



**Denver Ballot Issues**  
**November 8, 2022 General Election**  
**League of Women Voters of Denver Positions**

The following positions were adopted by consensus at a special LWVD Board Meeting on September 28, 2022. All board members were present with one exception. We were joined by League member Diane Young, who was a major contributor to the Ballot Issues Pros and Cons research. She provided information but did not vote on positions. For a more in-depth understanding of the Background and Major Provisions of each ballot proposal, please refer to Denver 2022 Ballot Issues: Pros and Cons, which can be found on our website or in a printed version.

The LWVD positions on these ballot issues are grounded in well-researched studies and decisions arrived at by consensus at the organization's national, state and local levels. These are noted under Justification for each.

**Referred Measure 2I: Denver Public Library Tax**

**LWVD Position: *Support***

Justification:

Social Policy/Education: "We support the concept of special centers which offer opportunity for educational enrichment." (*Denver Local LWV Program*, 2015)

"LWVD supports quality education for all children" and "programs that are responsive to individual needs." (1966 Position on Education)

The funding of this proposal would come from a property tax mill levy, and the LWVD has supported such earmarks to achieve popular support for revenue enhancements since the implementation of TABOR. (LWVCO Fiscal Policy Position and *Positions for Action*)

**Referred Measure 2J: Lift TABOR Limits on Climate Tax**

**LWVD Position: *Support***

Justification:

"LWVCO opposes constitutional amendments that restrict taxes and spending. These measures undermine the philosophy of representative government." (LWVCO Fiscal Policy Position) Thus, LWVCO has opposed the terms of the Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR) in the Colorado Constitution which would, if not lifted, prevent the retention and spending of funds collected since this tax was approved in 2020.

This measure does not add an additional tax, but rather allows the City to retain and spend the funds already collected and to reauthorize that portion (0.25%) of the sales tax (approved by voters in 2020) to promote efforts to combat the results of climate change.

Since 2014, LWVUS has taken a strong stance for "policies that promote solutions to climate change." And in 2019, LWVUS stated it "supports climate goals and policies that are consistent with the best available climate science..." (*Impact on Issues*, Climate Change)

## **Referred Measure 2K: Lift TABOR Limits on Homeless Resolution Tax**

### **LWVD Position: *Support***

Justification:

Please see the statement above regarding LWVCO's position on the TABOR Amendment.

As with above statement, this proposal allows the city to retain and spend all revenues raised by the 2020 voter approved tax and reauthorize this tax to continue to support efforts to combat homelessness.

"LWVD supports measures to ensure adequate and affordable housing for all residents of all incomes."  
(*Denver Local LWV Program*, 2015)

## **Referred Charter Amendment 2L: Change to Election Procedures**

### **LWVD Position: *Support***

Justification:

"LWVUS believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government." (*Impact on Issues*, Representative Government and Voting Rights)

This City Council referred ordinance was the result of recommendations of the Ballot Access Modernization Committee to bring our election procedures in compliance with federal election law, to clarify ballot initiatives for voters and to allow more time for the Elections Division to verify signatures.

## **Initiated Ordinance 305: No Eviction without Representation for Denver**

### **LWVD Position: *Neither Support nor Oppose***

Justification:

Though LWVD is in favor of due process and access to housing, after a thorough discussion, the board decided that we could not take a position on this proposed ordinance. LWV does not have a stated position on the right to legal representation. Further, there were questions about the process of implementing the ordinance.

## **Initiated Ordinance 306: Waste No More**

### **LWVD Position: *Support***

Justification:

"The League of Women Voters supports policies to reduce the generation and promote the reuse and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes." (LWVCO Waste Management Position)

## **Initiated Ordinance 307: Denver Deserves Sidewalks**

### **LWVD Position: *Support***

Justification:

A balanced transportation system is one which includes a variety of modes [including pedestrian walkways] in an appropriate mix for each area and helps improve mobility and quality of life for all residents." (LWVCO Transportation Position)

"New revenue sources as needed should be considered including, but not limited to, user fees...."  
(LWVCO Transportation Position)