

The Voter

A Publication of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County

NOVEMBER 2019

VOL. 61, No. 4

Climate Change in King County

by Janice Camp and Cathy O'Shea

The biggest challenge to climate change is making it real and actionable. To that end, November's forum is focused on specifically what is happening in King County. Environmentalism has always been strong in the beautiful Northwest, and King County has been making plans for climate change since 2012. This puts us in the advantageous position of seeing results, what worked and what didn't, as well as identifying where some of the biggest obstacles are to combating climate change.

King County first developed the Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP) in 2012; it was updated in 2015 and is now under review for a 2020 update. SCAP establishes targets, outlines 70 specific actions to reach these targets, and lists performance measures to track progress. The 2020 update will take into consideration biennial reports that track the results of these measures in King County.

The League has a rich tradition of looking at issues from all sides. With respect to climate change, the opposing views are typically that climate change isn't real or that it's not caused by human activity. However, these views have largely been proven incorrect. Another opposing "view" is more of a question of whether we should do anything about it, and what that might be. That is what we want to explore in the forum.

The view to not do anything is a silent one. While authors of this article didn't find anyone advocating not to do anything, it is reflected in our everyday (in)actions, as many people choose not to change their behaviors. The discussion questions will allow you to discuss this silent perspective. Responses to the November forum discussion questions will help shape the League's public comment to King County.

As context for those questions and the forum, included below is a summary of the 2015 SCAP and the 2017 biennial report. If you have time, it might be helpful to read the 18 pages of the 2017 Biennial Report, which details how well King County is meeting its targets; there is a link to the report at the end of this article.



"KC Climate" continued on page 8

Contents

Connecting with the Leadership3
 Calendar4
 Forum Schedule.....5
 In Memoriam.....7
 Features
 Climate Change and You.....10
 2020 Census.....11
 Book Review13
 Voter Services.....14
 Census.....15
 Announcements/Committees.....16
 League in Action17
 Unit Meetings.....21
 Board and Committee Contacts23
 November Forum back cover

THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 SPONSORS!

- Central Puget Sound
Carpenters Local 30
- Lenfestey Family Foundation
- Microsoft Corporation
- Seattle-King County Area
Agency on Aging
- Starbucks Coffee Company
- Washington Education Association

The League is Proud to Call KNKX 88.5
our Exclusive Media Partner



Contact Information

President: Alyssa Weed
The Voter Editor: Stephanie Cirkovich

League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County
 1511 3rd Avenue, Suite 900
 Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: 206-329-4848
 info@seattlelwv.org
 www.lwvskc.org

Office Hours: Weekdays, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

League of Women Voters of Washington
 1511 3rd Avenue, Suite 900
 Seattle, WA 98101
 206-622-8961
 lwvwa@lwvwa.org
 www.lwvwa.org

League of Women Voters of the United States
 202-429-1965
 lwv@lwv.org
 www.lwv.org

Postal Regulations
The Voter is published monthly
 except June and August by the League of
 Women Voters of Seattle-King County,
 1511 3rd Avenue, Suite 900
 Seattle, WA 98101

Periodicals postage paid at Seattle, WA.

Postmaster:
 Send address changes to *The Voter*.
 1511 3rd Avenue, Suite 900
 Seattle, WA 98101
 The Voter (ISSN 0888-8841)

MISSION STATEMENT
 The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Connecting with the Leadership

by Alyssa Weed, LWVSKC President



October has been an incredibly busy month for our League. As I write this note, we're currently working on more than a dozen candidate forums and voter services events, Ballots & Baristas in King County and training facilitators for Snohomish County, an event in support of I-1000, a climate change forum, a fundraising toolkit for statewide use, and Centennial planning. Is your head spinning yet?

We're also so fortunate to have an amazing board of directors, unit and committee chairs, and volunteers who have been keeping the ship afloat while our Office Administrator has been out with some health issues. Allison has been such a pivotal player in this organization for so long, and we all wish her a speedy and full recovery. In the meantime, if you need anything at all, please reach out directly to me until she's back in action.

I also want to apologize for the delay in getting last month's *Voter* out. We know that the printed version of the newsletter is an important asset to our members, and we are setting up new processes to make sure that no matter what's going on, you get the information you need on time. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for the *Voter*, contact LWVSKC Communications Chair Kristen Johnson. She's always on the hunt for more content and ideas to create the best version of the *Voter* we possibly can.

Lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't do my presidential duty and solicit some volunteers. Here's where we need some League members to plug in:

- Development — Christy Wood (1st VP, Development) is looking for some volunteers to help her bolster our Development Committee. This Committee is what makes it possible for us to host forums, pay our staff, print this newsletter, distribute TRYs, throw events and parties, do advocacy work throughout the county, educate voters... you get the idea. Development is critical to the continuing function of our organization. If you or anyone you know is interested in ensuring we continue our mission of defending democracy and empowering voters, I strongly encourage you to contact Christy.
- Program — Like to party? Like advocacy? Like education? Program has all of this and more. We're currently looking for an off-board Program Co-Chair to help Chelsea Jordan (Program Chair/Voter Services Board Liaison) and I with logistics. Questions? Hit us up!
- Action — Heather Kelly (2nd VP, Action) is looking for some solid readers and researchers to serve as on-call ballot initiative committees. We can't endorse what we don't know, so if you're interested in advocacy, marching, protesting, or creating an

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Board Meeting 10 a.m.
3	4	5 ELECTION DAY Ballots due by 8 p.m.	6	7 Monthly Forum: Climate Change 7 p.m.	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Education Committee 11 a.m.
17	18 Behavioral Health Legislative Forum 6 p.m.	19 Homelessness Study Committee 4:30 p.m.	20	21	22	23 Economics & Tax Committee 9:30 a.m.
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
DECEMBER 1	4	5	6	7	8	9 Board Meeting

Units meet during shaded period — see pages 21-22 for details.

