

**All of the following programming positions are recommended for retention for action:**

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN THE CITY CHARTER

The League of Women Voters of Pueblo supports the retention of collective bargaining in the City Charter. However, the league believes that the bargaining process could be improved by:

- providing training in negotiations for both management and labor;
- allowing negotiating teams latitude in bargaining;
- holding regular, on-going meetings of bargaining teams after negotiations begin;
- issuing only joint press releases during bargaining process;
- including the total compensation package when making comparisons with Colorado cities of at least equal size;
- negotiating 2-3 year contracts

Further, the League believes that if negotiations reach an impasse, the Charter should provide for mediation, either in place of arbitration or as a step prior to arbitration.

The League of Women Voters of Pueblo also proposes that a committee representing a cross-section of the community be appointed to review the Charter. If changes are deemed necessary, revision should be made by the amendment process.

BACKGROUND The League of Women Voters of Pueblo decided to make a study of the Pueblo City Charter at its annual meeting in April, 1986. The decision was made on the recommendation of one of its members who had been observing the City Council. The study centered on two questions: Does the Pueblo City Charter meet our needs? If not, how should it be changed?

Adopted 4/88

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

POSITION:

The League of Women Voters of Pueblo supports cooperative planning by City and County Governments and the private sector. This planning should determine transportation needs of the City and County of Pueblo. Solutions for meeting these needs should be developed.

The League believes that the planners should determine the availability of resources from both public and private funding sources.

The League supports the use of new technology for moving people with alternative means of transportation and for setting up a central transportation information system.

The League believes that present and future transportation systems must be environmentally sound and must include marketing techniques for convincing the public to use alternative modes of transportation.

Adopted 4/91.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

POSITION:

The League of Women Voters of Pueblo realizes there are a variety of causes for domestic violence in Pueblo: low self-esteem, alcohol and chemical dependency; cultural background which includes ethnic, socio-economic, religious and general educational makeup of the community; learned family behavior, family acceptance as well as community acceptance of violent behavior. All economic classes are involved. A lack of community awareness allows domestic violence to continue.

The League of Women Voters of Pueblo believes action is necessary to address the domestic violence problem in Pueblo. Three areas are identified: support for victims; community education and involvement; and improvements in the criminal justice system.

Support for victims includes shelter, safe houses and counseling. Programs are needed to both train and utilize victim advocates. The effectiveness of domestic violence treatment both for the victim and the perpetrator needs to be studied.

Community education and involvement includes: (1) Training public school staff to recognize student behavior that may result from domestic violence; and (2) Providing comprehensive domestic violence awareness programs for students in grades K-12.

In the community, all agencies-governmental and private-who come in contact with domestic violence must network. An organization is needed to provide community awareness.

Improvement in the criminal justice system includes screening of law enforcement officer candidates for violent tendencies. It also includes initial training in domestic violence issues for law enforcement officers, which should be regularly updated.

Once in the court system, domestic violence cases should be monitored. A central reporting system is essential: (1) To gather data for use by planning agencies; (2) To ensure follow-up with victims; and (3) To use for statistical analysis.

Adopted 4/92