended too many taxpayer dollars deliberating over these landowners’ requests. To avoid further conflict of interest implications, all future funding should be at the expense of the property owners.

The League of Women Voters of San Diego County believes that this General Plan Amendment Workplan is fiscally and environmentally irresponsible. Landowners need to pay for their own General Plan amendments and follow the regulations. We urge the Board to adhere to the principles and guidelines of the General Plan which you adopted just last year.

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