



**League of Women Voters
of the Bay Area**



**VOTER
SEPTEMBER, 2008**

IN THIS ISSUE

- * LWVBA STANDS ON NOVEMBER BALLOT MEASURES
- * REQUEST FOR REGIONAL MEETING MONITORS
- * UPCOMING LWVBA DATES
- * WEBSITES

*** LWVBA STANDS ON NOVEMBER BALLOT MEASURES**

The League supports two measures in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and one measure in Marin and Sonoma Counties in the November 4, 2008 General Election

The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area RECOMMENDS

MEASURE VV AC TRANSIT PARCEL TAX MEASURE. YES

Measure VV increases the existing parcel tax dedicated to AC transit by \$4 a month for ten years. Annual cost to each property owner would rise from \$48 to \$96 a year. Funds will support AC transit bus service which is facing a \$20 million deficit, partially caused by a 55% increase price of fuel in the past four years. AC Transit bus service benefits us all by providing transportation for those who cannot drive and those who cannot afford rising cost of gas.

Measure WW East Bay Regional Park Bond Measure. YES

Measure WW extends a bond measure (Measure AA) passed in 1988 without raising the present property tax rates above the present rate of \$10 per year, per \$100,000 assessed valuation. 75% of the funds will pay for regional park acquisitions and capital projects. 25% will go to cities, special park and recreation districts and county service areas for their park and recreation services. Measure WW will help preserve our vanishing open space, available parklands, and shoreline for the growing number of residents of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Measure Q Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit YES

Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART). Proposes a 20-year, quarter-cent sales tax to fund a 70-mile passenger railroad and parallel bicycle-pedestrian path along the publicly owned Northwestern Pacific Railroad right of way from Cloverdale, at the north end of Sonoma County, to Larkspur.

* REQUEST FOR REGIONAL MEETING MONITORS

Earn Funding for Your Local League

The LWVBA Education Fund offers local Leagues \$25 a month to observe the board meetings of regional agencies (whose jurisdiction spans more than one of the nine Bay Area counties). Observers are asked to collect agency handouts and write very brief reports. These materials alert the editor of the LWVBA’s bimonthly *Bay Area Monitor* newsletter about possible articles for upcoming issues.

Currently, observers for the following agencies would be especially appreciated (although some of these agencies meet more than once a month, observers need only attend one meeting to receive the \$25 for their League):

AC Transit (meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. at 1600 Franklin St. in Oakland)

Bay Area Air Quality Management District (meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 9:45 a.m. at 939 Ellis St. in San Francisco)

Caltrain (meets the first Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at 1250 San Carlos Ave. in San Carlos)

East Bay Municipal Utility District (meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:15 p.m. at 375 11th St. in Oakland)

Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (meets on the second and fourth Friday of the month at 10 a.m. in the administration building of the Golden Gate Bridge Toll Plaza in San Francisco)

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (meets on the final Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. at 101 Eighth St. in Oakland)

Additionally, if there is a regional agency in your area that you think might be worthwhile to observe, we would be interested to know about it. Please contact Alec MacDonald at (510) 839-1608 or editor@bayareamonitor.org for more information.

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* UPCOMING LWVBA DATES

InterLeague Network Meetings

South: September 11 and November 13, 12:00 - 1:30, Palo Alto.

North: October 22, 12:30 – 2:00, Berkeley

Bay Area League Day – Saturday, January 31, 2009

LWVC State Convention – May 15-17, 2009, Long Beach

LWVBA Council – Saturday, May 30, 2009

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* WEBSITES

Bay Area Monitor: <http://www.bayareamonitor.org>

LWVC: <http://www.ca.lwv.org>

LWVBA: <http://www.lwvbayarea.org>

LWVUS: <http://www.lwv.org>

Smart Voter: <http://www.smartvoter.org>

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