

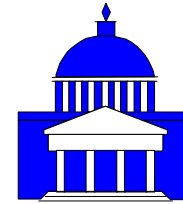
Your VOTER (GUIDE TO LWV SAN BERNARDINO ISSUES, ACTION, & INFO)

SHAUNA CLARK TO SPEAK SEPT. 30 Re- FORMS OF LOCAL GOVT.

How fortunate we are to have an expert on city governance living among us! Shauna Clark, former city administrator in San Bernardino and since then consultant to local governments and university teacher, has accepted our invitation to speak about city manager/strong mayor forms of governance, the advantages and disadvantages of each.

With League's update in process and the local ballot measure on November's ballot, you will want to hear from an experienced and knowledgeable former official and consultant.

The meeting is scheduled for noon, Thursday, Sept. 30, at the Gourmet Restaurant 1445 E. Highland Ave., San Bdn. The choices for lunch are (1) veal parmigiana, (2) steak tips, (3) chef's salad with or without meat. The cost is \$12.50. Guests are welcome. Please make your reservation by Sept. 24. Don't miss this outstanding program. On pages 2 AND 3 of this VOTER you will find information on mayor and council/manager forms of governance and a reservation form on page 4.



LWVC SUPPORTS PROPS. 59, 72, OPPOSES 69

After considering League's good government positions, LWVC has signed the ballot argument FOR Proposition 59: Access to Government Information, which would make public access to meetings and public records a constitutional right. It places the principles behind the Ralph Brown Act and other open meeting laws in the state constitution.

Because of the League's position on Individual Liberties, LWVC OPPOSES Prop. 69: DNA Samples, Collection, Data Base, Funding. LWV's position states, "The League is convinced that individual rights now protected by the Constitution should not be weakened or abridged."

LWVC SUPPORTS Prop. 72: Referendum Petition to Overturn Amendments to Health Care Coverage Requirements.

LWVC decided in January 2004 to support retaining the Health Care Coverage Requirements of SB2. In order to retain the current law, one must vote YES on Prop. 72.

LWVC is taking a neutral stance on Props. 1A 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71. When LWV does not take a position to support or oppose, generally the reason is LWV has not studied the issue and arrived at a position statement. Sometimes, however, the ballot measure qualified just at deadline, and LWV had insufficient time to study it.

More information on these issues will follow in next month's TODAY'S VOTER.

Criteria for Evaluating Ballot Propositions

- ✓ Who are the real sponsors and opponents of the measure? Investigate the names of groups with which you are not familiar.
- ✓ Does the measure deal with one issue which can easily be decided by a "yes" or "no"? Or is it a complex issue which should be thoroughly examined in the legislative arena?
- ✓ Is it written well? Are there conflicts in the measure that may require court resolution or interpretation? Is it "good government" or will it cause more problems than it will resolve?
- ✓ If the measure amends the Constitution, consider whether it really belongs in the Constitution. Amending the Constitution is cumbersome and costly and requires a vote of the people. Would a statute accomplish the same purpose?
- ✓ Does the measure create its own revenue source? Does it earmark, restrict, or obligate a specific percentage of General Fund revenues? Consider the effect on the overall flexibility of the budget.
- ✓ Examine the measure by its merits. During the campaign, be wary of distortion tactics and commercials that rely on image, but tell nothing of substance about the measure.

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KNOW YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

President George W. Bush, The White House, Washington, DC 20500
 Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814
 Senator Barbara Boxer, 201 No. E St., San Bdn 92401, (909) 888-8525
 Senator Dianne Feinstein, 750 B St., San Diego 92101, (619) 231-9712
 Representative Jerry Lewis, Rayburn Bldg., Washington, DC 20515 (909) 862-6030
 Representative Joe Baca, Longworth Bldg., Washington, DC 20515 (909) 885-2222
 State Senator Jim Brulte, 10681 Foothill, # 325, Rancho Cuc., 91730 (909) 466-9096
 State Senator Nell Soto, 215 N. D, #101, SanBdn, (909) 3813832
 Assemblywoman Gloria Negrete McLeod, 4959 Palo Verde, #108C, Montclair, (909) 621-7483
 Assemblyman John Longville, 201 N. E, #205, San Bdn, (909) 388-1413
 Assemblyman Bob Dutton, 8577 Haven Ave. #210, Rancho Cucamonga 91730, (909) 466-4180
 Assemblyman Dennis Mountjoy, 135-A W. Lemon Ave., Monrovia 91016 1-888-377-2212

