

League of Women Voters of the Tanana Valley Position Statements

GENERAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The League of Women Voters of the Tanana Valley believes that government is needed outside of the cities to protect the rights and needs of residents, and to provide such services as education, transit and the prevention of air pollution.

ADOPTED 1968; REVISED 1967; REAFFIRMED 1988, 1991; REVIEWED 2015, REAFFIRMED 2016; 2017 UNDER REVIEW FOR POTENTIAL WORDING CHANGE

PLANNING AND ZONING

The League of Women Voters of the Tanana Valley believes that a comprehensive Land Use Plan is essential to ensure orderly development, save green spaces, plan for future public facilities and to encourage industrial and business growth in specifically designated areas. Regulatory measures to maintain the Plan must:

- Provide for periodic review of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Provide for citizen input before any changes to the Plan take effect.
- Ensure cooperative planning between the Planning and Zoning Commission and the School Board on future school needs and locations of schools.
- Provide for environmental review of any new facility which will draw heavy traffic or have a large parking area.
- Ensure that the integrity of the Plan will not be compromised by frequent small changes or variances.

ADOPTED 1969; REVISED 1979, 1987; REAFFIRMED 1988, 1991; REVIEWED 2015; REAFFIRMED 2016, 2017

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

The League of Women Voters of the Tanana Valley believes in the participation of citizens in their government. Appointed boards, commissions and committees serve as liaisons between the community and their elected officials. As such, they should be reflective of the composition of the community with adequate representation from both urban and rural areas. Selection procedures for boards, commissions and committees should be standardized and advertised to encourage the widest possible citizen participation. The names of current board, commission and committee members should be published periodically.

- a. Require petition signatures be gathered from at least two-thirds (2/3) of the election districts in the state in order to reflect statewide interest in a measure.
- b. Limit the time for collecting signatures to one year.

ADOPTED 1979; REAFFIRMED 1986; REVISED 1988; REAFFIRMED 1988; REVIEWED 2015; REAFFIRMED 2016, 2017.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The League of Women Voters of the Tanana Valley supports clear and concise conflict of interest legislation to govern all councils, assemblies, boards, commissions and committees. Such provisions should contain:

- A clear definition of what constitutes conflict of interest.
- A procedure for members to declare conflict of interest.
- A procedure by which the body decides if conflict of interest does exist and the extent of disqualification in each case.
- A provision that all declarations of conflict of interest and all pertinent discussion must be reflected in the minutes.

ADOPTED 1978; REVISED 1987; REAFFIRMED 1988, 1991; REVIEWED 2015; REAFFIRMED 2016, 2017.

ROAD SERVICE AREA

The League of Women Voters of the Tanana Valley supports the following policies regarding service areas:

- * All citizens in the Borough should be able to form, or be included in, a road service area for their neighborhood.
- * Borough costs for administration of road service areas should be borne by the residents/property owners within those areas. Each service areas should pay a basic flat fee, plus an additional fee which would vary according to the amount of service required.
- * To make consolidation of road service areas more attractive, differential tax rates within service areas should be considered when there are differences in population density, property valuation, lot size, soil conditions or service philosophy.
- * To ensure that service areas will function in an efficient, responsive and accountable manner it is essential that procedures and regulations be enforced consistently.

ADOPTED 1986; REVISED 1987; REAFFIRMED 1988, 1991; REVISED 2000; REVIEWED 2015; REAFFIRMED 2016, 2017 UNDER REVIEW FOR CLARIFICATION