November

LWVSKC Board Meeting
Saturday, Nov. 2
10 a.m.
LWVSKC office

Education Committee
Saturday, Nov. 16
11 a.m.
LWVSKC office

Homelessness Study Committee
Tuesday, Nov. 19
4:30 p.m.
LWVSKC office

LWV Forum: Climate Change
Thursday, Nov. 7
7:00 p.m.
Seattle First Baptist

Behavioral Health Legislative
Forum
Monday, Nov. 18
6:00 p.m.
Seattle Center Exhibition Hall

Economics & Tax Committee
Saturday, Nov. 23
Monday, Nov. 18
9:30 a.m.
909 E. Newton #D-9 (Seattle)

December

LWVSKC Board Meeting
Saturday, Dec. 9
10 a.m.
LWVSKC office

Forum Schedule

The League of Women Voters frequently presents public forums on issues of public interest. Visit the LWVSKC website, seattlelwv.org, for the most up-to-date information about forum times and locations. Some past forums have been televised and can be accessed from the resources page of the website.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NOVEMBER FORUM

Weather Update — Record Highs and Stormy Weather Ahead

Climate change is here, so your local government is focused on adaptation as well as continuing mitigation of climate change. Our November Forum will focus on Climate Change in King County. Come hear how our cities, port and county are working on mitigation like reducing fossil fuel use, and adapting to higher temperatures and lower snowpack and river levels.

Thursday, November 7, 2019
7 to 8:30 p.m.
Seattle First Baptist Church—1111 Harvard Avenue, Seattle

DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
Homelessness	Program Open House	League Centennial	2020 Census	Public Banking

Also in November: Behavioral Health Legislative Forum

Make your community a healthier, stronger place. Join our community conversation about mental health and substance abuse. We're bringing together lawmakers, behavioral health professionals, people in recovery and other community members for a powerful event.

For details and to register go to Eventbrite.com. Registration is recommended but not required. The forum is free and open to the public.

Monday, November 18, 2019
6 to 8:30 p.m.
Seattle Center Exhibition Hall — 301 Mercer Street, Seattle

Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County (LWVS-KC), in both its values and practices, affirms its beliefs and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League on the basis of gender, gender identity and/or gender expression, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

LWVS-KC recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. LWVS-KC subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.

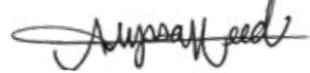
LWVS-KC affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Americans in its membership, board, staff and programs.

“From the Leadership” cont’d from p. 3

- informed voting populace and want the League to have an active and public role in policy decisions in the County, I urge you to contact Heather.
- *The Voter* — Content, content, content! We need content! Is your unit up to some cool stuff? What’s your committee working on? Did you read an awesome article and want to tell EVERYONE about it? Send us your submissions!

We can’t do this without you.

All my best (as always),



P.S. If you haven’t voted yet, I urge you to return your ballot by mail (postage-free, of course) or drop it in a drop box by 8 p.m. on November 5. This year, the Washington State LWV has endorsed a YES vote for I-1000/R-88 and OPPOSING I-976. More information on these initiatives can be found in this edition of *The Voter*.

October forum recap

Last month’s Juvenile Justice Forum was a huge success! We welcomed many new faces and heard incredibly powerful stories, thought critically about our justice system, and reflected on the successes and opportunities for improvement in the juvenile justice system around King County.

If you missed it, you can check out a recording of the forum here thanks to King County TV: bit.ly/LWV-Oct19-forum.

We heard from Derrick Wheeler-Smith from King County Zero Youth Detention; Jason Clark from Northwest Credible Messengers; Nick Straley from Columbia Legal Services; Sean Goode from Choose 180; and Judge Judy Ramseyer with King County Superior Court. Our moderator was Kimberly Ambrose from the University of Washington School of Law. She is the director of *Tools for Social Change: Race and Justice Clinic* and a Senior Law Lecturer with an expertise in juvenile law.

We discussed the school-to-prison pipeline, the role of incarceration in our juvenile justice system, community-based solutions, activating young people to become stronger citizen advocates, and more.

The LWVSKC looks forward to continuing these conversations and plans to engage more with this issue. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact us at info@seattlelwv.org.



In Memoriam: Miriam Helgeland



Miriam Helgeland passed away peacefully at home on August 16, 2019, six days after having attended her family’s annual reunion on the Key Peninsula. She was 93 years old. Miriam spent more than half a century of her life dedicated to her wonderful husband Neil; to the Star Lake Improvement Club where she and Neil made their home in South King County; and as a lifetime member of the League of Women Voters.

Miriam was born Miriam Mandell in Faribault, Minnesota to Porter and Lucy Mandell on February 2, 1926. She graduated from the University of Minnesota and moved to Washington to take a position teaching physical education in Richland. There, on Christmas Eve, 1949, she married fellow teacher Neil Helgeland. Miriam and Neil would raise four daughters and one son. Miriam was a devoted mother as her children grew up, active in the PTA of their local schools. She was a Camp Fire mom and coached girls’ softball.

Miriam and Neil were married 62 years when he passed away in 2012. They were both dedicated to their family and frequently opened up their Star Lake home as a lakeside gathering place for the enjoyment of their extensive family and friends. Miriam and Neil loved camping, canoeing, skiing and tennis, and even in their later years they made sure to get outside and enjoy the outdoors.

Miriam was also devoted to good government and good public policy. She was a fixture at King County Charter Review meetings for decades, starting with the very first iteration of the Charter in 1969. She knew more about the history of the county charter than most King County Charter Review staff, by their own measure. She was specifically a follower of transportation issues and was a tremendous advocate for Sound Transit. For decades, she volunteered to be a poll worker for King County and was active in the Democratic Party.

She was an active leader in the South King County League until they joined with Seattle League in 2011. She organized countless League candidate forums in South King County over the years and spoke many times in the local high schools about the importance of voting. One of the recent Seattle-King County board members recalled being inspired by her Miriam’s presentation at her high school in 1979, and later getting to know Miriam as a King County department manager, when Miriam attended public meetings as a League observer.

Miriam was the recipient of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County Carrie Chapman Catt Award in 2012 for her lifetime of service to the League and to the community.

