

PLANNING—ZONING CONSENSUS, 1975, updated 2001

- I. The League of Women Voters of Emporia firmly believes in comprehensive planning including establishing and following a comprehensive plan. Any notable variances from the plan should be carefully considered in terms of both short and long-range effects on the immediate neighborhood and community as a whole.
- II. Planning should be an ongoing responsibility of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission. This should include an annual review of the comprehensive plan.
- III. The City and County Commissions should pay for professional planning help on a continuing basis. City and County Commissions should also allocate monies for education programs for city staff and planning and zoning commissioners.
- IV. An ideal Metropolitan Area Planning Commission would be composed of a cross-section of civic-minded individuals representative of the community. The City and County Commissions should strive for a broader base by soliciting names of possible appointees from organizations. They should also publicize vacancies and encourage people to volunteer their own names or others. Commissioners might interview possible appointees.
- V. Public participation in planning and zoning should be encouraged by publicizing meetings and the agendas via local media at least 24 hours before the meeting. The Metropolitan Area Planning Commission should involve other interested groups in planning as it affects them. All City and County Commissioners, the City and County Attorneys, as well as Planning Commissioners, should have copies of the comprehensive plan. The Emporia Public Library should have two copies. Interested groups should be able to buy copies.
- VI. The League of Women Voters supports controlled growth that maintains or improves the quality of life. We encourage a controlled mixture of housing types in new residential areas, green areas, and sidewalks on at least one side of every street. We are not in favor of strip or spot zoning but if it is to exist, it should be planned and controlled.