

Resolution by the League of Women Voters of Palo Alto on Sustainable Communities and the Impact of Climate Change. For approval on May 13,2017

*Whereas* the League of Women Voters of Palo Alto recognizes the urgent need to act on issues related to Sustainable Communities and Climate Change, and

*Whereas* the LWV of California states in its Sustainable Communities position that the concept of sustainability is implicit in the Principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States and that League positions are in compliance with the fundamental principle of sustainability, recognizing the interdependency among issues of public policy and the impact of current decisions on the global welfare of future generations, and

*Whereas* the LWVC defines sustainable communities as those that recognize their interdependence with the global community and seek to meet current economic, environmental, and social demands through equitable and democratic means without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, and

*Whereas* LWVUS, LWVC, LWVBA, and the Leagues of Santa Clara County have multiple positions that address these issues and that can be used by the LWVPA to take action both at the local League level and at other League levels, and

*Whereas* these positions were developed after member study and a consensus process and ultimately were adopted by the members and are reviewed at annual meetings and conventions, sometimes with a major review and update to keep them current, and

*Whereas* the natural resources positions include environmental protection and pollution control, air quality, energy, hazardous materials, land use, solid waste, transportation, water resources, nuclear waste, flood control management and agriculture policies, and

*Whereas* these policies are interactive and part of an interdependent web which includes other positions such as housing, “good government,” and financing policies, and

*Whereas* other League levels have been active to effect the sustainability goals over many years through support of legislation, education, and on occasion litigation, and

*Whereas* the LWVPA has been active in promoting sustainable communities through educational meetings on topics such as rising sea level; in promoting updates to the water quality control plant; in encouraging denser housing located at the core of the city and not in the Baylands or Foothills; and in encouraging better mass transit, and

*Whereas* the LWV recognizes that the interdependent web of issues of sustainability reaches across municipal, regional and state boundaries,

*Therefore be it resolved* that the League of Women Voters of Palo Alto will work to reduce the impacts of climate change and to encourage sustainability in Palo Alto and its neighboring communities.