Three summers ago, dozens of Miriam’s beloved family, neighbors, friends, and League members gathered at the Star Lake Improvement Club which she had helped to build and foster over half a century, to celebrate Miriam’s 90th birthday. Miriam was clearly touched by the outpouring of affection from the huge crowd.

Miriam Helgeland is a shining example of a life well-lived, and she will be deeply missed.

Climate Change Impacts

King County encompasses part of the Cascade Mountain range, major rivers such as Snoqualmie, Duwamish, and the Green River; and the Puget Sound, including Vashon Island. These natural features are part of our water source, our animal habitats, and our shoreline. Climate change is already impacting these fixtures in our lives in several ways:

- A 25% decrease in mountain snowpack from the 1950's to the 2000's
- Acidifying marine waters
- Rising seas by 8 inches in the last 100 years for Puget Sound
- Increased risk of river flooding in winter
- Lower river levels in summer with warmer temperatures, with 80% of rivers exceeding the ideal temperature for salmon protection
- Disproportionate impacts on people who are low-income or have health issues, such as the effect of high heat levels on the elderly or flooding in low-income residential areas.

The SCAP is comprised of two sections, Mitigation and Adaption. Adaptation is how we deal with the impacts of climate change. At this time, King County has done a great deal of research to identify the impacts of climate change, but there are no concrete plans on how to help King County residents adapt in the 2015 plan. Hopefully this is more prominent in the 2020 plan.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

Almost everything we do uses energy, the source of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). Therefore, there seems to be a recommendation to change almost everything we consume, from light bulbs, straws and meat.

This article will focus on the top two sources of GHG, fossil fuels for transportation and energy used to heat, cool, and power our homes and buildings. There is also the topic of local consumption of goods and services (including



production, transportation, and use and disposal of goods), which is omitted for space.

King County Targets

GHG emission reduction targets were adopted by the King County Growth Management Planning Council in 2014, using a 2007 baseline. The key measure to reduce is metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. These are also based on absolute numbers, assuming a 1% rise in population per year. King County has grown at a faster rate than anticipated—13% since 2010—which puts pressure on these absolute numbers.

Here are the GHG reduction targets and a few key initiatives to support them.

25% reduction by 2020, per capita of 8.5 tons

- Establish net carbon neutrality for natural resources and parks by 2017
- Reduce energy use by 15% in County buildings by 2015
- Achieve a 70% recycling rate in King County by 2020
- Update green development codes for unincorporated King County by 2017

50% reduction by 2030, per capita of 5 tons

- Net carbon neutrality for Wastewater Treatment Division and Solid Waste Division by 2025
- Partner with utilities to phase out coal-fired electricity by 2025

80% reduction by 2050, per capita of 1.5 tons

- Doubling transit ridership by 2040
- Permanently preserve high priority open space by 2045
- Achieve 90% of renewable electricity supply by 2030

2015 SCAP

The 2015 SCAP sets the goal of 25% GHG reduction by 2020. There are five specific areas the SCAP identifies for reductions: transportation; building energy; building construction; consumption; and forests and

agriculture. Within each goal area, the County identified what it would do to reduce GHG emissions from its operations, and what it would do to reduce GHG countywide (this includes King County residents and businesses). For example, moving to electric buses to reduce GHG in operations or proving incentives to get people out of cars and riding buses.

As of 2018, King County was close to reaching its operations targets, which makes sense because the County has more control over its own operations. However, the bulk of GHG emissions is caused by individuals and businesses countywide, who use fossil fuels for transportation and building energy/construction. The next two sections examine what the County's plans were for reductions in these areas and its progress.

Transportation

1. Annual Metro Transit Ridership: Ridership was at 99% of the 2015 goal of 127 million riders annually; the 2020 goal is 142 million riders. Ridership is up to 126.1 million by 2017. This goal is currently in red status.
2. Commuter Transportation Choices: The target was to grow non-drive-alone travel by 6% from 2007 to 2020. This has been surpassed by 2017 and is on target.
3. New Construction within Urban Growth Areas: More density means shorter trips that are more conducive to alternative forms of travel. The target is to have 97% of all construction in UGAs; by 2017, this was at 98%.
4. Regional Trails Construction: The target is 190 miles of biking/pedestrian trails by 2020. In 2017, the County is at 179.1 miles, with 10 miles in design.
5. Vehicle Mileage Reduction: The target goal for total vehicle miles traveled by 2030 is 10.9 million. Vehicle miles have grown from 13.7 million in 2012 to 14.3 million in 2016. Strategies to change this direction will be critical to the 2020 plan.

Building Energy

1. Countywide Energy Use in Existing Buildings: The target is to reduce energy by 25% below 2012 levels by 2020. This was 139.1 trillion British thermal units and grew to 146.1 units in 2016. Colder winters and growing population are factors for the increase. The 2020 goal is 104.3 trillion units.



2. Increase Solar Energy Generation: This grew 21% from 2014 to 2017 and is on target.
3. Countywide Renewable Electricity Use: The target is 90% by 2030. In 2016, Seattle City Light led with 93% renewable energy, and Puget Sound Energy fell short at 40%.
4. Green Building Residential Certification: The target is that 75% of residential developments are certified green; in 2017, the number was 33%.

Summary

King County has been working on climate change mitigation since 2012. While there have been many improvements, there is still a way to go. To meet the targets set, there will need to be significant changes in the ways we travel to jobs, school, and other trips—including our forums and unit meetings! As you listen to the forum and discuss this at unit meetings, think about how we can change our behaviors to use energy differently without feeling like we must sacrifice or do more with less.

The League will be tracking the SCAP update as it is approved by the County Council. The biennial progress report and the SCAP are due to the Council in June 2020.

Sources:

King County Climate Action page: www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/climate.aspx. Click "2020 SCAP update."

The 2017 Biennial Report is available at <http://bit.ly/KCclimatereport>; much of the support for this article is found on pages 4-19.

