



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CORVALLIS

Monthly Newsletter

SAVE THE DATES

1/11 - Priority Setting
- see p. 3

1/18 - Legislative Update
Universal Healthcare
- see p. 3

1/23 - How to Engage
with the City of Corvallis
- see p. 2

1/31 - Your City
Services Bill Explained
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

League Friends,

Mark your calendars, 2023 is shaping up to be a very busy year for our League. Membership meeting, Legislative Updates, Know Your City, Housing Equity, Health Care, and an informational presentation on the Justice Center Bond measure are among the events coming up in the next several months. It never ceases to amaze me how many of these events our local league, often in conjunction with local partners, puts together. You can probably see the pitch coming - each event requires volunteers to organize, contact speakers, arrange venues, etc. With COVID over the past few years, much of the volunteer activity was hidden away as we interacted almost entirely via a zoom screen, but that activity was nonetheless critical to each event's success. We are now trying some in-person meetings. Several of our upcoming meeting will be held in-person or in a hybrid format and volunteers for set up, take down, tech support, and other tasks will be important for a smooth event. Please [contact me](#) if you are able to help.

Speaking of volunteer efforts, I hope everyone has sampled a grapefruit delivered to your door by a cadre of volunteers led by fruit sale organizers Katrina Wirth and Louise Marquering. Proceeds from the fruit sale go toward renting rooms, conducting studies, advertising, all of the things that cost money but are necessary to our mission of Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy!

One last item. Many of you may already have received an email from the City about Community Conversations. This is a land use questionnaire the city sends out every five years and is your chance to let the city know what you like, don't like, and envision for the future. You can also see results from the 2017 Conversation. Check it out at Corvallis Community Conversations (www.corvallisoregon.gov/cd/page/corvallis-community-conversations-land-use-questionnaire).

In League,

Connie Bozarth, President LWVC
bozarthclwvc@gmail.com

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KNOW YOUR CITY PROGRAMS RETURN FOR 5TH YEAR

Katherine Bremser, Community Planning Committee

Become better informed and more involved in your city by attending this year’s free Know Your City series. All residents are welcome.

Both sessions start at 7 pm and can be attended in person at the Corvallis Community Center, 2601 NW Tyler Ave., or online via Zoom.

HOW TO ENGAGE WITH THE CITY

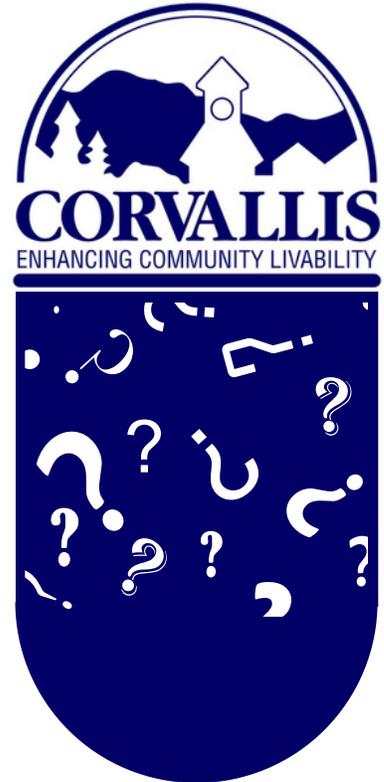
7:00 PM | MONDAY, JANUARY 23
 CORVALLIS COMMUNITY CENTER OR VIA ZOOM
LWV.CORVALLIS.OR.US/EVENTS/

Learn how to get answers to questions and provide input to City actions. Join Corvallis public Information Officer Patrick Rollens to learn more on January 23.

YOUR CITY SERVICES BILL EXPLAINED

7:00 PM | TUESDAY, JANUARY 31
 CORVALLIS COMMUNITY CENTER OR VIA ZOOM
LWV.CORVALLIS.OR.US/EVENTS/

Learn why you no longer get a water bill but a bigger monthly bill. What does this bill pay for and how does it affect property taxes? Join Hal Brauner, former City Councilor who chaired the task force that studied the City’s financial needs and how to best meet them, on January 31.



