

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI
POSITIONS ON GOVERNMENT ISSUES

Short Form, Revised 2016

Parentheses indicate the year the position was adopted.

I. GOVERNMENT

A. CAMPAIGN FINANCE (1996)

1. Support local ordinances that define and regulate political action committees.
2. Support a local ethics/election commission to oversee municipal election procedures.

B. FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

1. Support a more detailed breakdown of county budgets for general revenue and the road and bridge fund. (1972)
2. Support bonds as part of the city's financial structure. (1989)
3. Support adequate revenue for the city's operating fund. (1989)

C. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1. Support cooperation between local governmental units. (1970)
2. Support Council/Manager form of government. (1955, 1971) (clarification 2001—City Council comprised of the mayor, four zone and four general council members.)
3. Support home rule for Greene County, preferably embodying an elected partisan legislature and an executive. (1972, 1976, 1989)
4. Support City Charter mandates that give City Council the power to remove CU Board members by specific procedures. (1982)
5. Support an appointed CU Board. (1982)
6. Support broad representation on the CU Board. (1982, revised 1989)
7. Support for City Council having independent, professional input into utility rate-making decision. (1982)
8. Support the opposition to placing City Utilities under the Public Service Commission. (1982)

II. JUSTICE

A. JUDICIAL (2005)

1. Support a "merit selection, non-partisan plan" for Greene County judges.

B. LAW ENFORCEMENT (1995)

1. Support a regional area jail. (revised 2000)
2. Support an equitably funded countywide communication system that allows emergency responders to communicate directly between agencies.
3. Support additional personnel, technology and equipment for law enforcement to meet the public safety needs of the city and the county.
4. Support legislation for uniform minimum standards for adult correctional facilities and efforts to improve physical conditions and prisoner morale. (1978-1979). **Adult Corrections** positions moved into **Law Enforcement** positions 2000)

III. BUILT ENVIRONMENT

A. TRANSPORTATION (1975)

1. Support Amtrak service through Springfield. (deleted 2016).
2. Support improved and more effective public transportation for Springfield with emphasis on

re-routing, safety, convenience, and future needs.

B. PARKS (1956, 1980-81, 1990)

1. Support adequate parks and recreation programs for Springfield and Greene County. (amended 2000).
2. Support funding through property tax, general revenue, fees, set-asides, and/or donations and grants. (Revised 2005)

C. PLANNING AND ZONING

1. Support comprehensive planning for the city and county and their coordination (1975-1982)
2. Support residential and commercial planning and zoning, parks development, and preservation of open space. (1966, revised 1975 and 1987)
3. Support construction of adequate and equitably financed sanitary disposal and storm drainage in Springfield and Greene County. (1975, revised 1990)

D. SAFETY

1. Support safety councils, improved visibility at intersections, and community efforts to develop a safe path to school. (1965)
2. Support construction of sidewalks and bikeways, safe crossing mechanisms and educational programs on bicycle and pedestrian safety. (1973)

E. SUSTAINABILITY (Studied 1999-2001, revised 2005)

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (see also, Green Building, 2008)

Sprawl, Population

1. Support efforts to direct growth and development in Springfield-Greene County, based on the carrying capacity of the environment.
2. Support efforts to contain urban sprawl by preserving farmland and maximizing the use of in-fill within Springfield and development and redevelopment within the Greene County Urban Services District. (2000)

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

3. Support preservation of the physical integrity of a neighborhood's housing resources as necessary to a sustainable community, by consistently applying realistic and practical standards.
4. Support on-going funding to implement enforcement of housing standards.

PLANNING/CENTER CITY/TRANSPORTATION

5. Support vigorous enforcement of the Urban Services District to control sprawl.
6. Support development and enforcement of standards for mixed-use development.
7. Support a better balance between the interests of business, government, and individual citizens and citizen groups when considering questions related to growth and land use.
8. Support adequate governmental financing for the strengthening of existing neighborhoods, redevelopment of Center City and the provision of green spaces, walking and bike trails and sidewalks.
9. Support on-going cooperation between the city and county governments and a stronger emphasis on regional planning in the areas of transportation and planning.
10. Support efforts to improve and landscape the city's existing major arterial roads as an alternative to building new roads around the city.
11. Support establishing bus routes to meet the needs of the population dependent on public transportation as data is substantiated, as well as efforts by City Utilities to explore alternative means of transportation.

F. GREEN BUILDING (2008)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

1. Support the practice of green, sustainable building, both public and private, that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide, and mercury.

