



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LOS ANGELES**

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**LOCAL POSITIONS 2004-2005**

The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles has studied issues related to secession from the City of Los Angeles and reached this position through consensus.

**SECESSION (2001)**

Support of all efforts to improve services and responsiveness to the diverse voices of many communities in the City of Los Angeles. Los Angeles should continue as one city.

1. Detachment from the city does not assure better services for less money. Those cities around Los Angeles that have incorporated from the County in recent years did so to achieve better services and accepted an increase in taxes in order to do so.
2. Detachment has never occurred in a city the size of Los Angeles with its complex infrastructure. Voters are asked to count on results based on disputed information that is ultimately unknowable because of the need to duplicate assets and the consequences of the impact on bond ratings, etc.
3. Political representation would increase, but that would not necessarily affect the quality of services, responsiveness of government, or accountability. There would be more politicians, but considerably fewer staff members available in the new city.
4. A fully implemented citywide neighborhood council system could provide the sense of community desired while increasing participation in and influence on government.