



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF DANE COUNTY, INC.

4513 Vernon Boulevard, Suite 106, Madison, WI 53705-4964 ☆ 608.232.9447
office@lwvdanecounty.org ☆ www.lwvdanecounty.org

September 3, 2020

RE: League of Women Voters of Dane County supports additional polling places for Fitchburg's District 1 and the sharing of resources to move and potentially share polling locations with the City of Madison for the November 2020 Presidential Election

Dear Mayor Richardson, Fitchburg Common Council and City Clerk, Tracy Olderberg

The League of Women Voters supports efforts to maintain accessibility of polling locations particularly in marginalized communities who may have limited access to transportation and face the highest socioeconomic barriers. Voters in District 1 who do not have access to private vehicles should not have to walk across traffic-heavy Verona Rd and McKee Rd for 1.2 miles to vote.

As the resolution states:

"Many residents of both neighborhoods lack reliable access to vehicle transportation and live beyond walking distance. Additionally, the Marketplace Fire Station is located outside of District 1 and not within walking distance of a bus line."

LWVDC is deeply committed to ensuring voting is accessible, that every eligible voter is able to cast their ballot safely, whether by mail or in-person. COVID has exacerbated inequities in our community. It is in these times that equity work is made all the more relevant. Supporting this resolution serves to:

"1) Provide more equitable, walkable, accessible polling places for residents in Fitchburg's most transportation and income vulnerable neighborhoods. 2) Reduce the risk of crowded polling places and spread of COVID-19 by splitting the District into two sites 3) Maximize partnerships and existing resources at the federal, non-profit, and inter-municipal level at no financial cost to the City of Fitchburg."

The League of Women Voters of Dane County therefore strongly supports a positive vote on this important issue and is will provide funding up to \$1150.00 to cover the costs of printing and postage for postcards updating polling location changes for voters in District 1.

Sincerely,

Christine Clements, President