Climate Change and YOU

by Janice Camp and Cathy O'Shea



Call it weird weather, global warming, or fake news—something is changing in the natural world, and changing so regularly and persistently that it is beginning to affect our everyday lives. Rising levels of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide and methane) have been linked to global warming, resulting in changes in the climate. Whatever you believe to be the cause of this phenomenon, the planet's systems are not responding fast enough to this rise in greenhouse gas concentrations to accommodate and equilibrate the systems of civilization and life we have come to know.

Flooding and high-water records are exceeded year after year. In the last three years, at least one Category 5 hurricane has hit the United States. Low-lying cities such as New York, Miami, and New Orleans routinely flood during high tide. Drought and heat have led to massive forest fires in Alaska, California, and Siberia; it is also destroying crops and habitat for humans and numerous animal and insect species. Ocean acidification is destroying coral beds and fish habitat, and environmental refugees are moving to higher or safer ground, causing political and economic disruptions all around the world.

It is hard not to feel helpless, and at best, just struggle to adapt the best you can—such as buying flood insurance, clearing vegetation from around your house to protect against forest fires, putting together a disaster kit, getting an air conditioner or heat pump, or setting up a rain barrel to store water.

But there are things YOU can do to reduce or mitigate the effects of global warming and resulting climate change, not only for yourself, but also for your children and grandchildren. It is estimated we have just 10 to 12 years to make major changes in our lifestyles to mitigate the worst effects of climate change.

It is imperative that Americans do something—anything—both collectively and individually to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The U.S. has one of the biggest carbon emission footprints. (Carbon footprint is a measure of the impact of human activity on the environment as measured in units of carbon dioxide.) China produces more carbon dioxide than the U.S., but the U.S. produces more carbon dioxide per capita than most other countries. We have a richer lifestyle. One must also consider that much of China's carbon dioxide production is due to their rapid industrialization to provide consumer goods for the U.S. markets.

There are several websites to help you calculate your personal carbon footprint (see below). Once you know your carbon footprint, you can start strategizing ways to reduce it. If we Americans worked to reduce our own personal carbon footprint by 50% or more, it would have a big impact on reducing global greenhouse gases over time.

There are several things you can do, as an individual, to help mitigate climate change. Some of the highest impact activities include:

continued on next page

- **Live car-free:** Individual cars collectively contribute as much or more carbon emissions than coal-fired power plants. Carbon emissions have not been well-controlled or reduced, and more cars contribute to a greater need for roads that use cement and asphalt, which requires energy and fossil fuels. Roads can also contribute to water run-off and flooding.
- **Avoid air travel:** Air traffic has increased dramatically since 1985. Planes fly and emit pollutants where the air is thin, and pollutants have a greater impact on global heating. Warmer air makes plane take-offs more difficult, potentially disrupting air travel.
- **Eat a plant-based diet:** Animals emit methane, a greenhouse gas, and producing animal feed stock uses farm land that could be used for vegetable crops. It takes more land to produce beef than to raise equivalent protein in plant-based foods. Forest-clearing for raising cattle in the Amazon destroys forest that could sequester carbon dioxide.
- **Have fewer children:** Overpopulation has put severe strains on resources and the ability of the planet to respond to assaults to the natural environment, and American children use the most resources.

Other activities may be helpful for individuals to do to mitigate climate change, such as:

- Improving home heating and cooling efficiency;
- Using solar power (eliminating home heating oil and natural gas)
- Buying energy efficient products
- Reducing, reusing, recycling
- Eating local
- Conserving water
- Minimizing waste (less packaging)
- Planting a tree
- Composting
- Buying organic
- Line-drying clothes
- Using LED light bulbs

Whatever YOU personally chose to do, you MUST do something, anything, as soon as possible to mitigate the worst effects of global warming. The more you and your family and friends do now, the better. Climate change is not coming—it is already here and getting worse.

Sources (if you are reading the online PDF version, you can click on the URL for a direct link):

- CarbonBrief: how countries carbon footprints compare: <http://bit.ly/341DU5M>
- "Change Your Diet to Combat Climate Change in 2019," CNN Health: <http://bit.ly/CNNdietarticle>
- Cool Climate Network calculator: <https://coolclimate.berkeley.edu/calculator>
- Climate Change Connection on the impact of air travel: <http://bit.ly/climateair>
- IPCC reports on global warming: <https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/>
- The Nature Conservancy's carbon footprint calculator: <http://bit.ly/NCcarboncalculator>
- Union of Concerned Scientists climate action website: <http://bit.ly/concerned-climate>

League of Women Voters Positions Related to Climate

Central to the work of the League of Women Voters are our positions, which are much like policy statements. The League arrives at a position after extensively studying an issue and seeking the consensus of its membership. Positions are the foundation upon which the League conducts its advocacy efforts—the organization cannot go against its established positions in a ballot measure endorsement or when advocating on an issue, for example. The local King County League can also base its advocacy and actions upon state and national League positions.

As part of November's forum and unit discussions, we are asking members to review our positions on climate and related positions to identify where the League may need to fill in gaps or make refinements. Please read through the relevant positions below.

All of the League's positions are available at <http://bit.ly/LWV-advocacy>. Please feel free to give feedback to Cathy O'Shea at coshea120@gmail.com.

The **League of Women Voters of the United States** believes that climate change is a serious threat facing our nation and our planet.

Positions include:

- An interrelated approach to address energy conservation, air pollution controls, resilience, renewable resources
- Support for climate goals and policies that are consistent with best available science
- The U.S. government should move ahead immediately on initiatives to reduce emissions

The **League of Women Voters of Washington** has long advocated for the environment and climate change policies. The state League also refers to the national League's positions on climate change.

In 2019, the LWVWA passed a resolution to address climate change at all levels of the state and local organization and reduce its own carbon footprint where practicable when conducting meetings and forums.

League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County

The word "climate" is not part of LWVSKC positions; however, as early as 1975 the League established positions regarding the environment, water quality, and energy.

