



Position on the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan

LWV position (2018-2020), endorsed by LWVWA position (2019-2021): *The League believes that climate change is a serious threat facing our nation and our planet. The League believes that an interrelated approach to combating climate change—including through energy conservation, air pollution controls, building resilience, and promotion of renewable resources—is necessary to protect public health and defend the overall integrity of the global ecosystem. The League supports climate goals and policies that are consistent with the best available climate science and that will ensure a stable climate system for future generations. Individuals, communities, and governments must continue to address this issue, while considering the ramifications of their decision, at all levels—local, state, regional, national, and global.*

In light of the forgoing League Position, The Thurston County League of Women Voters (LWVTC) believes the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan (TCMP), drafted by the Thurston Regional Planning Council, presents a solid foundation for continuing regional collaboration on reducing local contributions to climate change.

Our League's TCMP Review Group has undertaken a review of the Draft Plan and the associated Draft Implementation Strategy. They have noted that development of this plan has been a complex and extensive undertaking. Further, they understand that there are many steps each of the four partner jurisdictions (Thurston County, Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater) will need to take to address climate change. The Review Committee has made it clear to the LWVTC Board that meeting the vision and goals contained in the TCMP will require the attention, buy-in, and creativity of people in many different areas of our community and economy.

Accordingly, LWVTC supports adoption of the Draft Plan put forward by the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan Steering Committee.

The League understands that no one organization can address climate change. This is reflected in the inclusion in the TCMP of climate mitigation efforts already underway in Thurston County. We will encourage our members to participate as individuals or join with others to build on successes. We will work collaboratively to foster ongoing interactive relationships with other groups to effectively influence climate mitigation policies. We will also urge members and allies to be aware of the periodic reviews and revisions of goals and targets that will be needed as new information expands the understanding of the best routes to address climate impacts.

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