

# The Voter

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

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## League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County Urges “No” Vote on Proposition 1

The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County unanimously voted to oppose Seattle Proposition 1, the Families, Education and Preschool Promise (FEPP) Levy, in addition to urging the city to convene a coalition to address concerns about the proposed levy before taking further action.

Although the Board’s decision to oppose Proposition 1 was unanimous, it was not made lightly. Children from low-income families deserve high-quality preschools. High school graduates deserve to attend college, even when they cannot afford it. But the levy’s vague language and regressive nature make it an inappropriate vehicle for funding these priorities.

Chief among the League’s concerns is the confusing language in the proposition on how levy funds will be spent. Specifically, the measure provides that:

Proceeds may only be leveraged to support Seattle School District and Seattle Colleges *programs or functions with the existence of a current, effective Partnership Agreement* (emphasis added). (Prop. 1, Sec. 10.)

This clause creates the possibility that levy funds will flow to charter schools, a possibility that city officials have yet to deny. The League has consistently opposed public funding of charter schools because they lack transparency and public accountability. They can also exacerbate segregation and educational disparities.

Moreover, the League has opposed the use of levies as long-term funding sources, particularly in areas where funding responsibility lies with the state. “Taxpayers cannot continue to bear the burden of filling the funding gaps in our communities, the importance of these services notwithstanding,” said LWVS-KC President Stephanie Cirkovich. “Homeowners can expect their taxes to increase by an average of \$112 annually under this levy, and they deserve to know how those funds will be spent.”

The League also opposes the Levy because it prioritizes special programming over basic education. Officials concede that it would reduce funding for K-12 over the expiring levy, straining Seattle Public Schools during a period of economic hardship. The timing of the FEPP Levy vote puts public schools in further jeopardy. In February, SPS will be asking voters to renew its operations and capital levies through its sole funding source—property taxes. If voters approve the FEPP Levy in November, they may reject additional taxes desperately needed by SPS. The city has a duty to ensure that K-12 is fully funded before expanding services under the levy.

Earlier this year, the city modified Proposition 1 in response to public outcry when an earlier version cut key services. The city owes voters the same transparency now and should invite further public input on the content, scope, and implementation of this measure. Unless the city commits to resolving the concerns of the League expressed here, voters should reject Proposition 1.

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### **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.

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## Connecting with the Leadership

For the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County, October and November are some of our busiest months. Not only are we aggressively registering new voters so they can participate in the general election in November, but we have several election related-events happening, such as:

- Gearing up for the county-wide Ballot & Baristas events
- Hosting several candidate and ballot issue forums
- Hosting phone banking and postcard-writing parties, spearheaded by the units, to remind registered voters to cast their ballots in November.

It's a momentum that continues throughout the winter and spring with the new issue of They Represent You (TRY) coming in the winter; the 2007 homeless study being updated; Action Workshops happening in Seattle and Shoreline; our annual Voices of Democracy event; and so much more!

Now, more than ever, our members are taking the League's transformation journey to heart, moving our work forward in new and exciting ways. And in the background, like a squirrel gathering nuts to sustain itself through the winter, the Board is hard at work strengthening our financial footing.

As the new Development Chair, I am looking at our funding streams and finding ways to raise funds that don't rely solely on our members.

To help accomplish this we have retained the consulting services of Lynn Gerlach of Tamarack Communications. She is working with a "blue-ribbon panel" comprised of former League presidents, key leadership and current members. This group is looking

at ways to establish several long-term community partnerships to ensure funding support for several years to come.

We've also revamped the Leadership Circle donor program, expanding the program's donor benefits to include:

- League-branded merchandise
- Invitation to an exclusive annual Leadership Circle event
- Special "Leadership Circle Only" event pricing
- Free admission to the LWVS-KC's Annual Meeting

This three-year pledge program provides important operational funding that helps us with the day-to-day expenses of running the League's mission, programs, and services. Anyone can join. Three-year commitments start at \$720, which is only \$240 a year and just \$20 a month!

And that's not all! We're looking at grant opportunities, hosting house parties, adding new and improved events, and launching a Seattle-King County League-branded online merchandise store.

I look forward to helping expand the League's development programs—look for fundraising updates in future issues of *The Voter*. If you have questions or would like more information on the Leadership Circle donor program, please do not hesitate to contact me at [development@seattlelwv.org](mailto:development@seattlelwv.org).

### Christy Wood

Christy Wood  
1st Vice President/Development Chair

# October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Voter Registration at the Fall City Library	4 Forum on Ballot Measures 7 p.m. Int'l Relations Comm. 7 p.m.	5	6 Board Meeting 10 a.m. Voter Reg. at Duvall Library
7	8	9	10	11	12 Voter Deadline	13 Voter Registration and tabling event at The Seattle Women's Show
14	15 Candidate Forums in Bellevue, Bonney Lake, Skyway	16	17 Candidate Forums in Mercer Island and Shoreline	18 Candidate Forum in Kent	19	20
21 An Afternoon with Author Elaine Weiss	22	23 Ballots & Baristas: A night out for democracy in King County	24 Candidate Forum in North Bend	25 Education Comm. 11:00 a.m.	26	27 Econ & Tax Comm. 9:30 a.m. Candidate Forum in Covington
28	29	30 Candidate Forum in Redmond	31	November 1	2	3 Board Meeting 10 a.m.
4	5	6 <b>ELECTION DAY</b>	7	8	9	10 Voter Deadline

*Units meet during shaded period; see pages 17-18 for details. See page 12 for candidate forum details.*