Transportation and Growth Management

- Support concentration of population growth by coordinating GMP to support mass transit system and reduce sprawl (2004)

Energy

- Support zero energy growth through conservation, use of technology for energy savings, fuel conservation, and building standards to conserve energy (1994)
- Support research and development of new energy sources (solar, wind, geothermal, tides) (1975)
- Opposed deregulation of the electric industry due to potential environmental impact (1998)

Solid Waste Management

- Support waste reduction and recycling (1985)

Air Quality

- Support reducing carbon dioxide (2005)

Drainage and Wastewater Management

- Support policies, legislation and processes for storm water management to protect habitats (2009)

Regional Water Supply

- Support water conservation (1996, 1999)
- Support regional approach to water resources, watersheds, basins, aquifers; decision-making bodies accountable to citizens of the region (1999)
- Support allocation of waters among potential uses and users to secure maximum net benefit for people of the state (1971)

BOOK REVIEW by Vicky Downs

HOW DEMOCRACIES DIE

By Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt

Levitsky and Ziblatt are both professors of government at Harvard. They tell us, "The weakening of our democratic norms is rooted in extreme partisan polarization—one that extends beyond policy differences into existential conflict over race and culture." This often leads to populists who are antiestablishment politicians claiming to represent the voice of "the people."

They show us how democratic populism in Europe and Latin America led to tyranny. In our own country, political parties today represent not just different policy approaches, but also different communities, cultures, and values. Through such things as polarizing media and gerrymandering, we are turning ourselves into communities of the like-minded.

The authors continue, "Blatant dictatorships in the form of fascism, communism or military rule have disappeared across much of the world, but democracies still die." Nowadays elected governments are killing democracy: Georgia, Columbia, Philippines, Poland, Russia, and Turkey are examples.

In these countries we see no coup or suspension of the constitution. Instead we see would-be authoritarians jail the opposition media. In Turkey, President Erdogan fined the powerful Dogan media group an amount nearly exceeding the company's total worth, for "tax evasion." Dogan was forced to sell off two large newspapers and a TV station. Vladimir Putin did something similar.

The authors suggest that "[t]he guardrails of American democracy are weakening." For example, when a group questions the very legitimacy of political rivals, and when they "abandon forbearance" in order to win by any way necessary. This happened with

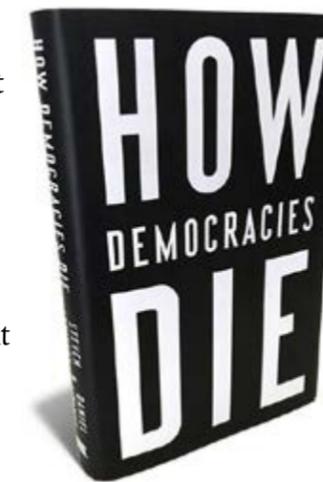
Mussolini's "March to Rome," in Hitler's Beer Hall Putsch in Germany, Chavez's rewriting of the Venezuelan constitution, and in the U.S. when the Republican Senate refused to consider Obama's nominee for the Supreme Court.

This book reminds us of such people as Louisiana's Governor Huey Long, who one historian described as "the nearest approach to totalitarian state the

American public has ever seen," and Father Coughlin, "a fiery nationalist" who often defended the Nazi regime in the 1930s.

Clearly, America is not immune to breakdowns of democracy. Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson wanted to annihilate each other. In the 19th century "stabblings, canings and the pulling of pistols" took place on the floor of the U.S. House and Senate. The Civil War was a low point in the story of American democracy.

What do we need in order to support democracy? The authors say, "A broad opposition coalition would have important benefits." Also, we need to look at the norms that have sustained our democracy in ways we now take for granted. We need to develop mutual tolerance and learn to understand the "other" so we can see him as a legitimate



Voter Services

Units Unite Us: Adopt-a-Voter

by Roslyn Duffy

“*New Member November*” is here. The challenge is for every member of every unit to invite one friend to your November meeting. Better plan on extra snacks for all the extra folks! Of course, this won’t happen without “U,” the real YOU in *Units Unite Us*. Will it be a former member, a newly-minted citizen, or the person you chat with on your walks or in the hallway? Whomever they may be, welcome to them and thank you for inviting them.

Be sure to let us know your visitor count, so we can all celebrate!

Next up—a new goal for all units. We want to be sure every potential voter has what they need to successfully exercise their right to vote. Although we may not be able to do much before the 2019 election, we want to set this process in motion for upcoming elections. What group do you know that may need support or encouragement? Barbra Chevalier, our Voter Services Liaison, has prepared a blueprint for us.

Adopt-a-Voter by Barbra Chevalier

The League’s Voter Services Committee (VSC) provides nonpartisan, impartial education and outreach to voters. In contrast to the League’s action and advocacy efforts, which use League positions to advocate for ballot measures or take action around an important issue, Voter Services provides “just the facts.”

Voter Services programming includes candidate forums, ballot measure summaries, voter registration and training, get-out-the-vote (GOTV) campaigns, a speakers’ bureau, Ballots & Baristas, Observer Corps, and civic education. These are the ways in which we actually talk to voters. (The LWVWA Voter Services Committee provides lists of voters, with resources to target voters.)

Here is what is needed. First, choose a group of voters that may need assistance. Examples:

- People in jail but not convicted of a felony (VSC is currently working on organizing this outreach)
- People experiencing homelessness (VSC also working on these connections)
- Community college and university students
- New citizens or non-English speaking populations
- Infrequent voters – One task would be to find out why they only vote every 4 years (or not at all) and encourage them to change their habits.

“Adopt-a-Voter” continued on page 18

**Continuity gives us roots;
change gives us branches, letting us stretch
and grow and reach new heights.**

—Pauline R. Kezer, Vice Chair, Connecticut Republicans (1987-89)



In prior Censuses, the self-response rate in many parts of the country has been relatively high.

Though this is not the case for all population groups, some of which are considered hard to count (HTC). Some reasons households may not submit their Census questionnaire include language barriers or mistrust of government. HTC areas are identified based on the last Census.

The Census Bureau sends enumerators into the field to talk with each non-responding household one-by-one. This “non-response follow-up” component of the Census can be difficult, time-consuming, and costly (to the Bureau and to taxpayers). And if these groups and their communities are not counted fairly & accurately, they will be deprived of equal political representation and vital resources.