2. Support the creation of clean industry, business, manufacturing, and jobs.
3. Support the governments' promoting and, when possible, mandating new construction and renovation that meet minimum green building certification standards. (added 2010)

PLANNING/CENTER CITY/TRANSPORTATION

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IV. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

A. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (see also Green Building, 2008)

AIR

1. Support effective air pollution controls, including the elimination of open trash burning. (1968)

SOLID WASTE

2. Support solid waste management systems that control pollution and provide efficient, economical, and adequate service to all residents. (1971)
3. Support a voluntary materials recovery program, which includes composting. (1971, 1989)
4. Support efforts to pre-cycle. (Added 1993 General Meeting)
5. Support the concept of waste to energy. (Deleted 1991, reinstated 2005 Annual Meeting)

WATER (Studied 1968, 1991; revised 1989)

6. Support water conservation and recommend to City Utilities to continue and expand the educational program on water conservation, preservation and protection.
7. Support the sale of water by City Utilities of Springfield to other area municipalities, as long as policies are in place to guarantee water supplies to City Utilities customers. (2011)
8. Support water rate price structuring by City Utilities that
 - a. provides separate charges for usage and infrastructure costs
 - b. encourages water conservation. (2011)

HAZARDOUS WASTE (1979)

9. Support payment of the cleanup and removal cost by those who are responsible for leaks and spills of petroleum and hazardous materials in Springfield and Greene County
10. Support regulation of all pipelines carrying hazardous materials in the Springfield area.
11. Support the use of less polluting materials as gravel and sand, instead of sodium and calcium chlorides, by the city and state on icy streets and highways.

SEWERS

12. Support replacement of septic tanks with alternative waste treatment systems including sewers, banning

of

septic tanks on lots of less than three acres in a development, and use of new alternative treatment systems in parks and recreation areas where possible. (1979)

13. Support use of alternative waste treatment systems, as opposed to septic tanks, in the incorporated areas of

Greene County, the adoption of strict rules and regulations for installation and maintenance, and of legislation to alter the basis of sewer costs for owners of three acres or more or to defer them until the land is subdivided. (1983)

14. Support solid waste disposal that protects the groundwater supply and provides for a clean environment and encourages conservation of natural resources. (1971; 1984 study update; revised 1991)

B. SUSTAINABILITY (Studied 1999-2001, revised 2005)

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (see also, Green Building, 2008)

Water

1. Support developing non-mechanical filtering processes, i.e. wetlands.
2. Support control of water pollution resulting from over-fertilizing, run-off from land disturbance activities and exceeding parking space requirements.
3. Support efforts to reduce phosphate use. (2000)

Trees

4. Support development of a Community Forestry Master Management Plan and an arborist to enforce the plan.
5. Support a comprehensive, enforceable tree ordinance and a land disturbance ordinance for Springfield and Greene County.
6. Support maintaining the current tree inventory of the city of Springfield. (2000)

C. GREEN BUILDING (2008)

NATURAL RESOURCES

1. Support the conservation of natural resources by conserving water, energy, and forests.
2. Support recycling of all waste building and demolition materials that otherwise would add to or pollute the landfill.
3. Support adoption of landscaping practices and designs that use native plants, natural fertilizer, and reduces the need for water.

V. SOCIAL POLICY

A. EDUCATION (Studied 1969 and 1971, updated 1979)

1. Support measures to provide quality education and adequate schools for all children in the R-12 School District.
2. Support early childhood education as a priority of our local school system, ensuring financial support toward program implementation and certification of qualified personnel. (1990)
3. Support public educational TV (1974)
4. Support improved training for school bus drivers, enforcement of safety laws, and stronger discipline on school buses. (1976)

B. HEALTH AND BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

1. Support services for the mentally ill by improving available housing, making counseling services widely available and improving outpatient case management, such as special employment assistance, job training, and/or supervised employment. (1987)
2. Support for increased affordability and accessibility of mental health care services for adults in Greene County (2013-2015)

3. Support health services, especially for the poor and disadvantaged with a focus on information and referral and reasonable guidelines to access city/county health services. (1978, revised 2005)
4. Support the position of Homeless Service Coordinator. (1987; revised 2005)
5. Support more emphasis on home health care and homemaker services as an alternative to institutional care for the elderly. (1983-1984)

C. SUSTAINABILITY (Studied 1999-2001, revised 2005)

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (see also, Green Building, 2008)

Sprawl, Population (See Health and Basic Human Needs)

1. Support family planning and educational programs locally, statewide, nationwide and internationally.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

2. Consequences of growth—Support containment of future development within the Urban Services District.
3. Job and wage profiles—Support the education, business, and government sectors working together to attract higher-paying technical and professional jobs to the Springfield area, while at the same time providing opportunities for education and training in such jobs.
4. Industrial Development—Support the city's current level of tax incentives for businesses to locate in Springfield. (2000)

D. GREEN BUILDING (2008)

EDUCATION

1. Support education of the community, particularly students, on the benefits of green building practices based on accurate data.
2. Support working with other community organizations in making this information available to the community on an ongoing basis.