## October

Internat'l Relations Committee  
Thursday, October 4  
7:00 p.m.  
909 E. Newton #D-9, Seattle

Forum - Ballot Measures  
Thursday, October 4  
7:00 p.m.  
The Collective  
400 Dexter Avenue N  
Seattle

Board Meeting  
Saturday, October 6  
10:00 a.m.  
League Office

**The Voter Deadline**  
Friday, October 12  
  
Ballots & Baristas  
Tuesday, October 23  
see page 7 for details

Education Committee  
Thursday, October 25  
11:00 a.m.  
League Office

Econ. & Tax. Committee  
Saturday, October 27  
9:30 a.m.  
909 E. Newton #D-9, Seattle

## November

Board Meeting  
Saturday, November 3  
10:00 a.m.  
League Office

**The Voter Deadline**  
Friday, November 9

## Forum Schedule

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**October 4 - Election Forum**  
**November 1 - GOTV**  
**December 6 - Housing Affordability**  
**January 3 - Program Planning**

The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County (LWVS-KC) presents a public forum most months between September and May, generally on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Most forums are held at the Seattle First Baptist Church, but occasionally they are scheduled at other locations and times. Check the *Voter* each month or the LWVS-KC website, [seattlelwv.org](http://seattlelwv.org), for up-to-date information. Past forums are frequently televised and can be accessed from the resources page of the website.

## Board Briefs by Katie Dudley, Secretary

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*The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County and Education Fund Boards met on August 4, 2018. This is a summary of their work.*

Now that summer is over, the board is back to regularly-scheduled meetings. The board convened on Saturday, September 15 for a long and lively session.

This meeting was an endorsement meeting, which meant that the discussion was even livelier than usual. Dianne Ramsay and Pat Griffith presented the Education Committee's compiled findings regarding the upcoming FEPP Levy. Stay tuned for the board's announcement on that.

Two action workshops are coming up in the near future. One, in November, still requires a venue, but Heather Kelly is working actively to find a good location for that workshop, and it should be a valuable experience for all.

Alyssa Weed announced that she would like to start a Programming Committee for forums - reach out to the office if you're interested. Additionally, there's a post-election get-together at Optimism Brewery on Capitol Hill if you're interested in attending - it's very close to the church where forums are usually held.

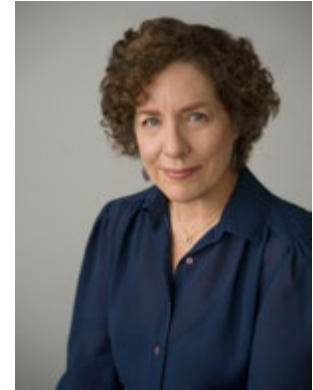
The board also decided to have a regular discussion at each meeting regarding what board members will contribute to the *Voter* in any given month.

Finally, the board unanimously voted to reduce student memberships to \$10/head.

# King County Connects — Announcements

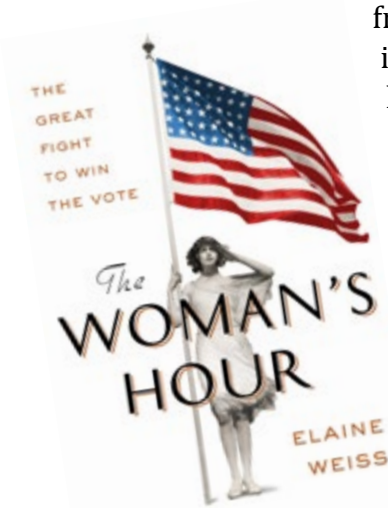
## An Afternoon with Author Elaine Weiss on October 21 to Benefit the League

Award-winning author and journalist Elaine Weiss will discuss the themes of her new book, *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*, which is being adapted for television by Steven Spielberg and Hillary Clinton (see book review p. 10). With archival images and historic scenes, Elaine will illustrate lessons learned from the suffrage movement, and of course, talk about how Carrie Chapman Catt envisioned the future of the League of Women Voters.



Elaine Weiss. Photo by Nina Subin.

Leadership Circle members are invited to a free pre-event reception and book signing with Ms. Weiss; for more information on how to join the Leadership Circle email christywood@hotmail.com. Otherwise, a very limited number of tickets are available for \$20 at [www.lwvskc.org](http://www.lwvskc.org). Tickets will not be sold at the door. Proceeds will benefit the League of Women Voters of Seattle King-County's Education Fund and will be shared with the League of Women Voters of Washington.



**October 21, 2018 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.**  
**Atlas Workbase**  
**500 Mercer Street, Seattle**

*free parking at the 500 Mercer Street Garage (entrance on Taylor Avenue N)*

Please don't forget to complete your LWV membership survey at

[www.bit.ly/WSF-survey](http://www.bit.ly/WSF-survey)

or

[www.seattlelwv.org/2018-member-survey.html](http://www.seattlelwv.org/2018-member-survey.html)

Your responses help improve the League!



### 2018 MEMBER SURVEY

We need your input! Please help the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County (LWVSKC) improve its programs and services by responding to this survey. Your responses will create a survey report, and while all of the questions are optional, having accurate information about our members will help the League secure funding and other support so that we can continue our important work to empower voters and defend democracy.

The survey should take approximately 25 minutes to complete. You can also take the survey online at [www.seattlelwv.org/2018-member-survey.html](http://www.seattlelwv.org/2018-member-survey.html). Thank you for your time and attention, and thank you for being a valued member of the League of Women Voters!

