

Proposed 2021-2023 Program of Work

Presented by the 2021 Program of Work planning committee: Kristi Adams (Whidbey Island), Marilyn Littlejohn (Snohomish), Lauren Pixley (Seattle/King County), Adele Reynolds (Seattle/King County), and Linda Benson, Board Chair. Approved by the Board of Directors, April 19, 2021.

Local Leagues and member-at-large (MAL) units may submit proposals for changes in the recommended program. Proposals received by the state board at least three weeks (June 2, 2021) before the opening of the convention shall be considered by the board at a meeting prior to the convention, at which time the board may change the recommended program. Such changes may not be voted on by the convention on the same day on which they are presented.

A majority vote shall be required to adopt proposals recommended by the state board. Not-recommended proposals and concurrence require 3/5 approval vote. Six proposals were received—three are recommended and three are not recommended by the board.

→ [Read entire committee report with questions and comments for each proposal.](#)

Recommended Program

The LWVWA Board of Directors recommends readopting the current LWVWA positions in the areas of Government, Transportation, Natural Resources, and Social Policy as written in the **2019-2021 Program in Action**. The LWVWA Board recommends continued efforts in the campaign for Making Democracy Work.

1. Washington State Local and Regional News Study

This study will address the impact of the decline of local and regional news operations on our democracy. It will look at effects on community engagement, political participation, financial cost to public agencies and entities, partisan politics, public health, and other concerns. More than a dozen Affinity Discussion Group members from throughout the state are part of the committee dedicated to completing the tasks. → [Read entire proposal.](#)

2. Washington's Public Hospital Districts (PHDs) and Their Role in Your Local Community's Health Care System

Today, there are 34 PHDs in Washington state. Each is governed by five or seven publicly elected hospital commissioners and is responsible to their local community for the lawful provision of needed health care services, including death with dignity and reproductive rights. Some current concerns include lack of public awareness, private for-profit local monopolies on hospitals and physician practices, and financial burdens for rural PHDs and patients who depend on Medicare and Medicaid. After research and data gathering, a public program for civic education will be created. Health Care Affinity Discussion Group members from

throughout the state are part of the committee dedicated to completing the tasks. → [Read entire proposal.](#)

3. Adopting by Concurrence the Criminal Justice Positions of the LWV of California

The proposal is to adopt a set of six distinct positions from the LWV of California. Adopting a set of positions by concurrence is a way to build on good work done by other Leagues without having to duplicate efforts. Both the LWVUS and the LWVWA have few adult Criminal Justice positions. The limited LWVWA Prison Positions were adopted in 1981. Concurrence means the following policies are adopted without edits or changes. The following concurrence is being presented by the Criminal Justice Affinity Discussion Group. → [Read entire proposal.](#)

- A criminal justice system that is just, effective, equitable, transparent, and fosters public trust at all stages, including policing practices, pretrial procedures, sentencing, incarceration, and reentry.
- The elimination of systemic bias, including the disproportionate policing and incarceration of marginalized communities.
- Policing practices that promote safety for both law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.
- Collaboration between government and community throughout every stage of the criminal justice system.
- A focus on humane treatment and rehabilitation with the goal of promoting the successful reentry into communities of those who have been incarcerated.
- Reliance on evidence-based research in decision-making about law-enforcement programs and policies (including scheduled, periodic audits of program and policy effectiveness).

Not-Recommended Items Eligible for Consideration and Adoption

Counteracting Disinformation/Finding Reliable Information

This was proposed as either a Citizen Education Project or as a New Study. The outlook is described as developing a matrix for evaluating information sources. It might be similar to the LWV “pick a candidate” guidelines. This could result in guidelines for how to recognize and identify credible and accurate free press sources. There is no identified group to work on this, but it has been suggested as an Affinity Discussion Group. This proposal was not recommended because the proposal was not supported with membership resources (i.e., the names of five people willing to work on it). → [Read entire proposal.](#)

DEI Strategy

The scope of this proposal is to create a focused strategy to implement equitable and inclusive practices within the LWV, and then to plan and execute its goals. The two goals are to address the priorities and build opportunities for sustained allyship with diverse communities, and to

inform the public of the League's clear intents and accomplishments. Eight members from the LWV of Snohomish County have been identified to work on this project. This proposal was not recommended because it seems to be duplicating what the state DEI Committee is doing. The committee felt that League members need to take advantage of professional, readily available DEI training before developing practices around this topic. → [Read entire proposal.](#)

