

## Positions in Brief – LWVFA *(with dates)*

A summary of LWVFA positions, *as updated September, 2011*

For complete wording, see *Here We Stand, 2008 edition-revised 6/2009, 4/2010, 6/2010, & Republished 2011*

*Here We Stand* also on LWVFA website – Action page: [www.lwv-fairfax.org](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org)

### GOVERNMENT

#### **Fairfax County & City of Fairfax (1987-1996)**

Support an effective, responsible and accountable form of government that includes opportunities for citizen participation in the decision-making process by scheduling time for public comment at board and council meetings and holding magisterial district town meetings in the county. Support for the concept of an independent auditor for program review.

#### **Fiscal (1970s-2008)**

Support for an effectively administered, equitable tax system and the sale of bonds for capital improvements including the construction and renewal of school facilities. If additional revenue is needed, and in order to diversify the tax system and reduce reliance on the property tax, a combination of adjusting the rates on existing taxes and/or fees and enacting new taxes and/or fees should be considered.

#### **Public Libraries (1984-2006)**

Support for selection policies and procedures of the Fairfax County Public Libraries (FCPL) that ensure its collection contains a wide variety of books, digital resources, and other materials representing a diversity of views to serve the educational, informational and recreational needs of the residents of Fairfax County/City.

#### **Registration and Voting**

Support efforts to increase voter registration and voter participation in Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax.

#### **Transportation (1981-2004)**

Support for an effective, well-coordinated and adequately financed system of public transportation in Fairfax County/City, and an active role by Fairfax County in the planning of its road system and the financing of road improvements

### NATURAL RESOURCES

#### **Environmental Quality (E.Q)**

- **Solid Waste (1980-1990)**  
Support measures to protect the public and the environment and to encourage alternative methods of disposal of solid wastes. Source

reduction, as well as reuse and recycling, should be emphasized over incineration and land filling.

- **Hazardous Materials (1985-1994)**  
Support establishment and maintenance by Fairfax County and Fairfax City of a comprehensive local hazardous materials program, including safe disposal of hazardous waste, to protect the public and environment.
- **Sensitive Areas (1988-1994)**  
Non-tidal wetlands are a valuable resource that is in need of protection from destruction by conversion to other uses. Both tidal and non-tidal wetlands should be protected against damage from sedimentation and pollution.
- **Air Quality (1992)**  
To achieve and maintain acceptable air quality, development of less polluting alternative fuels should be a high priority with preference for compressed natural gas, reformulated gasoline, electricity and hydrogen. Support for a change in parking subsidies away from those favoring low occupancy vehicles to those favoring efficient transportation modes.
- **Climate Change (2009)**  
Localities must play a significant role in addressing the causes of climate change. The League supports and encourages the County and City of Fairfax to adopt and carry out programs that will minimize the causes and effects of climate change. The League also supports the coordination of these efforts with those of other localities.

#### **Land Use Planning (1984-2000)**

Support for well-coordinated and environmentally sound comprehensive land use planning in Fairfax County/City, efforts to ensure that growth is balanced and orderly, preservation of historic and archaeological sites and areas, coordinated revitalization and redevelopment, and coordination of land use and transportation planning.

#### **Water (1990s)**

Support for Fairfax County taking measures necessary to effectively protect the Occoquan Reservoir from pollution.

## **SOCIAL POLICY**

### **Health Care (1984-1988)**

Support publicly funded health planning to control costs and support Fairfax County/City having a role in the health care of its citizens, which should include participation in programs that subsidize health care for the medically indigent through private physicians and primary care clinics placed in appropriate locations. Support for an aggressive, community-based out-reach program to inform the public about available health care programs

### **Human Services (1976-1990)**

Support equal opportunity for education, employment and housing; promote provision of services for the elderly; work to ensure adequate, affordable and appropriate housing for low-and moderate-income families and individuals; support a wide range of housing arrangements for mentally disabled adults; and support permanent shelters for homeless families and individuals.

### **Judicial System (2000)**

Support court, correctional and law enforcement systems for Fairfax County/City that are conducted in a just and dignified manner; that minister to all people without legal, economic or administrative discrimination; that require efficient administration and competent personnel who are given a clear assignment of responsibility and adequate financing; that require proper planning and coordination between related agencies; and that encourage the active and informed participation of citizens.

### **Juvenile Problems (1994)**

Support measures for problem youth whereby the major goal of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court for Fairfax County/City is the protection and rehabilitation of problem youth. Support for alternatives to detention and a variety of individual and group homes located throughout the county/city, in preference to institutions. These facilities should provide for separation of various types of juveniles according to their individual needs.

### **Schools (2007-2008, 2010)**

Promote equal opportunity for a quality education in Fairfax County/City schools. Support for proper planning; competent administration; full-day kindergarten and minimum of 20-minute daily recess in all elementary schools; programs to meet special needs;

adequate personnel, facilities and financing; well defined channels for community input and review; and appropriate books and materials to support and enhance the instructional program.