HTC people tend to have these characteristics:

- People of color
- Low-income or no-income households
- Rural residents
- Limited English proficiency
- Frequent movers or renters
- Large or single-parent households
- People experiencing homelessness
- Foreign-born residents
- Low educational attainment households
- People who distrust government authorities or could be targets of law enforcement

Census: Hard-to-Count Communities

by Cathy O’Shea

King County HTC areas

A map of King County’s HTC areas can be found at <http://bit.ly/KCHTCareas>. While some of the hardest to count areas are concentrated in western King County and south of Seattle, there are also hard to count pockets to the east of Seattle. On the east side, there is a great deal of recent movement into the area; up to 45% of the residents in certain tracts are foreign-born. While the citizenship question may impact non-documented responders, foreign-born residents on the east side are more typically documented and working for our local tech companies. These people may simply not be aware of the Census and its impact.

“Census” continued on p. 19

“How Democracies Die” cont’d from page 13

rival rather than the enemy. Racial exclusion is in and of itself profoundly undemocratic, and gerrymandering, which elevates one dominant political group is an abuse of power. We need to honor “forbearance,” which would lead politicians to refrain from doing something simply because technically, they can. We need to strengthen constitutional safeguards such as the system of checks and balances.

Countries that have not developed guardrails and eventually became dictatorships show us what happens if we do not work for our democracy. This book dismantles the myth of American exceptionalism and shows us that our League values are more important than ever.

Opinions in this book review are personal and do not necessarily represent those of the League.

King County Connects — Announcements

International Relations is hosting a special presentation on computer security:

Protecting Our Country, Our Elections, and Ourselves

Presentation by Kim Peterson, M.Sc. Computer Science and LWVSKC member

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

7:30 – 9:00 PM, refreshments at 7:00 PM
909 East Newton Street, Unit D-9 (Seattle)

Please RSVP to Vicky Downs at 206-328-3926

Computers are vital to us, and protection against computer attacks even more so. Gone are the days when we only had to worry about criminals; other countries are attacking us now:

- June 14, 2019: “E.U.: Russians Interfered in Our Elections, Too” (*Washington Post*, <https://wapo.st/2Nfiuvd>)
- October 1, 2019: “Are Cyber-Operations a U.S. Retaliatory Option for the Saudi Oil Field Strikes? Would Such Action Deter Iran?” (*Washington Post*, <https://wapo.st/31Tw0JX>)
- October 4, 2019: “Trump Re-Election Campaign Targeted by Iran-Linked Hackers: Sources” (*Reuters*, <https://reut.rs/31LELWt>)
- October 8, 2019: “Top Secret Russian Unit Seeks to Destabilize Europe, Security Officials Say” (*New York Times*, <https://nyti.ms/2Neke7T>)

The 30-minute presentation will include a brief history and descriptions of cyber-attacks, and information about what organizations and individuals can do to prevent and mitigate computer attacks. Much of the time will be dedicated to questions and discussion.

committees

League committees meet and talk to community leaders, engage with subject matter experts, and have direct input on local issues that affect you.

Don't see a committee that covers your issue? Email info@seattlelwv.org or contact a committee chair (contact info on inside back cover). Sometimes people are working more informally without regularly scheduled meetings. If so, we may be able to help connect you with them or help you start your own.

Economics and Taxation Committee

DATE: Saturday, November 23
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: 909 E. Newton #D-9, Seattle

Education Committee

DATE: Saturday, November 16
TIME: 11:00 a.m.
PLACE: League Office

Homelessness Study Committee

DATE: Tuesday, November 19
TIME: 4:30 p.m.
PLACE: League Office

International Relations Committee

currently on hiatus; contact chair for more info

League in Action



The League of Women Voters of Washington has made the following ballot measure endorsements:

Approval of Referendum 88/Initiative 1000

Initiative 1000 would allow the state to remedy documented or proven discrimination against, or underrepresentation of, certain disadvantaged groups. It would allow the state to implement affirmative action in public education, employment, and contracting if the action does not use quotas or preferential treatment. It would define affirmative action and preferential treatment. It would establish a Governor's commission on diversity, equity, and inclusion to ensure state agency compliance, comment on legislation, and publish annual reports.



The LWVWA Board first voiced its support for I-1000 at its November 2018 board meeting and advocated for the measure in the 2019 legislative session. Support for this measure is based on LWVWA positions on social policy and LWVUS positions on equality of opportunity.

Opposition to Initiative 976

I-976 violates League positions in that it would have a devastating financial effect on state and local jurisdictions' ability to fund transportation, particularly transit. While holding car tab fees to \$30, the initiative would cause the State transportation budget to lose more than \$4 billion in the next six years.¹ Currently, these fees are allocated to the State motor vehicle fund (70%) for use by counties, cities and towns; the State transportation improvement account (15%) for use by the state to improve mobility; and the State rural arterial trust account (15%) for construction and improvements to rural arterials and bridges. Among other things, these dollars can finance projects not eligible for funding by the gas tax.

The biggest financial impact of I-976 to Sound Transit would be to reduce its sales tax revenue (\$1.34 billion) by 75%, with a smaller but significant decrease in its motor vehicle excise tax revenue (\$337.9 million). These are the top two financing sources for Sound Transit, comprising 60% and 15%, respectively, of the Sound Transit budget. In addition, more than 60 Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs) receive revenue from vehicle license fees, and 55 TBDs use vehicle license fees as their sole funding source. The Association of WA Cities has an interactive tool that calculates the impacts of I-976 for many local TBDs. See <http://bit.ly/AWCTBDinfo>.

The LWVWA Board voted to oppose this initiative at its August 2019 meeting based on positions requiring a balanced tax structure and adequate and predictable funding for all transportation modes.

“Adopt-a-Voter” continued from p. 14

Make sure your chosen population has all the tools needed to vote:

- Registration, including change of address updates
- Ballots (either a place to receive mail, or computer access)
- Help with using vouchers (Seattle only)
- Help with using mail-in ballot
- Information about candidates (Vote411.org + forums) and ballot measures
- Motivation!