LWVSB WEBSITE LINKING
TO ONLINE 'YOUR VOTER' <www.lwvsanbernardino.ca.lwvnet.org/>
or find site via google

HELP WANTED

CALLING ALL MEMBERS! Now is the time to come to the aid of the League. During September and October we need you to assist us in doing Voters Service activities. They include:

- ✓ Distributing Pros and Cons and Easy Voter Guides
- ✓ Doing Pros and Cons presentations requested by various organizations
- ✓ Doing candidates meetings - moderating, timing, making arrangements (Training if necessary)
- ✓ Registering voters and helping to Get Out the Vote
- ✓ Staffing the office a couple of hours a week – answering the League phone

If you can help, call Gloria Anderson at 338-4163 or e-mail her at glorand@juno.com.



LWVSB ANNUAL MEETING VOTES TO UPDATE LOCAL GOVT. POSITION

At the May Annual Meeting, members voted to update LWVSB's current Local Governance position which reads as follows:

- A. *The Mayor should be elected at large by popular vote of city residents;*
- B. *The Mayor should have the veto power of Common Council action with a super majority of the Council required for an override;*
- C. *Appointive powers of the Mayor should include authority to appoint a City Administrator with Council confirmation and authority to dismiss the Administrator;*
- D. *The Mayor should be a full-time Mayor;*
- E. *Authority to hire and fire top management positions should be given to the Mayor with Council approval.*

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED BY LWVSB RECONVENED MEETING

1. Is it possible for a city to retain a strong mayor form of governance and add a City Manager to the mix?
2. How would the Mayor's power be diluted? Is this good? What are the tradeoffs?
3. What powers should a strong Mayor exercise?
4. Is a professional manager necessary for a city to thrive and be well run?
5. What role should the Mayor and Council play in the hiring and firing?
6. What should be the qualifications for a City Manger or City Administrator?
7. Should the authority and duties of a CAO (City Manger/Administrator) be spelled out in detail in the Charter or should they be assigned to the Mayor and Council via ordinance? Why would residents favor Charter or ordinance? What are the benefits and cautions of each?



ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF FORMS OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Summary of Advantages and Disadvantages of Forms of Municipal Government	
Advantages	Disadvantages
Weak Mayor	
• Long historical tradition	• Power and responsibility diffused
• Elected representative council to meet constituents' needs	• Lack of strong leadership
• Has worked well in small and rural localities	• Political vacuum may lead to "bossism" and "machine" politics
Strong Mayor	
• Strong leadership with centralized responsibility	• Too much responsibility for one person
• Facilitates policy formulation and implementation	• Mayor may not be a professional administrator
Council-Manager	
• Professional manager in charge of managing city	• No strong, effective political leadership
• Council retains policy control	• Tendency for manager to usurp policy making functions
• City run in business-like manner	• Manager may be a stranger to the city, seeking only to advance his or her own career
Source: Julianne Duvall, "Contemporary Choices for Citizens," in Roger L. Kemp, ed. Forms of Local Government: A Handbook on City, County and Regional Options . Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 1999, p. 65.	

COUNCIL/ MANAGER: The council is the elected body of government and serves both the legislative and executive functions. The National Civic League's Model City Charter has tended to favor Council/Manager forms of government though the mayor discussion has been expanded in the 8th edition.

COUNCIL/MAYOR/ADMINISTRATOR: Characterized as a “strong mayor” form of government, the mayor has broad powers of appointment, administration and legislation. For example, the mayor may prepare the budget and may veto decisions of the council, including those concerned with the budget. He is also the principal supervisor of all departments. Unlike cities with “weak mayors,” where the mayor is often elected by the council, the strong mayors are always elected by the citizens.