Natural Resources/Tree Campaign

The Natural Resources Committee will mount a Tree Campaign to protect and enhance urban tree canopy in Snohomish County as a response to the climate crisis. Steps include supporting legislation and policies designed to protect tree canopy as climate change mitigation, developing citizen awareness of canopy importance through activities and education (forum), and optimizing and seeking opportunities for partnerships. Five members have committed to working on this project. This proposal was not recommended because it is specific to a region and would need to take different forms, depending on geographic regions of the state. This project might be completed regionally as a pilot. Leagues throughout the state could modify and duplicate this plan to meet their particular environmental needs. → [Read entire proposal.](#)

PROGRAM OF WORK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

March 23, 2021

Committee: Kristi Adams, Whidbey Island; Marilyn Littlejohn, Snohomish; Lauren Pixley, Seattle/King; Adele Reynolds, Seattle/King; Linda Benson, Board Chair. We originally had two more members representing Yakima and Pullman, but they ended up not attending any meetings. We received six proposals and are recommending three and not recommending three.

1. Addressing the Decline of Local Newspapers on Our Democracy: Our major question on this was about whether this should be a Study. After several conversations with them, it was rewritten as a Study. **It is recommended.**

2. Adoption by Concurrence of Criminal Justice Positions: The committee felt that this is a worthwhile and timely topic. The third position '*policing practices that promote safety for both law enforcement officers and the communities they serve,*' appears to equate the risk that law enforcement officers face while on the job to the risk that the Black community faces in their daily lives. This disregards the fact that the Black community faces a disproportionately higher risk of being harmed by the police, and also might be used to justify increased militarization of the police. The message behind this position, whether intended or not, is not an improvement upon our current positions." The committee wondered if that position might be removed. I checked with Judy Davis and she said, "no," concurrence cannot be edited in any way. **It is recommended** with the following two questions/concerns, which the Board may be able to answer:

- If adopted as concurrence, will it be clearly stated that it replaces the current LWVWA position statements that address criminal justice issues?
- Will there be sufficient time at the convention for members to discuss whether or not this concurrence adequately addresses public safety and not just the role of policing?

3. Washington's Public Hospital Districts and Their Role in Addressing Unmet Healthcare Needs: This is a topic that not many members have considered or know much about. The committee felt it is worthwhile. There is a concern that there is not state-wide representation on the committee, i.e., counties with and without PDHs and counties where there are no services at all. Without broader representation, it may be difficult to develop and implement as a statewide project. UW School of Public Health might be added as a resource. **It is recommended.**

4. Counteracting Disinformation/Finding Reliable Information: This was initially proposed with the two roles of Action and Citizen Education. The possibility of it being a study on the dissemination of information to the public on government activities was also mentioned. The committee agreed that the topic is timely and in need of study. However, the proposal was not supported with membership resources (names of five people willing to work on it) and does not seem practical and manageable. **It is not recommended**

5. DEI Strategy: The topic of DEI is vital to League work and the committee agrees that developing a strategy that is consistent within the State is a worthwhile proposal. The committee had some questions: Is there a national strategy? Are the interviews with diverse members of the community and not only with League members so that the input honors the DEI lens that we need to use? What information do you want to have after the interviews? Have League members participated in training about equity and inclusion as learners, before writing implementation strategies to help others? Is this not what the State DEI Committee is doing?

It seems that this might be a locally completed project, but does seem to be duplicating what the State DEI Committee is doing. The committee feels that League members need take advantage of professional, readily available DEI training before developing a strategy. **It is not Recommended.**

6. Natural Resources/Tree Campaign: The committee agreed that this is an important topic of study. The difficulty is that the proposal seems to be specific to a region and might need to take different forms, dependent on geographic regions of the State. Would this not be better to complete regionally as a pilot? Leagues throughout the State might modify and duplicate to meet their particular environmental needs. **It is not Recommended**

REVISED Program of Work Planning 2021

Local League Name	Clark County
Name of person reporting on behalf of your League	Dee Anne Finken
Phone number of reporting member named above	(360) 910-0668
E-mail of reporting member	dfinken@comcast.net
Number of members participating in Program of Work planning	17
Methods used to solicit members' views: check all that apply	Other
Name of Issue #1	
What role should the issue take?	Study
If you propose Concurrence, please explain the reason to consider Concurrence:	
Contact Information	Dee Anne Finken
Email	dfinken@comcast.net
Phone Number	(360) 910-0668
What role should the issue take?	Action
The TITLE identifies the proposed Program of Work item	Washington State Local and Regional News Study

The SCOPE explains whether it is an Action, Citizen Education, an Update on an issue previously studied, or a New Study/Concurrence. The SCOPE should outline the direction of the work and include the important components. One paragraph is usually long enough.

