



January 29, 2014

**Palo Alto Core Values
LWVPA Statement**

Governance

Palo Alto Governance shall be open and transparent. Meetings, agendas, reports and minutes will be available to all. Each person's ideas will be heard and respected. There will be an open, fair selection of persons serving on boards, commissions, committees and task forces and those persons shall represent a variety of perspectives. Decisions by officials will be made after hearing from many sources, all of which are available to the public. There will be support for the council manager form of government with a mayor elected by the council from among its members.

Respect

Palo Alto citizens, council and professional staff shall treat each other with respect. The interrelatedness of business, commercial and residential land uses will be recognized. The community will strive for a beneficial balance for those uses.

Intergovernmental Co-operation

Palo Alto will support intergovernmental co-operation with other jurisdictions and agencies, such as the school district, the county, neighboring cities and regional agencies. It will have cooperative working relationships with local schools, which provide preschool through college education.

Discrimination

No person will be discriminated against based upon race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability. No person shall suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination.

Housing

Palo Alto will plan for diverse housing options, including persons of all ages, incomes and abilities. We believe that a wide diversity of people in the community increases our understanding and knowledge of the world and improves our decision making.

Environment

Palo Alto will strive to make decisions that will sustain the environment by reducing global warming and using limited natural resources wisely. It will support policies that reduce adverse climate changes and protect our environment. Waste, including toxic waste, will be disposed of in ways that do not harm the environment. The city will support measures that maximize open space in the foothills west of Foothill Expressway and that maximize open space and minimize development in the Baylands east of Route 101. The city will promote a balance of housing, commercial, services, research and industrial manufacturing in the city.

Transportation

Palo Alto will cooperate on transportation solutions with local and regional agencies. Development will be encouraged to be along the major transportation routes to make maximum use of alternative transportation modes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mary Alice Thornton'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Alice Thornton, President
League of Women Voters of Palo Alto