



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

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Box 233 Lexington, Massachusetts 02420

### **LWVLEXINGTON NEWS AND INFORMATION FIRST FRIDAY OCTOBER 6, 2017**

#### **How are decisions about capital expenditures made in Lexington?**

On Friday, October 6, 2017, at 9:30AM the League of Women Voters of Lexington will host representatives from the Capital Expenditures Committee.

Jill Hai, chair of the Capital Expenditures Committee, and Charles Lamb, vice-chair, will speak about the capital planning process, projects currently under consideration and in process, and ways we finance capital improvements in our town.

What exactly does “Capital Expenditures” mean?

Does this have anything to do with taxes? Come and find out!

This is the first in the series of 2017-2018 First Friday Forums hosted by the League of Women Voters of Lexington to promote awareness and understanding of public policy issues. The meeting will take place at Cary Memorial Library, Large Meeting Room, lower level. Refreshments are served at 9:15 AM, and the presentation begins at 9:30 AM. For more information, e-mail [lwvlexington@gmail.com](mailto:lwvlexington@gmail.com), call [Jeanne at 781-861-0287] or e-mail [lisa.lavinia.smith@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.lavinia.smith@gmail.com).

We also ask that you please invite a neighbor or friend to attend.

All League of Women Voters forums are free and open to the public.

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**GREENING THE GRID: PREPARING FOR  
OUR CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE  
OCTOBER 19, 2017  
CARY MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Imagine a future without fossil fuels. Is our electric grid sufficiently robust and reliable to dependably provide all our energy needs-- transportation, heating and lighting? What is the electric grid and who runs it? What technological and business changes are required to assure a smooth transition to renewable energy?

The League of Women Voters of Lexington and the League of Women Voters of MA present [Greening the Grid: Preparing for Our Clean Energy Future](#) , Thursday October 19 at 7 pm in the Large Meeting Room, Cary Memorial Library, 1847 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington.

Speakers Ariel Horowitz, PhD., Synapse Energy Economics and Megan Herzog, Senior Attorney, Conservation Law Foundation are uniquely qualified to explain the transformation required to efficiently operate the electric grid.

The LWVMA Steering Committee for Environmental Action and Advocacy is coordinating the [LWVMA Climate and Energy Solutions Series](#), consisting of five regional forums around the state in collaboration with local Leagues and [other organizations](#). All events are free and open to the public.

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**LWVLEXINGTON BOARD MEETING  
Held October 2, 2017**

The LWVLexington Board meeting was held on October 4, 2017 from 7:30 P.M. – 8:45 P.M., Lexington Community Center, Room 237, Lexington, MA. All members are invited.

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## **LWVLEXINGTON BOOK CLUB October 9, 2017**

The LWVLexington Book Club will meet October 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.. The selected book for October is "Valley of the Dolls" by Jacqueline Susann, 12 Barrymead Road, Lexington, MA.

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## **The League is Looking for Volunteers**

The League is looking for volunteers to fill position openings it has. If interested, contact the League at 781-307-3116 for more information.

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## **Watch the League's Forums on Demand**

If there is a League of Women Voters of Lexington's First Friday Forum that you've missed or would like to see again, log onto <http://www.lexmedia.org/ondemand.html> and scroll down to "League of Women Voters" under Categories.

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## **HELP REGISTER NEW VOTERS!! LWVLEXINGTON IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS OCTOBER 15, 2017**

On October 15, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Church of Our Redeemer, 6 Meriam St., Lexington, the League of Women Voters of Lexington will have a table to help people register to vote. There will be a gathering of Lexington Refugee Assistance Program (LexRap) members and guests from a few countries (with a pot luck supper at 5:00 p.m.).

The League will need a few people to help with voter registration. If you are interested in volunteering or want more information, please contact the League at [lwwlexington@gmail.com](mailto:lwwlexington@gmail.com).

The League is also planning to hold a future Voter Registration Drive at Lexington High School. More details to follow.

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## **LWVMA Haddad, Creem Keynote LWVMA Day on the Hill**

Two of the highest ranking women in the state legislature—Rep. Patricia Haddad, Speaker Pro Tempore of the House, and Sen. Cynthia Creem, Assistant Senate Majority Leader of the Senate—will be the keynote speakers at the League’s annual lobby day Tuesday, Oct. 24.

Day on the Hill’s theme is *Moving the Needle on League Priorities*, and the event will focus on legislation in four areas identified as priorities at the League’s convention last April:

- Elections: Automatic Voter Registration bill
- Climate Change: Carbon Pricing bills
- Immigration: Safe Communities bill
- Criminal Justice Reform: Comprehensive reform legislation

Day on the Hill is in the Great Hall at the State House. Registration and coffee begins at 9:30 a.m. and the program runs from 10 a.m. to noon.