With all we're reading and hearing about the impact of the closing and reduction of local and regional news operations across the nation, what is the situation in Washington state? That is, what, if anything, is happening in the areas of political participation, government oversight, public financing, civic engagement, partisan politics, public health and other elements that we associate as being fundamental to our democracy and system of government? We also are looking to review various efforts to deal with the reported trends, hoping to garner a better understanding of the problem and potential solutions: legislation, the explosion of nonprofits, partnerships and philanthropic efforts.

The OUTLOOK for work should help members determine whether the item is practical and manageable.

1. We haven't discussed the length of time needed to complete the project, but it is likely to entail several months. We are in the self-education phase.
2. At present, for background, we are studying popular press reports, journalism reports and academic studies as well as planning for guest speakers to address our group. To date, we have a senior legislative aide for U.S. Rep. Dan Newhouse and academic Penelope Abernathy on tap to talk with our group. Newhouse is the author of a bill that would grant tax credits to publishers, subscribers, and advertisers; Abernathy, now at Northwestern University, has completed four studies on this issue. We will review excerpts from a text by Margaret Sullivan, a media columnist for the Washington Post; a Commerce Department report presented by U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell; and possibly hear from Sue Cross, of the Institute for Nonprofit News. We will interview government officials, journalists and publishers, journalism professors, social scientists, representatives of political parties, representatives of community and civic groups, and members of the general public to gauge their read of the situation and impact. We will also consult published reports about these issues in Washington state that might be available.
3. Our Affinity Group group is represented by League members from Bellingham/Whatcom, Clallam, Clark, King, Kittitas, Mason, Spokane, Tacoma/Pierce, Thurston and Whidbey/Oak Harbor.
4. Persons signed on to work on the project:
Dee Anne Finken -- dfinken@comcast.net
Sally Carpenter Hale (Clark), Judie Stanton (Clark), Coralee Brewer (Clark), Jackie Lane (Clark); Linda Hughes (Bellingham/Whatcom), Karen Holderman (Bellingham/Whatcom); Teresa Lynn (Clallam); Lauren Snider (King); Delores Irwin (Kittitas); Dee Ann Kline

(Mason); Lunell Haught (Spokane); Nancy Dahl (Tacoma/Pierce), Sharon Wilhelm (Tacoma/Pierce), Joanne Lisosky (Tacoma/Pierce); Fran Beard (Thurston); Lyn Whitley (Whidbey/Oak Harbor)

5. It is too early in the project to establish financial costs. An educational presentation may include print costs, design work or perhaps some editing for video.

The OUTLOOK for work should help members determine whether the item is practical and manageable.



Program of Work Planning 2021 REVISED 3/13/2021

Local League Name	Thurston County
Name of person reporting on behalf of your League	R Peggy Smith
Phone number of reporting member named above	(360) 7544305
E-mail of reporting member	rpps4u@comcast.net
Number of members participating in Program of Work planning	25
Total membership in your League	188
Methods used to solicit members' views: check all that apply	Special mailing General meeting Multi-League Member Planning Group
Name of Issue #1	Adoption by Concurrence of Criminal Justice Positions
What role should the issue take?	Study/Concurrence*
If you think a position needs to be Updated, please explain:	<p>A package of Criminal Justice Positions will be presented for adoption by Concurrence at the 2021 LWVWA Convention.</p> <p>Both the LWVUS and LWVWA have few adult Criminal Justice Positions. The limited LWVWA Prison Positions were adopted in 1981, as the Sentencing Reform Act was being considered. Since then, the "war on drugs," the "Prison Reform Act," the "Three Strikes Your Out and Hard Time for Armed Crime," policies have been enacted. These policies and others have not only contributed to mass incarceration, the have exacerbated racism inherent in the justice systems.</p> <p>This is reflected in the resolution adopted at the 2020 LWVUS Convention that states: "...the League advocates against systemic racism in the justice system and, at a minimum, for preventing excessive force and brutality by law enforcement. We also call for prompt actions by all League members to advocate within every level of government to eradicate systemic racism, and the harm that it causes..."</p> <p>Although systemic racism in the justice system is widely</p>

acknowledged, there are people from other historically underrepresented groups who are also unfairly treated. This proposal will enable the LWVWA to acknowledge this and lead to adoption of more equitable policies in the future.

