

COUNTY PROGRAM (Adopted 2002)

I. HUMAN RESOURCES

Support of equality of opportunity for education, employment and housing.

Support of equality of opportunity for access to housing including an adequate supply of low and moderate income housing and nondiscriminatory practices as based on our 1972 consensus.

Support for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY - LAND USE

Support of action on LWV positions related to the DuPage County Comprehensive Plan.

Support of 1973 County League position on Wastewater Treatment for DuPage County.

Support of Solid Waste Management Position. In Brief:

The League of Women Voters of DuPage County believes that solid waste should be dealt with in the most environmentally safe and cost effective way possible. Every stage of the handling of solid waste should be carefully planned. To reduce the waste stream and handle solid waste, we support in order of priority, source reduction, recycling, waste to energy (provided that adequate air and water quality standards are maintained) and lastly landfills.

III. COUNTY BOARD

The League of Women Voters of DuPage County believes there should be an elected Executive form of government *with or without* Home Rule powers.

The League of Women Voters of DuPage County believes that the Illinois Executive Act should be legislatively changed in order to establish a true separation of powers. This could be done by a delegation of the provision under Duties and Powers of the Executive that has the Executive "presiding over the County Board".

There was a strong consensus that the DuPage County Board members should be selected from single member districts with a reduction of size to the 12-19 range and to serve on a part-time basis.

There is a consensus that the elected administrative officials: auditors, coroners, recorder should be appointed rather than elected.

The Illinois Constitution should be amended in two ways:

1. That the present linkage of the elected County Executive to Home Rule should be removed.
2. There should be a constitutional provision allowing for Home Rule by *Charter*.

IV. DUPAGE AIRPORT AUTHORITY

The DuPage County League of Women Voters believes that the DuPage Airport Authority (DAA) should be a unit of government in DuPage County rather than an Illinois municipal corporation.

In accordance with the League of Women Voters (LWV) state fiscal policy, the League believes that the DAA needs to become financially self sufficient. There appears to be no attempt to restrain spending of property tax, state, and federal monies. We also recommend that airport operations, such as the golf course, clubhouse, and Planemaster, become profitable or be sold and privatized.

In accordance with the LWV policy on public participation, the League believes that an elected board is more accessible, accountable and responsible to the electorate. We recommend that:

- Nine board members, one per township, be elected in a non-partisan general election.
- A lottery method be used to determine 4 members with 4-year terms and 5 members with 2-year terms. Future elections would be for four year terms.
- Vacancies be appointed by the DuPage County Board Chairman, with approval of the County Board
- Board officers, including the chairman, be elected by board members.
- All business be conducted as committee-of-the-whole.

Until this elective process commences, appointments be made by the DuPage County Board Chairman, with the approval of the County Board. To make current appointments more accountable to the voters, we recommend that Board members whose terms have expired be re-appointed or replaced within 30 days by the DuPage County Board Chairman, with the approval of the County Board. There should be representation from all County Board districts if possible.

In accordance with the LWV natural resources position, we support the existing attempt to preserve the wetlands at the DuPage Airport and encourage further study by federal and local conservation groups.

In accordance with the LWV Batavia and Geneva-St. Charles airport study and proposals in 1983, we recommend continued opposition to runway expansion without public referendum.