We also need volunteers to take part in existing programs:

- Ballots & Baristas—facilitate community conversations about ballot measures
- School district or PTA—encourage use of the LWVWA textbook
- Candidate or ballot measure forums—voter education for local communities

Finally, look for ways to celebrate and encourage voting:

- Ballot Drop Box—set up shifts of volunteers to hand out “I Voted” stickers to people who return their ballots.
- Voter recognition—ask local businesses to offer promotions to patrons showing voter stubs during the final week of voting.
- Other—your ideas here!

Onward!

The following information is required to be published under United States Postal Service periodical mailing regulations.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title: **The Voter**

2. Publication Number: **0522-10**

3. Filing Date: **10/23/19**

4. Issue Frequency: **Monthly except June and August**

5. Number of Issues Published Annually: **10**

6. Annual Subscription Price: **\$0**

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4):
**League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County
1511 3rd AVE, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101**

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer):
League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County, 1511 3rd AVE, Suite 900, Seattle, WA 98101

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address):
League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County, 1511 3rd AVE, Suite 900, Seattle, WA 98101
Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
Kristen Johnson, Same
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
Kristen Johnson, Same

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)
Full Name: **League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County**
Complete Mailing Address: **1511 3rd AVE, Suite 900, Seattle, WA 98101**

13. Publication Title: **The Voter**

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: **October 2019**

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
Monthly Newsletter to Membership			
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		600	575
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		532	511
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		532	511
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		41	32
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))		41	32
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		573	543
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		29	32
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		600	575
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		93%	94%

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

16. Electronic Copy Circulation

16. Electronic Copy Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Paid Electronic Copies			
b. Total Paid Free Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)			
c. Total Paid Distribution (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)			
d. Percent Paid (Both Paid Free & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 15f times 100)			

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership:
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the **November 2019** issue of this publication. Publication not required.

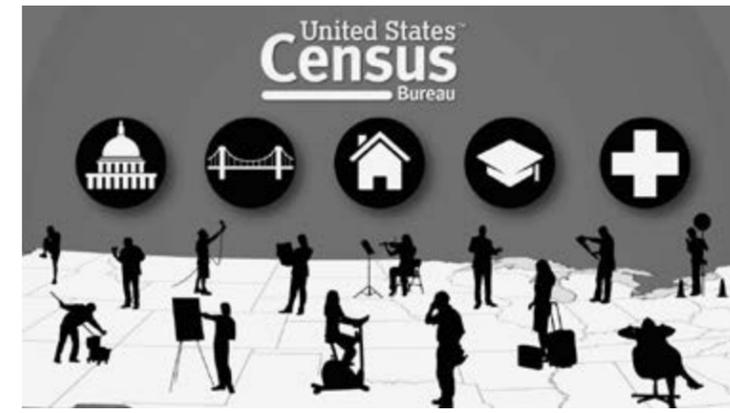
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: _____ Date: **Oct 23, 2019**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Census cont'd from p. 15

The Census is working to support people who do not speak English. Most materials including the paper questionnaire will be provided in Spanish as well as English. Responses can be completed in 12 non-English languages on the internet. Phone callers can respond to the Census in 59 languages.

Groups who serve HTC communities are getting grants and developing support. For instance, the United Way Tax Assistance team is training Intake Specialists to also provide help on taking the Census when people come to get their taxes done.



Internet Access

For the first time, the Census will rely heavily on online responses. It is estimated that only 20% of households will actually receive a paper form. Paper forms will be distributed based on who has not responded by the time that the fourth mailer goes out to households. Therefore, those with limited internet access or ability will be a new focus in 2020.

King County Update

King County Assessor John Wilson is one of six county officials from around the country appointed by the National Association of Counties to a new 2020 Census Working Group. This group will share best practices being used by counties to help ensure an accurate and complete count.

Be a Census Ambassador

The Census is hiring! They are looking for people to be field enumerators (go door-to-door to collect information from non-responders). Apply at 2020census.gov/en/jobs; you must be a U.S. citizen to apply.

Who do you know who has moved, is unfamiliar with the Internet or may have one of the HTC characteristics. Who do you know may be foreign-born? They should complete the Census even if they are not a citizen. Touch base with them in April and make sure they complete the Census.

Do you work with a group that serves hard to count groups? Find out what they are doing. Are they aware there are grant opportunities to help them?

Resources:

- Census Hard to Count maps: <https://www.censushardtocountmaps2020.us>
- King County HTC map: <http://bit.ly/KCHTCareas>
- 2020 Census Non-English Language Support: <http://bit.ly/32Rcakb>

unit discussion questions

1. What changes are you personally willing to make to address climate change? For example, give up your car, switch to a non-fossil fuel home heating system, travel by public transportation, eliminate air travel, stop eating meat, live in a denser neighborhood...
2. Other than inconvenience, what keeps you from making changes to save the planet for future generations?
3. Where should King County policies, resources and efforts be focused in terms of mitigation and adaptation to climate change?
4. What financial incentives should King County or local municipalities use to get property owners to upgrade the energy efficiency of personal and commercial buildings?
5. How should local policies address social equity in the vulnerable groups of people who will be more impacted by climate change?
6. What County policy changes could help to get people out of their cars?
7. Should LWVSKC update our positions to include climate change or continue to leverage State and national positions?
8. What action should we take based on these positions?



All are invited to attend a special unit meeting to hear a report on the importance of UNIONS in America today. Discussion to follow.

Monday, November 18
Doors open at 7 p.m. Program 7:30 to 9 p.m.
909 E. Newton Street, Apt. D-9
Please RSVP at (206) 328-3926

Unit Meetings

Everyone is invited to attend the League's neighborhood discussion groups, called unit meetings, to meet people passionate about League and our community. Units meetings are a great way for new members to learn about League. Units typically discuss the monthly forum topic or other issues of local interest. Unit times and locations subject to change; please verify with unit leader.