Without current, up to date Positions, Leagues are hampered in advocacy efforts.

If you propose Concurrence, please explain the League source of position:

The first source of criminal positions that will be investigated is the LWVCA. In addition to specific positions, they have advice and suggestions for other Leagues looking to adopt up to date positions. Among the resources available from LWVCA are electronic links to positions from other Leagues.

[As a result of this process, we are proposing that six positions from the LWV -California be adopted by concurrence at the LWVWA 2021 Convention.](#)

If you propose Concurrence, please explain the reason to consider Concurrence:

There is an obvious urgency for criminal justice reform in Washington, as well as across the United States. Several Leagues have already felt and responded to this urgency. Adopting a set of positions by concurrence is a way to build on good work done by other Leagues without having to duplicate efforts. It will also provide, by the 2022 Legislative Session, a much-needed set of positions to enable advocacy for reform by LWVWA and local Leagues.

Contact Information
Email rpps4u@comcast.net
Phone Number (360) 7544305

What role should the issue take? Action

The TITLE identifies the proposed Program of Work item Adoption by Concurrence of Criminal Justice Positions

The SCOPE explains whether it is an Action, Citizen Education, an Update on an issue previously studied, or a New Study/Concurrence. The SCOPE should outline

The specific positions to propose will be identified by the workgroup, using a process that will include:

- reviewing such positions adopted by other state Leagues
- assessing the positions considering the status of the WA criminal justice system

the direction of the work and include the important components. One paragraph is usually long enough.

- evaluating the ability for local Leagues to apply the positions to local conditions.

This is the set of positions are as proposing for adoption.

The LWV Washington supports:

A criminal justice system that is just, effective, equitable, transparent, and that fosters public trust at all stages, including policing practices, pre-trial procedures, sentencing, incarceration, and re-entry.

The elimination of systemic bias, including the disproportionate policing and incarceration of marginalized communities.

Policing practices that promote safety for both law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.

Collaboration between government and community throughout every stage of the criminal justice system.

A focus on humane treatment and rehabilitation with the goal of promoting the successful reentry into communities of those who have been incarcerated.

Reliance on evidence-based research in decision-making about law-enforcement programs and policies (including scheduled, periodic audits of program and policy effectiveness).

*Prepare package(s) for presentation at Convention, as well as to gain support for Concurrence.

The OUTLOOK for work should help members determine whether the item is practical and manageable.

Please include:

1. The expected length of time needed for completion. Prior to LWVWA 2021 Convention.

2. Possible sources of information.

*LWVCA Criminal Justice Local League Toolkit

*Criminal Justice Positions from other states that have adopted positions in the last five years.

*Local Leagues in Washington that have adopted positions in the last 5 years.

*Local Leagues in Washington who are considering adopting positions or would be in favor of having new LWVWA positions.

3. Role of local Leagues

*Local Leagues will be sources of information about existing Positions in Washington.

*They will also serve in consultant roles in terms of providing information and opinions about the ability to apply proposed Positions in their communities.

*Local Leagues will be asked to support the Concurrence work and have their Convention Delegates to vote in favor of Concurrence.

4. Names of five members willing to work on the project and their contact information

Name #1: Deb Carstens

Email: deb.carstens@gmail.com

Name #2: Heather Kelly

Email: hejokelly@gmail.com

Name #3: Susan Fleming

Email: susanfleming0@gmail.com

Name #4: R Peggy Smith

Email: rpps4u@comcast.net

Name #5: Mary Taylor

Email: maryctaylor@gmail.com

5. The anticipated expected expense for the Program of Work plan

There are no anticipated expenses for this Concurrence work.

The OUTLOOK for work should help members determine whether the item is practical and manageable.

Please include:

1. The expected length of time needed for completion
2. Possible sources of information
3. Role of local Leagues
4. Names of five members willing to work on the project and their contact information
5. The anticipated expected expense for the Program of Work plan

Program of Work Planning for the LWV of Washington State (2021-2023)
Proposal for Action Effort, Citizen Education or Update

Name of League: LWV of Clallam County

Name of lead person reporting on behalf of your League: Nancy Field, LWV-Clallam Healthcare Comm. Chair

Phone number: 360-683-8082

E-mail: nefield@seanet.com

Number of members participating in Program of Work planning: Four members of local League Healthcare Committee and six additional League members from other counties via statewide Healthcare Affinity Group; proposal distributed to all Clallam League members in advance of January 30th Program Planning meeting and approved by a vote of members attending (including a quorum).

