



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON**

January 21, 2010

Land Conservation and Development Commission
John Van Landingham, Chair
Via email: lisa.howard@state.or.us

Re: Agenda Item 14, January 21, 2010: Proposed 2011-2013 Policy and Rulemaking Agenda

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a grassroots nonpartisan, political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League has long been an advocate for Oregon's statewide land use planning program with local implementation. We are also advocates for addressing the issues of affordable housing, climate change and assuring sufficient and clean water for both humans and the environment. The League's positions are clear: Assure the statewide system is protected; be sure citizens are involved in all aspects of the system; provide affordable housing so that all communities have a mix of housing to assure successful communities and lessen the need for costly transportation that also affects global warming; address all aspects of climate change to protect the earth.

With these positions in mind, we offer the following comments related to your development of a Policy and Rulemaking Agenda for the next biennium:

- 1) We believe that Priority B.1. from the 2009-11 agenda related to the effects of global warming is critical to the health, wellbeing and economy of Oregon. This work must continue.
- 2) Along with the above priority is the need to continue the work of the MPO Greenhouse Gas Task Force from HB 2186 and HB 2001 (2009) and recommendations toward reducing transportation greenhouse gases. Setting targets and creating a toolkit for local governments is an important first step, but we are hopeful that funding will be provided to continue this work next biennium.
- 3) The Integrated Water Resources Strategy project has begun. DLCD and LCDC have a role to play. The issue of assuring Goal 6 is implemented and water quality is addressed is important to the success of our land use program. The issues of water quantity and quality are a priority of the League. We ask that a commissioner volunteer to follow the work of WRC as it moves forward on this issue. Oregonians raised this issue during the Big Look Task Force and at other LCDC meetings. We hear about groundwater concerns especially during local land use hearings. With the climate work above, water policies must be developed to help guide those local decisions.
- 4) We continue to support the work of the 2008 Affordable Housing Work Group and believe that rulemaking on this matter should commence. Much consensus has been reached. The Chair has expertise that should not be wasted. This item is C.1. in your current policy agenda.

- 5) We continue to believe that implementation of Measure 49 is a priority since we need to keep faith with Oregon voters. We are hopeful that this work will be substantially completed before 2011. If not, it should be completed as quickly as possible.
- 6) We believe that Periodic Review will help local communities address both good land use planning and climate change issues. Therefore, staff time should be allocated to this important issue. Citizen involvement is critical to this effort and is important to the League.

The League looks forward to working with the Commission as this policy agenda is set and legislative concepts are developed. We stand ready to help as we can to assure the issues we raised above are contained in your final Policy and Rulemaking Agenda and that the items are implemented on behalf of all Oregonians.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important work.


Marge Easley
President


Peggy Lynch
Natural Resources Coordinator