#### MEMBERSHIP

1. How long have you been a member of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County?

- Less than 1 year
- Less than 5 years
- 5 to 10 years
- 11 to 20 years
- 21 to 30 years
- More than 30 years

2. What is the primary reason you joined the League? (Please choose only one.)

- Learn more about voting, government, and public policy issues
- Actively engage, educate, and support voters and democracy
- Participate in government and influence public policy
- Social/peer groups with similar interests
- Professional/networking opportunities
- Other (please specify):

3. In what ways do you engage with the League? (Please check all that apply.)

- Read "The Voter"
- Attend local meetings and/or special events
- Follow the League online (website, Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- Serve on a committee (elections, education, labor, environmental issues, social justice, etc.)
- Volunteer (only specify location and event, register voters, etc.)
- Attend LWV-KC Events (State of Democracy, Women's meeting)
- I don't really engage with the League very much

4. What do you find most valuable about being a member of the League? (Please choose only one.)

- Being part of a well-organized and informed organization that actively supports democracy
- Attending meetings/meeting people with similar interests
- Reading "The Voter"
- Attending all or some local meetings
- Volunteering opportunities such as voter registration
- Participating in or reading to high school or an important issue
- Other (please specify):

## Ballots & Baristas Coming to a Coffee Joint Near You!

Join us for coffee, free cupcakes courtesy of Cupcake Royale, and good conversation as LWV volunteers facilitate discussion about what measures will be on the ballot this November. Want to know who supports that property tax levy that's going to be on the ballot in November? Or what an "NRO" is? This is an opportunity to meet your neighbors and enjoy night out for civic engagement.

All Ballots & Baristas events take place on Tuesday, October 23 from 6 to 8 p.m.

As of press time, the League has confirmed it will be at five Cupcake Royale locations in Seattle:

- Cupcake Royale Ballard  
2052 NW Market Street
- Cupcake Royale Capitol Hill  
1111 Pike Street
- Cupcake Royale Downtown  
108 Pine Street
- Cupcake Royale Queen Anne  
1935 Queen Anne Avenue N
- Cupcake Royale West Seattle  
4556 California Ave SW

Locations outside the City of Seattle are still being firmed up, but likely B&B locations include Everest Coffee and Tea in Renton; Caffe Ladro in Issaquah; and Bellden Cafe in Bellevue. Please visit our website at [www.seattlelwv.org](http://www.seattlelwv.org) for the latest information on locations.



# Ballots & Baristas

King County's night out for democracy with conversation, coffee, and cupcakes.



- ★ Get unbiased information about county & state ballot measures
- ★ Talk with your neighbors about issues that matter in a civil, positive way
- ★ Participants get a free babycake (while supplies last!)

**Tuesday, October 23 from 6-8 p.m.**  
at these Cupcake Royale locations in Seattle:

**Ballard**  
2052 NW Market Street

**Downtown**  
108 Pine Street

**Capitol Hill**  
1111 E Pike Street

**Queen Anne**  
1935 Queen Anne Ave N

**West Seattle**  
4556 California Ave SW



**It's not too late to facilitate!**

**Send an email to  
[voterservice@seattlelwv.org](mailto:voterservice@seattlelwv.org)  
if you're interested in helping get  
the Ballots & Baristas  
conversation going.**

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# Features

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## Guns and Sidewalks on King County's Ballots

By Heather Kelly

On Election Day, Kirkland voters will consider a proposition concerning guns and policing, while Shoreline voters will decide whether to fund their sidewalk system.

Kirkland Proposition 1, entitled "Enhance Police Services & Community Safety," proposes a 0.1% sales tax to pay for a wide range of new safety measures. These include creating a four-officer "ProAct Unit" to address drug and property crimes (approx. 37.6% of funds), four middle school resource officers (SRO) (17.7%), and one neighborhood resource officer (NRO) (7.7%). In addition, Kirkland would fund programs to reduce suicide, domestic violence, and homelessness (19.3%); hire a mental health specialist to assist law enforcement (6.6%); support shelters for women and children (5.5%); and provide the public with training on gun safety and low-cost gun safes and trigger locks (5.5%).

Supporters of the measure note that the specialty law enforcement positions are proposed in direct response to citizens' concerns about crime and safety. Kirkland has seen an increase in car prowls and burglaries that has frustrated residents. Similarly, proponents note that school safety is a top concern of parents, and adding SROs to middle schools will keep those environments safe.

Opponents of the measure stress that voters should not fund specialized police positions without a clearer understanding of how those officers will promote safety. Opponents note that research shows SROs can alienate students of color and students with disabilities and that school safety is achieved more effectively with programming than police. Similarly, opponents assert

the measure lacks detail on training requirements and duties of officers in the ProAct Unit and NROs, particularly regarding interactions with the homeless and mentally ill. Finally, opponents note that current taxes fund a \$750 million budget for a City of 90,000 people, and are sufficient to fund any necessary components of this measure.

More limited in scope but not without controversy, the Shoreline measure would expand and repair sidewalks. The expansion would be funded by a 0.2%, 20-year sales and use tax. Proponents of the measure argue that a small increase in sales tax increase will generate \$59 million over 20 years without singling out property or vehicle owners to shoulder an additional tax burden. Sidewalk construction would be prioritized according to a recommendation from the Sidewalk Advisory Committee. Building sidewalks is necessary to accommodate growth and enhance mobility options for folks with disabilities.