Total membership in your League: 104

Methods used to solicit members' views (check all that apply):

- Unit meetings
- Special mailing; *distribution of proposal to Clallam LWV membership*
- General meeting: *January Clallam County January Program Planning Meeting*
- Board Meeting: *Clallam County LWV Executive Committee*
- Telephone
- Other: *Healthcare Committee meetings; Statewide Affinity Group on Healthcare*

TITLE of Proposed Program #1: "Washington's Public Hospital Districts and Their Role in Your Local Community's Healthcare System"

ROLE:

Action Effort **Citizen Education** Update* Study/Concurrence*

SCOPE: There are, today, thirty-four Public Hospital Districts in Washington State. Each is governed by 5 or 7 publicly-elected hospital commissioners and is responsible to their local community for the provision of needed health care services t, including some services required by law.

As private, non-profit or for-profit entities, most Washington hospitals and healthcare systems, their policies and scope of service, are not within the purview of the League of Women Voters. But, where voters elect the governing board and are owners of their local hospital through existence of a public hospital district, the League has the opportunity to hold commissioner candidate forums, influence hospital policy and develop important working relationships with its local hospital board members and administration.

This project will provide civic education about these public hospital districts ("PHD"s), the Washington law establishing them, how they are formed and governed, and the various forms they currently take in thirty-four districts across urban and rural Washington. Issues facing Washington's PHD's will be discussed and participating LWV members will have the opportunity to identify the issues facing their own local PHD's. These hospitals face all the issues of the

country's healthcare system but some issues specific to these locally-governed hospitals will be addressed:

- Lack of the public's awareness about their local hospital and its responsibility to provide needed services locally
- The impact on healthcare services when the PHD operates not only the local hospital but also owns most local physician practices.
- Potential absorption of the local hospital into large for-profit or religious systems whose missions do not align with the local district's purposes
- Financial burdens for the rural PHD's, in particular, that serve primarily Medicare and Medicaid patients for whom the costs are not covered by third party payments
- A hospital's unwillingness or inability to provide a full range of reproductive health care services even when those are mandated by Washington law.
- Hesitancy to support their patients' wishes to participate in Washington's Death with Dignity program.
- Formation of a public hospital district in geographic areas needed one.

Goal and Approach: The goal of this project is to educate League members statewide - and the public - about what a Public Hospital District is, how one operates and how to form one, if not available in their county. The project will

- Incorporate tenets of adult education to drive civic education toward citizen engagement
 - Involve learners
 - Provide relevance to life experience & important issues
 - Offer experiential learning
 - Develop problem-centered materials & experiences
- Design adult civic education materials, digital media and experiential learning for leagues and their members about Washington's 34 existing public hospital districts and the laws establishing them.
- Provide information and tools to influence their public hospital districts to address unmet healthcare needs in their local communities.

Relationship to existing League goals and positions: Intersection of "Making Democracy Work" at the national level with LWV-US, LWV-WA and LWV-Clallam County support for universal access to all legal healthcare services.

"The LWVUS believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices."

The LWVUS policy statement in Health Care, under 'Allocation of Resources', ".....the duration of care, the quality of life of the patient after treatment, *and the wishes of the patient and the family*

OUTLOOK:

- **The expected length of time needed for completion:** 24 months, June 2021 through December 2023
- **Possible sources of information:**
Association of Public Hospital Districts: WA Department of Health, Revised Code of Washington; Washington Administrative Code; survey(s) of League members; ACLU; Municipal Research and Services Center, msrc.org
- **Role of local Leagues:**
 1. LWV Clallam: Clallam Healthcare Committee sponsors the project
 2. Project team members from other counties include: Whatcom, Thurston, Pierce Counties
 3. Statewide: Local Leagues and their members receive educational materials and participate in learning and engagement experiences designed by the project; gain understanding of local power to elect hospital commissioners; learn to query commissioner candidates in Voter Forums; learn to influence healthcare offerings of their local hospital districts
 4. Upon acceptance of LWV Statewide status, reach out to include broader geography including Eastern Washington League members.
- **Names of five members willing to work on the project and their contact information:**

