



## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO

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June 11, 2015

To: Honorable City Council Members of the Charter Review Committee

From: Beryl Flom, Chair, League of Women Voters Committee on the Charter Review *BF*

**Agenda Item #3, Consideration of a recommendation to allow educational organizations to lease/build buildings on public park land, specifically, Balboa Park.**

The League of Women Voters of San Diego opposes allowing schools to lease/build buildings on public park land, specifically, Balboa Park. Our position reads: "The League of Women Voters of San Diego supports the preservation and enhancement of the cultural, recreational and passive resources of Balboa Park... The pueblo lands set aside as a permanent preserve should be held in trust forever for the purpose of a free and public park and not for other purposes."

**Agenda Item #5, Public Comment**

**a) Section 26.1: Basic Municipal Services**

The League of Women Voters of San Diego recommends that the list of Basic Municipal Services be reviewed. The League suggests adding trash collection, street maintenance, planning, public safety, and Library services. Public health is the responsibility of the County of San Diego and should be removed from the City Charter's Basic Municipal Services.

**b) Section 31: Political Activities**

The LWVSD recommends changing and expanding the first sentence to read: "*No officer or employee of the City [except] including elected officers and unsalaried members appointed to officially constituted commissions while performing official city business shall [during regular hours of employment] take an active part opposing or supporting any candidates in any City of San Diego political campaign or make contributions thereto in behalf of any candidates, nor shall such person seek signatures to any petition seeking to advance the candidacy of any person for any municipal office.*"

**c) Revise Section 12.1 and Section 24.1; Repeal Section 41.1: Salaries of Council Members and Mayor**  
**The salaries of elected city officials should be tied to an independent benchmark and thus the Salary Setting Commission can be abolished.**

**d) Article V, Section 35, 4th paragraph:** At least a month ago, the League of Women Voters of San Diego asked about the intent of this paragraph and have not had a reply from the City Attorney. It reads: "*The Council by resolution may order the purchase without advertising for bids of surplus commodities from the United States of America, or any agency thereof, or from any other public corporation, state or municipal, or any agency thereof. The Council may authorize the Purchasing Agent to participate in joint and cooperative purchasing with any other public corporation, state or municipal, or agencies thereof.*" This statement could be broadly interpreted to purchase excess military equipment, to make purchases without bidding from any corporation with stockholders, etc. It seems too broad and permissive to us.

**e) Article III, Section 23: District Election on Community Plan Update Referenda**

The League of Women Voters of San Diego is in complete agreement with the recommendation written by the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council on February 9th urging the Charter Review Committee to consider limiting referendum votes on community plans to the Council District(s) in which the community is located.