Opponents respond that the construction plan does not promote pedestrian safety, but actually puts people at risk. Many of the new sidewalks identified in the Committee's recommendation run along major arteries with high vehicle traffic. Moving the sidewalks to residential streets that already see substantial foot traffic would minimize the potential for pedestrian-vehicle accidents. Additionally, opponents note that sidewalk expansion should come second to repairs that would bring current sidewalks into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Finally, opponents maintain that continuing to fund sidewalks through grants would prevent Shoreline from increasing its sales tax to 10.2%, the highest in King County.



## Features

### Washington Against Nuclear Weapons: Building a Statewide Movement

By Lilly Adams

Did you know that over 1,000 nuclear weapons are housed about 20 miles from Seattle, on Hood Canal? In fact, if Washington State were its own country, it would be the third largest nuclear weapons country in the world. As a Shoreline native, I never heard about this until I started working with Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility (WPSR), where I now run our anti-nuclear weapons program.



WASHINGTON  
PHYSICIANS  
FOR SOCIAL  
RESPONSIBILITY

Our organization was started during the Cold War by a group of health professionals who recognized that there is no possible response to the use of nuclear weapons, no way to address their catastrophic health impacts. Our guiding principle has always been that we must prevent what we cannot cure.

A main part of my job is coordinating a statewide coalition, Washington Against Nuclear Weapons (WANW). Our coalition formed nearly two years ago to fight against some disturbing realities:

- The US currently has roughly 6,500 nuclear weapons, enough to end all life on the planet many times over.
- We're set to spend \$1.7 trillion over the next 30 years rebuilding our entire nuclear arsenal, making our weapons even deadlier. This comes out to \$4.6

million every single hour.

- This Administration is planning to make new, unnecessary nuclear weapons, expanding the situations in which we might use them, and completely sidelining nuclear disarmament.
- In Washington State, the process of nuclear weapons production has hurt our communities, especially communities of color, in places like the Hanford Nuclear Site and Midnite Mine on the Spokane Tribe of Indians reservation.

Between conflicts with North Korea and pulling out of the Iran Deal, this has been a wild year for nuclear weapons issues. But thankfully, the majority of the world's nations understand that these weapons are inhumane and

have no place in our society. Though the US is engaging in dangerous nuclear weapons policy and rhetoric, the rest of the world is moving in a more positive direction.

In July 2017, the United Nations passed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, with 122 countries voting in favor. This treaty prohibits the use, possession, and development of nuclear weapons, and aims to move the world towards a nuclear-free future. It also explicitly frames this issue as a women's issue, stating that "the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons have a disproportionate impact on women and girls, including as a result of ionizing radiation." Though the US has boycotted this entire process, our coalition is standing strongly in support of this treaty. We were also very encouraged to find out

*continued on next page*

that the League of Women Voters has a strong and detailed national position against nuclear weapons, which includes supporting the abolition of these weapons.

Over the past two years, WANW has grown to include nearly 40 organizations in communities all across the state, from Spokane to the Olympic Peninsula. We represent peace activists, environmentalists, social justice organizations, faith leaders, educators, labor groups, and more. We're building a movement against nuclear weapons through a variety of activities:

- Raising awareness of these issues through educational events and projects
- Meeting with members of Congress to influence policy (we've held over 50 meetings since we formed!)
- Taking grassroots actions, such as letter-writing campaigns to elected officials, to show that constituents and voters care about this issue.

Right now, we are working on getting every Congressional candidate in 2018 to take a public position on nuclear weapons issues, through a candidate survey and by asking questions at candidate forums. We're also working on a resolution against nuclear weapons, to be voted on by the Washington State Legislature. Another important part of our work is simply continuing to grow the coalition—we're always looking for new organizational members and activists. If you'd like to join us, you can contact me at [lilly@wpsr.org](mailto:lilly@wpsr.org) to talk more.

You can learn more at our website: [www.wanwcoalition.org](http://www.wanwcoalition.org). Under the "Get Involved" section, you can also sign up to receive weekly emails to stay updated, or sign up an organization you're a part of to become a coalition member organization. We hope you will join us in working to ensure that nuclear weapons are never used again.

*Lilly Adams is the Security Program Organizer for Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility.*

**BOOK REVIEW** by Vicky Downs

## ***THE WOMAN'S HOUR: THE GREAT FIGHT TO WIN THE VOTE***

By Elaine Weiss

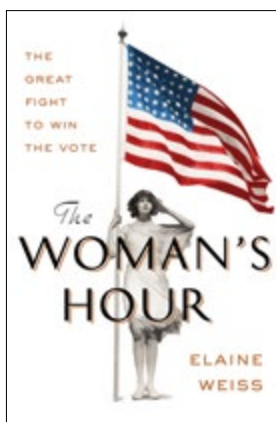
In July 1920 a thirty-sixth state was needed to ratify the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. If Tennessee voted for the amendment, women throughout America would have the right to vote; if not, the amendment would die.

Carrie Chapman Catt "raced over a thousand miles of tracks from New York to Nashville, [with] rimless glasses on her nose," reading field reports and legal documents as well as newspapers. Upon arrival, "she was summoned to lead the troops in the fray one last time. At least she dearly hoped this might be the last time."

She and other "Suffs," or suffragists, would face many "Antis" who opposed the amendment. On the Suff side was Sue Shelton White, a Tennessee native whose very accent made it "clear she was no 'outsider' like Catt." On the Anti side there was Josephine Pearson, who led many Anti groups and believed women should be "pure" and not deal with politics, which was "dirty." Weiss points out the irony of an Anti working furiously against women in the political sphere, while her own politicking was of course, political and sometimes dirty.

