Election Procedures

(approved May 2019)

The League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico supports:

• Protection of the right of every citizen to vote.
• Methods that increase voter participation, including automatic voter registration and same-day voter registration.
• Consolidation of all local elections.
• Collaborated efforts by government and non-partisan organizations to increase voter participation through:
  o Special Get Out the Vote campaigns.
  o The development and distribution of educational materials that explain the voter registration process as well as why voting is important.
• Systems that improve the election experience and provide ease of ballot access, including vote-by-mail, supplemented by secure ballot drop boxes and accessible voting centers, including:
  o Clarification and simplification of options for early and absentee voting procedures. Election officials should send clear notice to the public of the dates on which early voting or absentee voting begins and ends and provide publicity about the location and use of Voting Convenience Centers.
  o Cooperation and coordination among city, county, and school district officials to establish consolidated election dates and the use of common polling places, such as the Voting Convenience Centers.
  o Implementation of mail-in ballot elections locally for small elections in order to reduce costs and increase voter participation.
• Ranked choice voting for all elections.
• Implementation of Ranked Choice Voting best practices, ensuring the winning candidate attains at least 50% of the votes.
• Nominating petitions for the offices of Mayor, City Councilor and County Commissioner should contain the signatures of at least two percent of the number of qualified electors eligible to vote for that office.