

ERIE/BARGE CANAL

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Statement of Position

As announced by the State Board in 1994

The League of Women Voters of New York State supports the use of the Erie/Barge Canal for recreation purposes.

In addition LWVNYS stresses the need for controlled economics and recreational development. Any development should maintain the aesthetic character of the canal in all its projects. Recreational development along the Canal should also balance historic preservation and public access.

The League favors the continuation of the regional planning process with full public participation to monitor and comment on the “Canal Recreationway Plan” as it evolves over time.

At convention in 1993, the delegates voted to study the Erie/Barge Canal System for concurrence with the Rochester Metro League’s position statement of: “Support of reconditioning of the New York State Erie/Barge Canal System and its development for recreational uses.”

Local Leagues responses, and adoption by the State Board enabled us to support the Recreationway Plan adopted in 1995. Members will continue to monitor its development and implementation. This has the potential to become the longest linear park on the east coast, and a historic asset for the public.