Name #1: Kimberly Abbey, Thurston
Email: kabbey48@gmail.com
Phone Number: 206-387-6134

Name #2: Bertha Cooper, Clallam
Email: bdcooper@olyphen.com
Phone Number: 360-582-0996

Name #3: Mary Lynne Courtney, Whatcom
Email: marylynnecourtney@gmail.com
Phone Number: 360-318-3443

Name #4: Jody Disney, Thurston
Email: jodyannette1@gmail.com
Phone Number: 520-468-9499

Name #5: Nancy Field, Clallam
Email: nefield@seanet.com
Phone Number: 360-683-8082

Name #6: Marcia Limoges, Clallam
Email: mamlimoges@gmail.com
Phone Number: 360-608-0946

Name #7: Barbara Sardarov, Whatcom

Email: bjsardarov@gmail.com
Phone Number: 360-389-7912

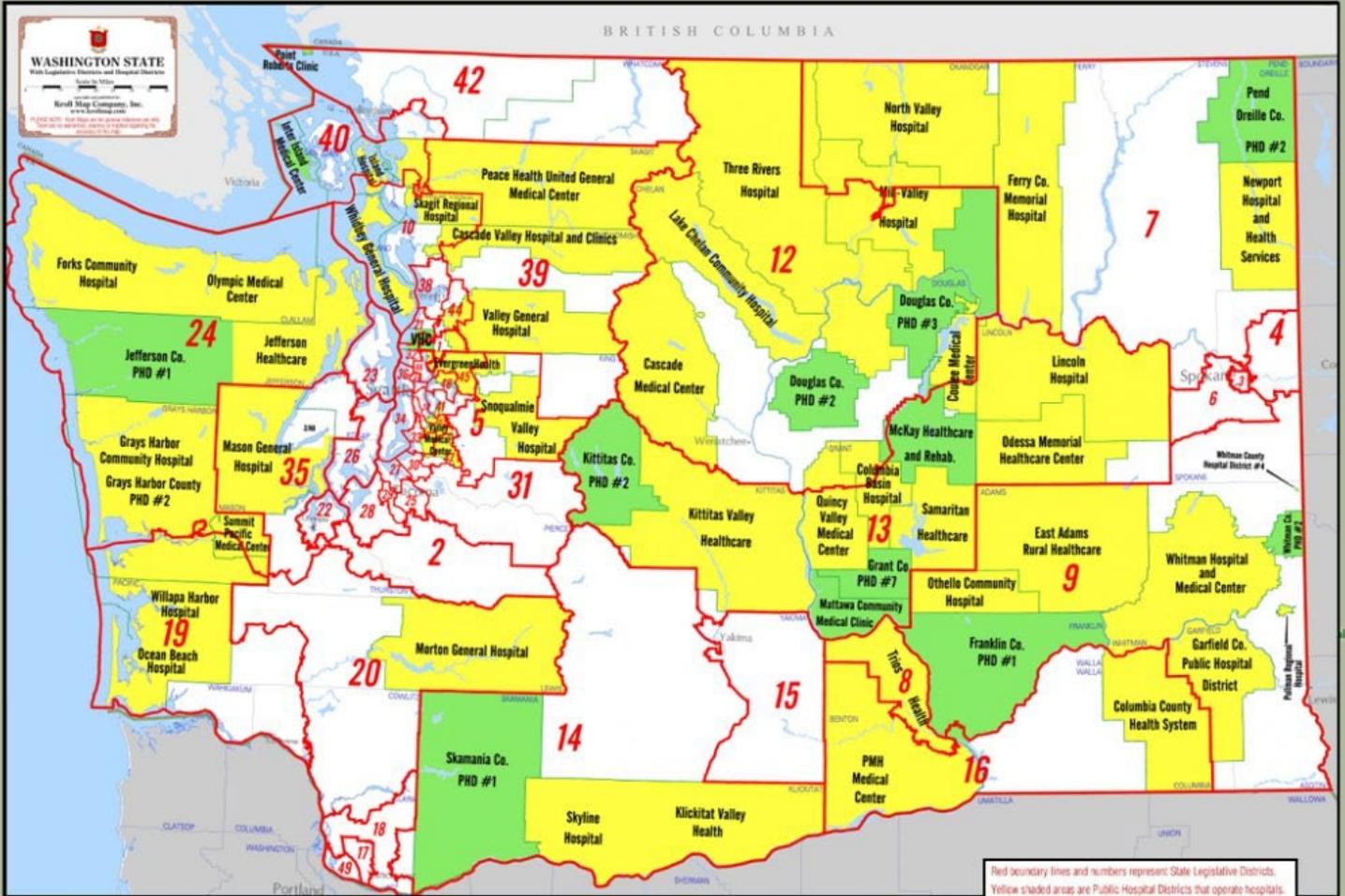
Name #8: Cynthia Stewart, Pierce
Email: stewdahl@comcast.net
Phone Number: 206-310-8965 (text only)