Time	Location	Email contact	Phone
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13			
Queen Anne/Magnolia/Ballard (Evening Unit) – Kathy Pugh and Marlis Worthington			
7:30 p.m.	Magnolia Church of Christ 3555 W. McGraw Street	ckp1966@comcast.net marliswrt@hotmail.com	503-580-1240 206-283-7147
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14			
Mercer Island – Toni Okada and Julie Sarkissian			
9:30 a.m.	Emmanuel Episcopal Church 4400 86th Avenue SE	td.okada@yahoo.com juliesarkissian@hotmail.com	206-232-1418 206-236-2953
Issaquah – Judy Love			
10:00 a.m.	Issaquah City Hall Coho Room, 2nd Floor 130 E. Sunset Way	judysteveL@gmail.com	425-417-8600
SE King County/Enumclaw – Cathy Dormaier			
12:00 p.m.	Various restaurants; contact unit leader for info.	clcathy@skynetbb.com	360-802-6799
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15			
University House/Wallingford – Janet Kime			
2:00 p.m.	University House San Juan Room 4400 Stone Way N. (Seattle)	kraftyjane@comcast.net	206-588-0988
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16			
Queen Anne/Magnolia/Ballard (Day Unit) – Kerry Peterson			
10:00 a.m.	Contact unit leader for info	bmqaday@seattlelwv.org	206-619-0867

Unit times and locations subject to change; please check with unit leader.

Time	Location	Email contact	Phone
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18			
First Hill/Horizon House – Adele Reynolds			
10:30 a.m.	Horizon House Forum & Social Room 900 University Street (Seattle)	adelereynolds@netscape.net	206-621-4867
South Seattle – Kay Kite and Sarah Miller			
5:00 p.m.	Raconteur at Third Place Books 5041 Wilson Avenue S.	mkk45@icloud.com sarabethmiller410@gmail.com	206-295-6104 206-799-2061
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19			
Bellevue/Kirkland/Redmond (Day Unit) – Cathy O’Shea			
12:00 p.m.	Kirkland Library 308 Kirkland Avenue	coshea120@gmail.com	425-753-4182
West Seattle – Ethel Williams and Pat Lane			
1:00 p.m.	Daystar Retirement Village 2615 SW Barton Street	etheljw@comcast.net pgblain11@gmail.com	206-932-7887 206-932-1578
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20			
NE Seattle – Jeanette Johnson			
12:45 p.m.	Magnuson Park Brig Building Ravenna Room 7400 Sand Point Way NE	jeanettejohnson10@msn.com	206-724-3392
<i>Directions: Go into the Park through the North entrance at 74th and drive EAST toward water. At the STOP sign, turn LEFT to park in front of the Brig, or RIGHT, for more parking.</i>			
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26			
N. King County – Judy Deiro and Sally Corbett			
7:00 p.m.	Third Place Commons 17171 Bothell Way NE Lake Forest Park	judy.deiro@gmail.com sallycorbett@comcast.net	425-820-9096 206-356-3459

Board & Committee Contacts

Term	Executive Committee			
2019-21	<i>President</i>	Alyssa Weed	206-329-4848	president@seattlelww.org
2018-20	<i>1st VP - Development</i>	Christy Wood	206-707-3845	development@seattlelww.org
2019-21	<i>2nd VP - Action</i>	Heather Kelly	206-329-4848	action@seattlelww.org
2017-19	<i>Secretary</i>	Janice Camp	206-329-4848	janice@seattlelww.org
2018-20	<i>Treasurer</i>	Cathy O’Shea	425-753-4182	treasurer@seattlelww.org
Directors				
2018-20	<i>Development</i>	Kiku Hayashi	206-329-4848	kikuhayashi1@gmail.com
2019-21	<i>Communications</i>	Kristen Johnson	206-329-4848	communications@seattlelww.org
2019-21	<i>Voter Service</i>	Chelsea Jordan	206-329-4848	voterservice@seattlelww.org
2019-21	<i>Units</i>	Roslyn Duffy	206-329-4848	roslyn@seattlelww.org
2019-21	<i>Outreach & Events</i>	Melissa Taylor	206-329-4848	melissataylor.lwvskc@gmail.com
<i>Note: All board members listed above are also members of the Education Fund Board</i>				
Education Fund Officers — same as above except Treasurer				
	<i>Treasurer</i>	Linda Snider	206-329-4848	eftreasurer@seattlelww.org
Nominating Committee				
2019-20	<i>Chair</i>	Stephanie Cirkovich	206-329-4848	
2019-20		Linnea Hirst	206-329-4848	lwvquilter@comcast.net
2019-20		Kathy Pugh	206-329-4848	ckp1966@comcast.net
Off Board Positions				
	<i>Voter Editor</i>	open	206-329-4848	votereditor@seattlelww.org
Committee Chairs				
	<i>Communications</i>	Kristen Johnson		communications@seattlelww.org
	<i>Economics & Taxation</i>	Nora Leech		nleech2002@yahoo.com
	<i>Education</i>	Joanna Cullen	206-329-8514	jfoxcullen@gmail.com
	<i>Homelessness Study</i>	Lauren Pixley		lpixley@uw.edu
	<i>International Relations</i>	Kim Peterson	206-789-7447	
	<i>Observer Corps</i>	Cathy O’Shea	425-753-4182	coshea120@gmail.com
	<i>Waterfront</i>	Nancy & Charles Bagley	206-282-1578	candnbagley@comcast.net

League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County
1511 3rd Ave, Suite 900
Seattle WA 98101

Periodicals Postage
Paid at Seattle, WA

Moving? Prefer the online edition? Let us know!

Call the League office at (206) 329-4848 or
email info@seattlelwv.org

LWVSKC NOVEMBER FORUM:
Climate Change in King County

Thursday, November 7
7:00 p.m.

Seattle First Baptist Church
1111 Harvard Ave (at Seneca)
Seattle, WA 98122

Free and open to the public

Climate change is here, so your local government is focused on adaptation as well as continuing mitigation of climate change. Our November Forum will focus on Climate Change in King County. Come hear how our cities, port and county are working on mitigation like reducing fossil fuel use, and adapting to higher temperatures and lower snowpack and river levels.