“Both sides were willing to use every possible weapon to prevail.” In 1920, “the very idea that women should have the right to participate in a government ‘by and for the people’ was long considered radical, even dangerous.” It had been a fierce and tiring fight, and in the final battle both sides were willing to pull out all the stops. One Anti said, “I’d rather see my daughter in a coffin than at the polls.” Sue White was one of many who had been arrested and thrown in prison for their efforts. A few years before, Alice Paul and others had been imprisoned, “including solitary confinements, hunger strikes and forced feeding: strapped to a table, tubes rammed down her nose, lacerating her throat.”

In late summer, with only a few days before the vote to ratify, everyone was aware Tennessee was a southern state with southern interests, and the “mood in Nashville was volatile, even violent.” The Antis welcomed legislators “with a broadside that made the status perfectly clear. ‘Men of the South [should] heed not the song of the suffrage sirens.... Woman suffrage means reopening of the entire Negro Suffrage question, State’s rights’” and more.



I was disappointed to realize that the Suffis felt they could not take on the special needs of black women. Black men already had the vote, but were much hampered by the Black Codes used to keep power in white hands. It was clear to Catt and others that adding the issue of black voters would provide excuses for Tennessee voters to cast their ballot against any woman’s right to do so.

At the same time, “Carrie Catt was appalled by reports of blatant extortion, horrified by the idea that shadowy men working for the Antis’ corporate friends were ‘applying the third degree’ to lawmakers” in the city.

The climax of this great political victory had my heart racing at its fastest clip. Weiss, however, makes sure her readers understand that big historical changes come with a lot of grit and unglamorous fieldwork.

Progress toward real change is tenuous at best. Much legislation, she writes, “was once considered utterly impossible.”

This is an uplifting page-turner that resonates with those of us who feel we are facing the nearly impossible today.

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

2018 SEATTLE  
WOMEN'S  
SHOW

Stop by and see us on October 13 at the Seattle Women’s Show! Tickets are \$25 and are available at [www.seattliewomensshow.com/tickets](http://www.seattliewomensshow.com/tickets)

## Forums! Forums! and more Forums!

In addition to our regular monthly forum (see back cover for details) we are sponsoring, co-sponsoring, or helping with a number of additional election forums this October:

Monday, Oct. 8	7:30 p.m.	Ballot Measures <i>Open to League members and their guests</i>	Horizon House 900 University St Seattle
Monday, Oct. 15	6:30 p.m.	31st LD Candidates with LWV of Tacoma/Pierce County	Bonney Lake Sr. Ctr. 19304 Bonney Lake Blvd. E.
Wednesday, Oct. 17	6:30 p.m.	41st LD Candidates	Herzl-Ner Tamid 3700 E Mercer Way Mercer Island
	7:00 p.m.	32nd LD Candidates Shoreline Chamber of Commerce	Crest Theater 16505 5th Ave NE Shoreline
Thursday, Oct. 18	5:30 p.m.	33rd LD Candidates with King County Library System	Kent Library 212 2nd Ave N
Wednesday, Oct. 24	6:30 p.m.	5th LD Candidates with King County Library System	North Bend Library 115 East 4th St
Saturday, Oct. 27	2:30 p.m.	47th LD Candidates with King County Library System	Covington Library 27100 164th Ave SE
Tuesday, Oct. 30	6:30 p.m.	48th LD Candidates with King County Library System	Redmond Library 15990 NE 85th St

## Initiative Measure No. 940

### **Ballot Title (what the voter will see on the ballot):**

Initiative Measure No. 940 concerns law enforcement. This measure would require specific trainings for law enforcement; mandate a duty to provide first-aid; and change the standards for use of deadly force, including a “good faith” standard and require independent investigation. Should this measure be enacted into law? Yes [ ] No [ ]

### **Summary of I-940:**

This measure would require all law enforcement officers in the state to receive violence de-escalation and mental health training, as developed by the criminal justice training commission. It would require law enforcement personnel to provide first-aid to save lives and require law enforcement agencies to adopt guidelines for implementing this duty. It would amend the standards for justifiable use of deadly force by law enforcement, including adding a “good faith” standard and requiring independent investigation.

### **Unique Process Background of I-940:**

Initiative 940 is an initiative to the legislature. This type of initiative allows the Legislature three options: Pass the law without amendment, place the measure on the ballot for the people to decide, or place the measure on the ballot with a legislature-provided alternative. Both the original and alternative then go to voters to decide which is to become law. In this case, the legislature went further and produced a bill, ESHB 3003, which modified various provisions of I-940. There were challenges to the state Supreme Court regarding this action based on procedure and other issues. Appeals followed. In the end, the Court ruled that the legislature’s action was unconstitutional, and Initiative 940 would be the only measure on the ballot.

**Immediate Effects, if passed:** The Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC, already in existence) would, in consultation with multiple stake holders, establish training standards and requirements for law enforcement officers in violence de-escalation techniques and establish appropriate interaction with persons with mental health issues. The act adds an objective and subjective “good faith” standard by which the use of deadly force by an officer is judged justifiable and removes the requirement, in effect since 1986, that malice be present to prosecute an officer for the use of deadly force. When the use of deadly force by an officer results in either death or great bodily harm, an independent investigation will be required to establish whether the objective “good faith” standard has been met. The Act would mandate first aid training and make the rendering of first aid by law officers a paramount duty.

**Fiscal Effects, if passed:** The Act does not come with any attached state funding to support this additional work of WSCJTC. The commission can partner with private parties and law enforcement agencies to provide the training. Such entities can charge a reasonable fee for the training.