- **The anticipated expected expense for the Program of Work plan: _____\$0 expected_____**

EXHIBIT A

Key: **Yellow** are districts with hospitals
Green are districts with non-hospital services

Public Hospital District Map



Red boundary lines and numbers represent State Legislative Districts.
 Yellow shaded areas are Public Hospital Districts that operate hospitals.
 Green shaded areas are Public Hospitals that do not operate hospitals
 but do provide other health services such as primary care clinics and
 long term care facilities.
VHC refers to Verduart Health Commission



Program of Work Planning 2021-23

Part 1: Member Participation

Local League Name	Spokane Area
Name of person reporting on behalf of your League	Ann Murphy
Phone number of reporting member named above	(509) 385-8910
E-mail of reporting member	annmurphylwvwa@gmail.com
Number of members participating in Program of Work planning	25
Total membership in your League	130
Methods used to solicit members' views: check all that apply	General meeting

Part 2: Listing and Ranking of Issues for State Program 2021-2023

Your League may submit up to two proposed Programs of Work for consideration. After discussion in your local league, please list, by priority, the 2 top items you have decided to submit. Then specify what role the issue should take: Action, Citizen Education, Update, or Study.

Name of Issue #1	Counteracting Disinformation/Finding Reliable Information
What role should the issue take?	Citizen Education

* If you chose Position Update or Concurrence, please answer the following questions:

Contact Information	Ann Murphy
Email	annmurphylwvwa@gmail.com
Phone Number	(509) 385-8910
What role should the issue take?	Action

* If you chose Position Update or Concurrence, please answer the following questions:

Part 3: Outlook for Program of Work Your League Proposes

Item #1

The TITLE identifies the proposed Program of Work item Counteracting Disinformation/Finding Reliable Information

The SCOPE explains whether it is an Action, Citizen Education, an Update on an issue previously studied, or a New Study/Concurrence. The SCOPE should outline the direction of the work and include the important components. One paragraph is usually long enough.

CITIZEN EDUCATION PROJECT that could be accomplished as a component of Voter Education and based on the LWV Principle that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by [giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meeting, and making public recordings accessible.]

OR -- If the above principle is deemed inadequate since governmental bodies seem to have a wealth of communication to the public through their own requirements as well as electronic live/recorded meetings that are available to the public, then there would need to be a New Study to include examination of other means of providing information about governmental activity.

NEW STUDY on the Dissemination of Information to the Public on government activities that would explore the

- Current practices of governmental bodies to share proceedings, etc
- Information practices of the media -- print, electronic, and social media (and how the rise of social media has affected the distribution of information)
- Basic understanding of "free speech;" and telling a lie, or repeating someone else's lie.
- How members of the public consume and then use information
- Explore aspects of internet regulation
- Tie to Dark Money that influences information

A tangential piece of this could be how the League itself prepares messages for media (what we say and how we say it).

The OUTLOOK for work should help members determine whether the item is practical and manageable.

Current Affinity Group discussing press

Develop a matrix for evaluating information sources that might be similar to LWV "Pick a Candidate" guidelines. how to recognize and identify credible and accurate free press sources.

- Time -- always takes longer than one would think -- 1-2 years -- to be useful, the sooner the better
- Sources of information -- there are sources that rank media; follow the money?
- Role of Local Leagues -- establish question or tools LL could use to evaluate their local media sources.
- Names (no one willing to do leadership - but could become part of a committee)
- Expense: ??

Item #2

The OUTLOOK for work should help members determine whether the item is practical and manageable.