PRIORITY SETTING MEETING

For State and Local League

6:00 - 7:30 PM | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11
 VIA ZOOM | [LWV.CORVALLIS.OR.US/EVENTS/](https://lww.corvallis.or.us/events/)

Mark your calendar today for what promises to be a great opportunity to engage with the League!

Every year our League members come together to discuss our priorities for the year ahead. We will look at the LWV Corvallis, Oregon and National positions that drive our work. Hear updates from State Action Committee members about priorities for the upcoming Oregon Legislative session. In addition, attendees will have an opportunity to share what they see as critical local issues for study and/or action by our League.

This will be an interactive zoom meeting, with active questions and discussion. Come and meet fellow League members and provide your input on the priorities for the year(s) ahead!



READ

Our Positions | LWV of Oregon
 (www.lwvor.org/our-positions)
 Our Positions – LWV Corvallis
 (lww.corvallis.or.us/about/where-we-stand/)

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE REPORT ON UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

An Informational Program

7:00 - 8:30 PM | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
 VIA ZOOM | [LWV.CORVALLIS.OR.US/EVENTS/](https://lww.corvallis.or.us/events/)

Oregon is once again leading the nation in the reform of health care. The Joint Task Force on Universal Health Care presented its report on system transformation to the legislature. Hear their findings and recommendations and what it might mean for you at this webinar. [Register online.](#)

SPEAKERS

Dr. Bruce Goldberg, Task Force Chair
 Warren George, Task Force Member
 Senator James Manning, Oregon Legislature



SPONSORS

Mid Valley Health Care Advocates, The League of Women Voters of Linn County and of Corvallis, NAACP, and Health Care for All Oregon and its Linn County Chapter

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

A Request from Connie Bozarth, President

Legislative Updates will be in person this year in the library meeting room. We will need volunteers to help with set up, take down, and management of the meeting. The dates are February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6 and June 3 and the time is 10-11:30 am.

We would need set up help from 9:30 and take down help for 15-20 minutes after the meeting. Also, anyone know how to run a hybrid meeting? We are not planning hybrid meetings but could if we had someone to make it happen.

This is a great way to get involved with the League and can be a one-time or series commitment. Email Connie to sign up at bozarthclwvc@gmail.com.



WHY ELIMINATE PARKING MANDATES?

by Katherine Bremser, Community Planning

As part of the implementation of the new state Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities rules, Corvallis will no longer have minimum mandates for off-street parking for new developments approved after January 1.

Why is the state requiring parking reforms for communities? Off-street parking makes housing and business development more expensive. It requires land to be set aside and paved for vehicle storage rather than additional housing, reducing profit producing development.

It reduces housing density and makes the area less walkable. It encourages expanding our city's boundaries, using resource land for development rather than agriculture or recreation. It discourages residents from using other means of transportation because it is easier and quicker to use a personal vehicle. This contributes to one of the state's main sources of air, water, and climate pollution.

On the other hand, reducing available parking may be painful, frustrating and polluting as drivers look for a parking spot, either in shopping areas or in their neighborhoods. Residents may need their cars to get to work.

Part of the challenge will be for Corvallis to find the right balance. There will be the need to create walkable neighborhoods where residents can work, shop, play, and get their children to school and activities. We will also need to strengthen our mass transit



system with buses running more frequently with more convenient stops and connections to all parts of the community. We also need to build safe opportunities and support for other modes of transportation, including walking, bicycling, roller blading, etc.

For more information, view the resources on the Department of Land Conservation & Development webpage: www.oregon.gov/lcd/CL/Pages/CFEC.aspx.

HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by Karyle Butcher

Because of the holiday we had but one meeting in December, which was, however, excellent. Allison Hobgood of the Daytime Drop-in Center shared plans for a proposed Navigation Center, the purpose of which would be to have a single point where those who are unsheltered can find the resources they need - whether it is housing, social services, health services, and so on. The latest iteration of the proposed justice system bond includes funding for a Navigation Center. The concept is patterned after similar centers and is a part of the HOPE Advisory Board recommendations.

Penny York once more organized a small group to fill holiday gift bags which will be distributed to our unhoused population. The event was well organized and within 30 minutes, we had filled 25 bags which included among other things, gloves, a hat, a scarf, and various snacks and hygiene items. The bags will be distributed by the Street Outreach and Response Team, a part of the Daytime Drop-in Center.



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