**Arguments in favor of I-940:** I-940 supporters believe that increased training and accountability will increase the safety of all communities, especially minority communities and persons with mental health problems. Supporters argue these communities are disproportionately affected by the use of deadly force by law enforcement officers. They also point out that Washington is the only state with such a high legal bar (proven malice) to successfully prosecute an officer for a wrongful death. De-Escalate-Washington supports this measure despite its preference for the bill developed by the legislature.

**Arguments against I-940:** Opponents to I-940 include the Washington State Fraternal Order of Police (WAFOP), Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), Council of Metropolitan Police and Sheriffs, and Seattle Police Officers Guild. They believe that the initiative’s main goal is to lower the bar for the prosecution of officers who use deadly force, and point out that it comes with no funding to address the main drivers of deadly confrontations, namely mental illness, drug abuse and homelessness. They point to the inherent danger of the profession of policing, and argue that officers’ legal fear of acting in an emergency will result in injury and deaths of law enforcement officers and members of the public.

## ***Initiative Measure No. 1631***

### ***Ballot Title (what the voter will see on the ballot):***

Initiative 1631 concerns pollution. This measure would charge pollution fees on sources of greenhouse gas pollutants and use the revenue to reduce pollution, promote clean energy, and address climate impacts, under oversight of a public board. Should this measure be enacted into law? Yes [ ] No [ ]

### ***Summary of I-1631:***

This measure would impose pollution fees on certain large emitters of greenhouse gas pollutants based on rules determining carbon content, starting in 2020. A public board would supervise spending the revenues on reducing pollution, promoting clean energy, and addressing climate impacts to the environment and communities. Utilities could receive credits for approved investments. Indian tribes would consult on projects directly impacting their land. There would be periodic reporting on the measure's effectiveness.

### ***Immediate effects, if passed:***

By increasing the cost of fossil fuels and electricity generated using those fuels, their use is expected to decline and electricity generation to shift from carbon-intensive coal toward hydro, wind, and solar. This may reduce carbon dioxide emissions in the long-term. Companies may offset the cost of gasoline and other fossil fuels by rate increases for consumers and businesses. The measure's exemption of the Centralia Coal plant, which will close in 2025, could reduce the total effectiveness of the policy in the short term.

### ***Fiscal effects, if passed:***

The fees charged large polluters will be equal to \$15 per metric ton of carbon content and will be increased yearly by \$2 plus inflation until 2035, or when the state meets its climate goals. I-1631 is expected to generate approximately \$1 Billion annually with the revenue to be allocated to 70% clean energy (includes worker and low income programs), 25% water/forest programs, and 5% healthy communities. Utilities that invest in programs in an approved carbon reduction plan receive back 100% of their fee. Energy-intensive businesses and businesses that trade globally, such as aluminum and steel makers, will be exempt from the fee.

### ***Arguments in favor of the measure:***

Proponents argue that putting a price on carbon is one of the best ways for a government to act on climate change. I-1631 differs from previous carbon taxing efforts in that it charges fees on large polluters and invests the resulting revenue in projects that will increase communities' resiliency to the effects of climate change. Supporters say that this "fee and investment" approach will not only reduce pollution, but will accelerate the state's transition to clean energy and development of new, related jobs. The measure requires funding projects that prevent increased energy costs on people with lower incomes and that support worker transition for fossil fuel jobs that may be lost. Exemptions on certain large businesses encourage them to stay in the state. I-1631 is endorsed by 200 labor, business, environmental, tribal and faith groups. As the first such measure in the nation, it may become a model for other states.

### ***Arguments against the measure:***

Some opponents argue that I-1631 fees could result in residents paying more for gasoline and heating oil if the cost of the fee is passed on to consumers. This will affect low-income residents in particular. Opponents also believe that some large businesses may leave the state as a result of the fee. Other opponents who do support reductions in carbon dioxide emissions argue that this measure is badly designed. These opponents argue that the carbon fee is too small, there are too many exemptions, and carbon fees should be returned to the people in the form of tax reductions. They also argue that if utilities are allowed to keep all the fees generated from natural gas and coal plants, this may reduce their urgency in transitioning to cleaner sources of power.

## ***Initiative Measure No. 1634***

***Ballot Title (what the voter will see on the ballot):***

Initiative Measure No. 1634 concerns taxation of certain items intended for human consumption.

This measure would prohibit new or increased local taxes, fees, or assessments on raw or processed foods or beverages (with exceptions), or ingredients thereof, unless effective by January 15, 2018, or generally applicable.

Should this measure be enacted into law?    Yes [ ]    No [ ]

***Summary of I-1634:*** This measure would prohibit new or increased local taxes, fees, or assessments on raw or processed foods, beverages, or their ingredients, intended for human consumption except alcoholic beverages, marijuana products, and tobacco, unless they are generally applicable and meet specified requirements. Collection of local sales and use taxes, and of taxes, fees, and assessments on such raw or processed foods or beverages, or any ingredients thereof, that were in effect January 15, 2018, may continue.

***Immediate Effects, if passed:*** I-1634 would prohibit any local governmental taxes or fees to be placed on groceries, which includes raw or processed foods or beverages, first imposed, increased, or collected after January 15, 2018. I-1634 would not preclude the continued collection of any tax in effect as of January 15, 2018, so it would not repeal Seattle's soda tax.