STRONG MAYOR

WEAK MAYOR

Appoints important city department heads	Shares appointive power with Council
Substantial control over city budget	Modest budgetary authority
Elected at large	May be Council person chosen as Mayor by Council
Veto power over Council overridden by supermajority	No veto power, sometimes votes as member of Council, sometimes votes only in case of a tie
Presides at Council meetings	Same
Supervises all City departments	Whoever supervises City depts. is responsible to Council
Facilitates policy formulation and implementation	Council retains policy control
Strong leadership and centralized responsibility	Too much responsibility for one person
Professional management skills could contribute to success	Professional management skill could contribute to success
City adm. or mgr. under supervision of Mayor	City adm. or mgr. under supervision of Council
Mayor and Council must approve hires and dismissals of unclassified employees	City mgr. has authority to hire and fire except for bds., commissions, etc., with their own authority
Mayor and Council cannot interfere in City mgr.'s dept. supervision or interfere in dept. mgmt.	City mgr. is responsible for administration and reports to Council.
Are there sufficient checks and balances?	Are there too many checks and balances?

COMPUTER CLASSES OFFERED FREE AT LOCAL LIBRARIES

The Cosand Computer Learning Center at the Norman F. Feldheim Central Library, 555 West 6th Street, in San Bernardino, has scheduled free computer classes for adults. It is recommended that class participants have basic computer skills and be familiar with mouse usage.

The September schedule is as follows:

Wednesday –September 8 or September 22
 11:00 a.m. –12:15 p.m. Using the Internet
 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Learning Word Basics
 Class size is limited. To register or for more information, please call 381.8237, Monday through Saturday from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- * **YES, I want to add my voice to yours by joining the League of Women Voters as a part of your voice for citizens and force for change. I enclose: (see choices that follow)**
- * **\$50 One Year individual membership**
- * **\$75 Household (for one year membership, 2 members sharing an address)**
- * **\$40 Student membership (one year)**
- * **I'm unable to join the League at this time but enclose a Contribution of \$ _____**
- * **Please send me more Information.**

NAME/NAMES: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: DAY/EVENING _____ / _____ EMAIL _____

**Please make checks payable to League of Women Voters and return with this application form to:
 League of Women Voters, San Bernardino, 568 No. Mountain View #150, San Bernardino, CA 92401-1218**

LWV of San Bernardino Board of Directors

President	Micaela Cruz	(909) 887-9296
Vice President	Gloria Anderson	(909) 338-4163
Secretary	Susan Nieblas	(909) 337-6564
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Director Observer Corps	Barbara Sokoloff	(909) 886-8604
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Membership Director		
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Website Off Board Director	Jill Vassilakos-Long) 863-1450
VOTER Distribution Off Board Dir.	John Weininger	(909) 885-2222
Nominating Committee: Brenda Frederick chair; Lee Manak, Teresa Para, Gloria Anderson		



LWVSB THANKS HARPER'S PRINTING FOR HELP IN REPRODUCING THIS 'VOTER'

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. LWV does not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. It does, however, take action on selected government issues in the public interest.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: "The trailer bills [bills written to implement budget] are actually a good example of what's wrong with gut-and-amend. They have become Christmas trees to which politicians, state agencies and special interest lobbyists attach goodies, some of which have nothing to do with the budget itself, knowing that the measures will receive minimal scrutiny." --Dan Walters, Sacramento BEE.

OLDIES BUT GOODIES: "A lot of horses get distracted. It's just human nature." --Nick Zito, horse trainer; "I don't want to tell you any half-truths unless they're completely accurate." --Dennis Rappaport, boxing mgr. in TRULY STUPID SPORTS QUOTES.

RESERVATION FOR SEPT. 30 LUNCHEON AT THE GOURMET

Luncheon choice:

- chef's salad
- chef's salad vegetarian no meat
- veal parmigiana
- steak tips



Meals include salad, potato or rice, veggie, beverage, and dessert. Cost is \$12.50 per person. Indicate the number of persons (guests welcome) and meals desired. Mail with your check to LWV San Bernardino, 568 No. Mountain View, San Bernardino, CA 92401. ATTN/ Ruth Petrucci. You may call the League at (909) 889-8600. DEADLINE IS SEPT. 14.

CALENDAR

- Sept. 14 (Tues.) Board Meeting, noon, Krueper Bldg., 568 Mtn. View, San Bdn (2ND Tues.)
- Sept. 24 (Wed.) Deadline for making reservation for meeting below.
- Sept. 30 (Thurs.) General meeting with Shauna Clark, speaker on city manager/mayor. govt., Noon, Gourmet Restaurant, 1445 E. Highland, San Bdn.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF SAN BERNARDINO
568 No. Mt. View Ave. Ste. 150
San Bernardino, CA 92401

DATED MATERIAL

SEPTEMBER 2004

YOUR VOTER

