

## Board Recommended 2020-2021 LWVMpls Program

### Program Foundation

The foundation for the program of the League of Women Voters is the mission, bylaws and procedures of the organization. The mission is ***to encourage informed and active participation in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy.*** The program of the League consists of study of issues, education of members and the public, and action to implement the principles and positions of the League.

### Criteria for LWVMpls Program

1. **League Policy** – Can the problem be solved by government action? Does the proposal fall within the League principles? (Those principles can be found under Additional Resources.)
2. **Timeliness** - Is this a hot issue? Is the political timing right? Will it lead to effective action for the League? Will League involvement make a difference?
3. **Appropriateness** - Is the League the organization best qualified to study or act on the issue? Will it duplicate the work of some other organization(s)?
4. **Membership** - Will the issue attract new members? Will it increase the interest and participation of current members?
5. **Resources** - Does the League have the people and money to address this issue effectively?

### LWVMpls used the following process for the 2020-2021 Program

- On February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 a Program Planning session was held. Program Planning is a brainstorming session. It is a chance to bring up issues that may need our attention in the coming year. We always get lots of ideas!
- Listed below are the issues that had the most interest at the Program Planning meeting in February. Also included is an outline of recommendations for conducting events for the 2020-2021 program year.
- These recommendations were approved by the LWVMpls Board of Directors at their May 20, 2020 meeting.

### Voting

A **majority** of those present and voting is required for adoption of LWVMpls program.

### Additional resources (included as attachments)

#### League of Women Voters Principles

**League of Women Voters Minneapolis Positions in Brief** (The League can take action on public issues based on the relevant position. For complete relevant positions <https://lwvmpls.org/program-for-action/>).

#### Selected LWVUS and LWVMN positions

# LWVMpls Board Recommended Program 2020-2021

In keeping with our League's Framework of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, we are presenting our next year's program in the context of 'The Health of the City of Minneapolis'.

## Program Format for 2020-2021

1. Hold a total of 8 **civic education** events during the 2020-2021 program year. Four of these events will be Civic Buzz events held in a virtual meeting format. Four events will be *We The People* interviews, now to be a part of LWVMpls program and hosted by Catherine Shreves.
2. Units would determine a meeting schedule to continue discussion, and create action plans, on the topics.

## Program Topics for 2020-2021

The general topics we are proposing are in line with those voted on at the February Program Planning Meeting. They are:

- Elections and Voting
- Community Involvement - 2020 Plan and monitoring government
- 2040 Plan – the 2040 plan includes public spaces, ie, parks
- Education

The topic of recreational marijuana was also raised at the February Program Planning session but is not being recommended by the Board.

## We want to hear from you! Next Steps:

- Is there an additional issue you would like to have as a part of program for next year?
- Would you be willing to join a committee for developing program topics?

Give us your thoughts on the recommended topics on the [LWVMpls Board Recommended Program form](#).