***Fiscal Effects, if passed:*** There would be no immediate direct fiscal effects, as groceries are exempt from state sales tax, and there have been no local sales taxes added to groceries anywhere in the state since the proposed effective date of this measure. Cities and counties would be prohibited from adding sales tax as a revenue source to grocery items in the future.

***Arguments in favor of the measure:***

Yes! To Affordable Groceries is leading the campaign in support of this initiative. Supporters argue that groceries are tax exempt at the state level for good policy reason, which is that basic life needs such as food and beverages should not be taxed. Supporters further argue that allowing sales taxes to be added to groceries and beverages by cities and counties places a disproportionate tax burden on the extremely poor, as well as low income families who spend a much larger percentage of their overall income on basic necessities, such as groceries. Supporters also advocate that the impact of increased prices hurts small business owners, as localized application of taxes on specific goods causes customers to shop outside a city's boundaries for those goods. This measure is sponsored by the American Beverage Association and is supported by the Washington Farm Bureau, the Washington Food and Beverage Association, the Korean-American Grocers Association of Washington, and the Joint Council of Teamsters 28.

***Arguments against the measure:***

The American Heart Association, The Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition (COPC), and the Anti-Hunger and Nutrition Coalition (AHNC) oppose this initiative. COPC believes that municipalities should maintain their legal authority to impose taxes on sugary drinks to improve the public health. AHNC argues that the measure is misleading because it would not actually address the affordability of food, and would stop local governments from being able to implement innovative strategies to raise significant funds to address access to healthy food.

## ***Initiative Measure No. 1639***

### ***Ballot Title (what the voter will see on the ballot):***

Initiative Measure No. 1639 concerns firearms. This measure would require increased background checks, training, age limitations, and waiting periods for sales or delivery of semiautomatic assault rifles; criminalize noncompliant storage upon unauthorized use; allow fees; and enact other provisions. Should this measure be enacted into law? Yes [ ] No [ ]

### ***Summary of I-1639:***

This measure would require increased background checks, firearm safety training, and waiting periods before semiautomatic assault rifles may be purchased or delivered. It would impose age limitations on who may purchase or possess certain firearms, including prohibiting purchases by persons under age 21. It would require certain secured firearm storage or trigger-locks, and criminalize noncompliant firearm storage if it results in unauthorized use. It would enact other firearm-related requirements, including certain warnings, recordkeeping, and fees.

***Immediate Effects, if passed:*** Initiative 1639 would require background checks in the sale of semiautomatic rifles so that they are similar to what is required for handguns. Individuals wishing to purchase firearms will have to complete a firearm safety training course, and to be at least twenty-one years of age to purchase or possess firearms. It would enact a waiting period for the purchase of semiautomatic rifles, and establish standards for the responsible storage of all firearms.

***Fiscal Effects, if passed:*** Initiative 1639 is intended to be “revenue-neutral.” To initiate the process of the purchase of a firearm, purchasers must pay \$25. Overall Washington State tax revenues will be unchanged.

### ***Arguments in favor of the measure:***

Supporters of Initiative 1639 argue that the requirements of the initiative will increase public safety because background checks and other provisions will keep these weapons out of the hands of known criminals and people with mental illnesses which affect their impulse control and potential for violence. They cite studies that indicate waiting periods decrease gun homicides, and reduce incidents of suicide and other impulsive acts of violence. They argue further that gun storage would reduce inappropriate access to firearms and so lower youth suicides, gun access to school shooters, and deaths and gun injuries to children under the for age of 6. In addition, they argue that raising the age of ownership to 21 would be in accord with Federal law and the law in at least a dozen states, stating that this is a common step for public safety. They note that the Parkland, Sandy Hook, and Columbine shootings were perpetrated by killers younger than 21 years of age.

### ***Arguments against the measure:***

Opponents of this initiative argue that background checks are ineffective because illegal gun dealers do not use them, and the black market will continue unhindered. They argue against waiting periods that assume gun purchasers are mentally ill or have impulse control problems and should therefore have to wait for permission to exercise their constitutional rights. They also argue that waiting periods and gun storage can put people in jeopardy at times of emergency. And they point out that guns can be acquired through a private transfer, negating the need for background checks, waiting periods and age requirements. Opponents point out that at 18 years old, Americans may enlist in the military, so citizens of that age should be able to be entrusted to operate semiautomatic assault rifles.



## Unit Meetings

We invite you to check out 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. Discussion usually focuses on the topic which is discussed at the monthly forum. In addition, background materials are generally included in our newsletter, *The Voter*.

(Unit times and locations subject to change; please verify with unit leader.)

Meetings are open to all.

Unit Leader email	Phone	Time	Location
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Wednesday, October 10			
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**NORTHEAST SEATTLE** (formerly View Ridge) – Cynthia Butler

cjbutler@gmail.com	206-359-0340	12:45 p.m.	Brig Bldg. (6344) in Magnuson Park 7400 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle
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*Directions: Go into the Park through North entrance at 74<sup>th</sup> and drive EAST toward water. At the STOP sign, turn LEFT to park in front of the Brig, or RIGHT, for more parking.*

**QUEEN ANNE/MAGNOLIA/BALLARD EVENING** - Kathy Pugh and Marlis Worthington

ckp1966@comcast.net	503-580-1240	7:30 p.m.	Magnolia Church of Christ
marliswrt@hotmail.com	206-283-7147		3555 W McGraw St, Seattle

Thursday, October 11			
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**MERCER ISLAND** – Paneen Davidson and Toni Okada

paneenie@gmail.com	206-466-2023	9:30 a.m.	Emmanuel Episcopal Church
td.okada@yahoo.com			4400 86th Ave SE, Mercer Island

**ISSAQUAH** – Judy Love

judysteveL@gmail.com	425-417-8600	10:00 a.m.	Issaquah City Hall, Echo Room
			130 E Sunset Way, Issaquah

**SOUTHEAST KING COUNTY/ENUMCLAW** - Cathy Dormaier

clcathy@skynetbb.com	360-802-6799	12:00 p.m.	Location: Frankie's Pizza
			117 Roosevelt Ave, Enumclaw

*Continued on next page*

(Unit times and locations subject to change; please verify with unit leader.)

