



League of Women Voters
of the Bay Area



LWVBA VOTER

April 25, 2015

Plan Bay Area Update

Public open houses are being held in each of the 9 counties in the Bay Area to begin the process of updating Plan Bay Area, which was adopted in 2013. We encourage you to attend an open house in your area, as an individual, to suggest what should be the priorities for the next round. LWVBA will suggest official statements as the process moves forward in 2016.

Bay Area residents will begin a public discussion about the region's future growth at a series of public open houses being held in all nine Bay Area counties beginning April 29 and continuing through May 28. The discussion results and feedback will help inform the development of Plan Bay Area 2040, the region's long-range integrated land-use and transportation plan.

Alameda County: Wednesday, April 29, 2015, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Alameda County Fairgrounds, Palm Pavilion, 4501 Pleasanton Avenue, Pleasanton

Contra Costa County: Wednesday, April 29, 2015, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Walnut Creek Marriott, 2355 North Main Street, Walnut Creek

San Mateo County: Wednesday, May 6, 2015, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., San Mateo County Event Center, Event Pavilion, 1346 Saratoga Drive, San Mateo

Santa Clara County: Wednesday, May 6, 2015, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Berryessa Community Center, 3050 Berryessa Road, San Jose

Napa County: Thursday, May 7, 2015, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Napa Elks Lodge, 2840 Soscol Avenue, Napa

Solano County: Thursday, May 7, 2015, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 2200 Gateway Court, Fairfield
Sonoma County: Thursday, May 7, 2015, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friedman Center, 4676 Mayette Ave., Santa Rosa

San Francisco City & County: Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Hotel Whitcomb, 1231 Market Street, San Francisco

Marin County: Thursday, May 28, 2015, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., TBD (exact location to be determined). Check back here at the plan website for updates.

Can't Attend an Open House?

Join the online discussion on www.planbayarea.org or share your thoughts on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#). For more information, members of the public should call (510) 817-5757.

Climate Change Legislation and Convention Caucus

Two bills now in the California Legislature are critical to our continued efforts to mitigate climate change. SB 32 and SB 350 will extend current greenhouse gas emission reductions and petroleum reduction targets to 2050 and 2030 respectively. LWV California supports SB 32 and supports in concept SB 350 (see www.lwvc.org Bill Status Report for information).

LWVBA is sponsoring a caucus at the LWVC Convention in San Diego, Saturday morning, May 16, 7:30 – 8:30 am. Join us to learn more about how to advocate for these important bills.

LWVBA Council

This year, rather than holding a region-wide meeting in between our biennial convention, LWVBA is holding a Virtual Council. This means NO MEETING, only an e-mail response regarding your League's vote on our budget for 2015-16. Responses are due by May 30, 2015 to our secretary, Carole Levenson carolesl@jps.net.

Bay Area Monitor Launches New Reporting Strategy

In the summer of 2014, the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area Education Fund established its Water Education Initiative — a new project that was specially funded by water agencies, individual League members, and one local League.

This allowed us to recruit journalist Robin Meadows as a reporting fellow for the *Bay Area Monitor*. In this role, Robin has been writing a series of six in-depth water articles that we have been publishing in Volume 40 of the *Monitor*. Robin's series has drawn significant reader praise, and we have submitted it for an environmental reporting award.

This summer, we are applying the fellowship structure to all of our coverage as a way to bolster our content and pay our writers a fairer wage. We have assembled a team of four talented journalists (Robin Meadows, Cecily O'Connor, Leslie Stewart, and Liz Devitt) to each cover a designated topic (water, transportation, air/energy, and open space) in Volume 41.

We ask that you join us in supporting their important work with a financial contribution. Our formal fundraising campaign will begin soon, but if you would like to learn more now, please call 510-839-1608 or e-mail editor@bayareamonitor.org. You can also check our website (www.bayareamonitor.org) for updates, or follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/bayareamonitor>).