Register for the lobby day [here](#). The LWVMA office will notify legislators to expect visits from their League constituents who register before Oct. 16 after the morning’s program. League members can also make their own appointments with their legislators.

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## **Hundreds Attend “Extreme Events and Climate Change” Forum at New England Aquarium**

**Climate Change and Extreme Events  
What We Know and What We Can Do  
Ellen Marie Douglas  
UMass Boston  
September 14, 2017**

September 14, 2017—A sold-out crowd filled the Aquarium’s Simons IMAX® Theatre for “*Extreme Events and Climate Change: What We Know and What We Can Do*,” co-hosted by LWVMA and LWV-Boston, the New England Aquarium, and UMass Boston School for the Environment.

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Dr. Ellen Marie Douglas, UMass Boston, was the speaker in the first forum on “Extreme Events and Climate Change” co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts and a number of other organizations held on September 14, 2017, at the New England Aquarium.

She laid out the evidence for the causes of climate change, its impact on sea level rise in Massachusetts, and efforts to overcome the devastating changes in store for the region through mitigation and adaptation.

Dr. Douglas also reviewed data on the increased temperature of the planet, increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the cost of hurricane Harvey, and the increase of the global populations exposed to hurricanes. She listed 11 extreme events—floods, ice storms, “Halloween” blizzard-- in New England since October 1996. While hurricanes are not frequent in New England, the area does have two to three northeasters every year. This is currently an area of active research

What does this mean for the Boston area? There are four main effects:

1. By 2070, there will be over 90 days a year with temperatures over 90 degrees correlated to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
2. Very cold days will decrease, but extreme storms will continue
3. More rainfall
4. Sea level rise due to expansion of warmer water, melting glaciers, increased ground water extraction, and ice sheet melting, which may be the most important factor. Coastal areas that will be most at risk to sea level rise are East Boston, South Boston, and Charlestown.

It is not all bad news. The good news is that the United States has learned lessons from prior extreme events, Boston and the Commonwealth have embraced the building stretch code (Acts of 2008), the first cap and trade agreement in New England, and the Boston Climate Action Plan.

Further information can be found at:

Presentation slides: [https://lwvma.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Douglas\\_LWVMA\\_091417\\_final.pdf](https://lwvma.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Douglas_LWVMA_091417_final.pdf)

Boston Research Advisory Group Report:

[https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/document-file-12-2016/brag\\_report\\_-\\_final.pdf](https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/document-file-12-2016/brag_report_-_final.pdf)

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## **LWVUS “Transformational Journey” A Two-Part Video Services**

At our National Council meeting earlier this summer, League leaders held important conversations about where we are as an organization – and where we want to be when we reach our centennial in 2020.

Today, we are having an impact at the state, local, and national levels and we are continually testing new approaches to grow as one League with one voice. Together, we are working to ensure that our organization continues to grow and be impactful for decades to come.

Please enjoy the new 2-part video series “Transformational Journey” and thank you for being part of this exciting this exciting time for the League by visiting our website at [lwv.org](http://lwv.org).



Chris Carson  
President, League of Women Voters of the United States

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## **LWVUS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK**

What a week to celebrate!

National Voter Registration Day was a huge success for the sixth year in a row. Thank you to the more than 350 Leagues who were out in force across the country registering new voters—ensuring we were once again the single largest on-the-ground partner for the day! If your League hosted a registration even on Tuesday, don’t forget to [fill out your participation report here](#) or by responding to an email you may have received from

Brenda from the National Voter Registration Day team. Posting your results will help ensure the League is fully counted and credited for our incredible efforts as part of this day, and will help position us to leverage future opportunities.

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ADDITIONALLY, we defeated the Senate health care bill! Thanks to leaders like you who called your members of Congress, the Senate will not be voting on the Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal Obamacare. This proposed legislation would have had devastating impacts including cuts to coverage, raised costs and ending Medicaid expansion.

As we look ahead to the fall and focus on local elections this year, I am encouraged by the success of our team and the power of this organization to have a meaningful impact on our democracy.



Chris Carson  
President, League of Women Voters of the United States

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**We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you'd like to submit an article for the November 2017 LWVLexington Bulletin, please send it to Nancy Corcoran Ronchetti at [Nancor1106@gmail.com](mailto:Nancor1106@gmail.com) by November 20, 2017.**

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**Dates to Save:**

- October 2<sup>nd</sup> LWWLexington Board Meeting, Lexington Community Center, 39 Marrett Road, Room 237, 7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
- October 6<sup>th</sup> LWWLexington First Friday, “How are decisions about capital expenditures made in Lexington?”, Cary Memorial Library, Massachusetts Avenue, Large Meeting Room, Lower Level, 9:30 a.m.
- October 8<sup>th</sup> LWWLexington Book Club, 12 Barrymeade Drive, Lexington, 7:00 p.m. Book for discussion “Valley of the Dolls” by Jacqueline Susann



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