Please include:

1. The expected length of time needed for completion
2. Possible sources of information
3. Role of local Leagues
4. Names of five members willing to work on the project and their contact information

5. The anticipated expected expense for the Program of Work plan



Program of Work Planning 2021-23

Part 1: Member Participation

Local League Name	Snohomish County	
Name of person reporting on behalf of your League	Kate Lunceford	
Phone number of reporting member named above	(425) 402-3656	
E-mail of reporting member	kurlykate888@gmail.com	
Name of Issue #2	DEI Strategy	
Number of members participating in Program of Work planning	40	
Total membership in your League	224	
Methods used to solicit members' views: check all that apply	Unit meetings	Special mailing

Part 2: Listing and Ranking of Issues for State Program 2021-2023

Your League may submit up to two proposed Programs of Work for consideration. After discussion in your local league, please list, by priority, the 2 top items you have decided to submit. Then specify what role the issue should take: Action, Citizen Education, Update, or Study.

The SCOPE explains whether it is an Action, Citizen Education, an Update on an issue previously studied, or a New Study/Concurrence. The SCOPE should outline the direction of the work and include the important components. One paragraph is usually long enough.

Create a focused strategy for the implementation of equitable and inclusive practices within LWV, then plan and execute its goals: that all League work will include and address the priorities of diverse communities, build opportunities for sustained allyship with those communities, and inform the public of the League's clear intents and accomplishments. To inform this work, we will use the results of the interviews conducted with 47 members and leaders of LWV Snohomish County, any other studies and surveys conducted by/for local Leagues in the state, and the results of the Portfolio Research committee as they may become known to us. We will contact any local Leagues who have conducted studies and/or surveys to ask them to share information, as we will share our findings at that time with them.

Name of Issue #1	Natural Resources
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What role should the issue take?

Citizen Education

* If you chose Position Update or Concurrence, please answer the following questions:

Contact Information

Kate Lunceford

Email

kurlykate888@gmail.com

Contact Information

Jeanne Crevier

Email

jeannemcrevier@gmail.com

Phone Number

((816)) 726-5993

Phone Number

(425) 402-3656

What role should the issue take?

Citizen Education

* If you chose Position Update or Concurrence, please answer the following questions:

Part 3: Outlook for Program of Work Your League Proposes

Item #1

The TITLE identifies the proposed Program of Work item

Natural Resources/Tree Campaign

The SCOPE explains whether it is an Action, Citizen Education, an Update on an issue previously studied, or a New Study/Concurrence. The SCOPE should outline the direction of the work and include the important components. One paragraph is usually long enough.

The Natural Resources Committee will mount a Tree Campaign to protect and enhance urban tree canopy in Snohomish County as a response to the climate crisis.

Steps:

1. Support legislation and policies designed to protect tree canopy as climate change mitigation.
2. Develop citizen awareness of canopy importance through activities and education (forum)
3. Optimize and seek opportunities for partnerships

The OUTLOOK for work should help members determine whether the item is practical and manageable.

Please include:

1. The expected length of time needed for completion

Two and a half years until the Comp Plan Update

2. Possible sources of information

Futurewise, The Nature Conservancy, UW Washington

3. Role of local Leagues

1. Advocate for "WA Can't Wait", a Futurewise legislative initiative to add mitigations for climate change to the Growth Management Act (GMA).

2. Advocate for an urban forest docket application to the Snohomish County Council.

3. Present a forum on What is the GMA and how are it and the Comprehensive Plan connected? What does it mean to us?

4. Educate the public in tree stewardship – the specific benefits of trees: urban forest, greenbelts, home gardens.

5. Coordinate with Dept. of Natural Resources to create citizen incentives.

4. Names of five members willing to work on the project and their contact information

Kate Lunceford kurlykate888@gmail.com

Joan Smith joan.a.smith@gmail.com

Linda Matthews Linda_matthews@comcast.net

Janet Robertson janetcopa@gmail.com

Wendy Wyatt verdmontes46@gmail.com

5. The anticipated expected expense for the Program of Work plan

None identified at this point

Item #2

The TITLE identifies the proposed Program of Work item DEI Strategy

The OUTLOOK for work should help members determine whether the item is practical and manageable.

Please include:

1. The expected length of time needed for completion

2. Possible sources of information

3. Role of local Leagues

4. Names of five members willing to work on the project and their contact information

5. The anticipated expected expense for the Program of Work plan

Sharing information with other Leagues, then with the public, is both the content and the objective of this proposed Program. It is expected that the strategy will be set by May 2021, then the strategy implementation will begin through all committee work, be accepted, and codified within committees' work by May 2022. Through press releases and social media, we will inform the public as we proceed of new education and events generated by our movement toward a culture of greater inclusion. The Program should require minimal cost, especially if we can share costs like translation services among Leagues.

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