Unit Leader email	Phone	Time	Location
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<b>Monday, October 15</b>			
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**FIRST HILL – Adele Reynolds**

adelereynolds@netscape.net	206-621-4867	10:30 a.m.	Horizon House, Forum & Social Room 900 University St, Seattle
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**SOUTH SEATTLE - Marian Wolfe and Vivian Montoya**

hedgwolfe@aol.com	206-763-9430	5:30 p.m.	Rainier Beach Library
montoyaviv@gmail.com	206-695-2620		9125 Rainier Ave S, Seattle

**CAPITOL HILL/MONTLAKE –**

	206-329-4848	7:15 p.m.	Hostess: Linnea Hirst 1602 E McGraw St, Seattle 206-322-3076
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<b>Tuesday, October 16</b>			
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**BELLEVUE/KIRKLAND/REDMOND – Cathy O'Shea**

coshea120@gmail.com	425-753-4182	12:00 p.m.	Kirkland Public Library 308 Kirkland Ave, Kirkland
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**WEST SEATTLE – Ethel Williams/Pat Lane**

etheljw@comcast.net	206-932-7887	1:00 p.m.	Daystar Retirement Village
pgblain11@gmail.com	206-932-1578		2615 SW Barton, Seattle

<b>Thursday, October 18</b>			
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**NORTH KING COUNTY – Lea Galanter**

leagal99@hotmail.com	425-820-9096	7:00 p.m.	Church of the Redeemer 6210 181 <sup>st</sup> St, Kenmore
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<b>Friday, October 19</b>			
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**UNIVERSITY HOUSE/WALLINGFORD – Janet Kime**

kraftyanet@comcast.net	206-588-0988	2:00 p.m.	University House, San Juan Room 4400 Stone Way N, Seattle
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<b>Saturday, October 20</b>			
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**BALLARD/MAGNOLIA/QUEEN ANNE DAY – Janet Anderson**

janetranderson@msn.com	206-285-2460	10:00 a.m.	Location: contact unit leader
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## Board & Committee Contacts

### Term Executive Committee

2017-19	<i>President</i>	Stephanie Cirkovich	206-329-4848	president@seattlelwv.org
2018-20	<i>1st VP - Development</i>	Christy Wood	206-707-3845	christywood@hotmail.com
2017-19	<i>2nd VP - Program</i>	Alyssa Weed	206-329-4848	afweed1@gmail.com
2017-19	<i>Secretary</i>	Katie Dudley	206-329-4848	kate.c.dudley@gmail.com
2018-20	<i>Treasurer</i>	Cathy O'Shea	425-753-4182	coshea120@gmail.com

### Directors

2018-20	<i>Voter Service</i>	Barbra Chevalier	425-445-2281	barbra.n.chevalier@gmail.com
2018-20	<i>Development</i>	Kiku Hayashi	206-329-4848	kikuhayashi1@gmail.com
2018-20	<i>Action</i>	Heather Kelly	206-329-4848	hejokelly@gmail.com
2017-19	<i>Committees &amp; Units</i>	Zara Kublin	206-276-2831	zkublin@hotmail.com
2017-19	<i>Outreach &amp; Events</i>	Melissa Taylor	206-329-4848	melissataylor.lwvskc@gmail.com

*Note: All board members listed above are also members of the Education Fund Board*

### Education Fund Officers - same as above except Treasurer

2018-19	<i>Treasurer</i>	Jessica Forsythe	206-329-4848	eftreasurer@seattlelwv.org
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### Nominating Committee

2018-19	<i>Chair</i>	Amanda Clark	206-236-0517	amandac5@comcast.net
2018-19		Julie Sarkissian	206-329-4848	juliesarkissian@hotmail.com

*Vacant seat*

*Two boardmembers will be appointed to the committee later in the year.*

### Off Board Positions

	<i>Voter Editor</i>	Amanda Clark	206-236-0517	votereditor@seattlelwv.org
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### Committee Chairs

	<i>Economics &amp; Taxation</i>	Nora Leech		nleech2002@yahoo.com
	<i>Education</i>	Joanna Cullen	206-329-8514	jfoxcullen@gmail.com
	<i>International Relations</i>	Kim Peterson	206-789-7447	
	<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

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

## **LWV SEATTLE-KING COUNTY:**

### Forum: General Election Ballot Measures

**Thursday, October 4**

6:00 p.m. — Doors open

7:00 p.m. — Program begins

The Collective  
400 Dexter Avenue N  
Seattle, WA 98109

Forums are free and open to the public

This November police accountability, the environment, grocery tax policy, gun control, and education will be vying for your vote. Join us for a forum with pro and con campaigns from I-940, I-1631, I-1634, and I-1639 at the Collective in South Lake Union. We'll also hear from education insiders about Seattle's Families, Education, and Preschool Promise Levy.

Come by early and enjoy a drink at the High Tide, the Collective's in-house bar serving local beer, wine, and craft cocktails.