

## "The Progressive Promise"

We are on the cusp of a renewal of progressive principles in America. More than any other time since I've been in Washington, there is a real public appetite to see progressive values put into practice and made the law of our land.

That's why this is the perfect time for me to be co-chairing (along with my colleague from the other side of



Rep. Woolsey unveils the Progressive Promise with Rep. John Conyers and other members.

the Bay, Barbara Lee) the Congressional Progressive Caucus. Sixty-two members strong and growing, it is one of the largest caucuses on Capitol Hill, and now it has been re-energized thanks to a new blueprint for a progressive governing agenda.

We cannot allow progressivism to be defined only by opposition to those in power. We have compelling, innovative ideas that would create opportunity for the American people, keeping us safe while safeguarding our most basic freedoms. So we've released what we call "The Progressive Promise: Fairness for All."

### The Progressive Promise has Four Pillars:

- 1) *Fighting for Economic Justice and Security in the U.S. and Global Economies*
- 2) *Protecting and Preserving Civil Rights and Civil Liberties*
- 3) *Promoting Global Peace and Security*
- 4) *Environmental Protection and Energy Independence*

## Fixing "No Child Left Behind" and Investing in Our Children

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) is a classic case of good intentions, bad execution. I voted for the original bill because it was clear that our schools needed help, and there was a bipartisan agreement to invest in America's schoolchildren.

But since 2002, the Republican Majority has underfunded NCLB by \$40 billion. Furthermore, the law has not treated schools and school districts fairly. A fair accountability system rewards progress, but NCLB does not — it has become a strictly punitive measure.



Ranking Member of the Education Reform Subcommittee Woolsey meets with children at Roseland School to discuss the importance of reading.

Among many other fixes, including full funding, we need to amend NCLB to allow more flexibility, instead of the current one-size-fits-all approach, holding every school and school district to a single, arbitrary standard, regardless of the challenges they face. And with the law's focus on math, reading, and science, we must provide more support for critical subjects like the arts, foreign languages and American and world history.

NCLB is up for renewal in 2007. As the senior Democrat on the subcommittee that handles pre-K through 12th Grade education, I will play an important role in improving the bill and ensuring that the federal government becomes a better partner toward our goal of giving every child a world-class education. I will continue to seek the invaluable advice of Marin and Sonoma County educators and parents as we pursue these reforms.

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Constituent Update Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey

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## A Note from Your Congresswoman

March 2006



Dear Friend:

The war in Iraq is now three years old. We are approaching 2,300 Americans dead in this reprehensible conflict, which has also cost us hundreds of billions of dollars and the good will of virtually the entire world. In the name of moral decency, fiscal sanity and national security, it is time to bring our troops home.

Opposing the war passionately and purposefully has been item number one on my agenda. I have pressed my case with legislation (the very first legislation calling for the troops to come home) and the very first debate and vote on the House Floor, a forum on military exit strategies, a detailed plan presented to President Bush, and speeches on the House floor virtually every day that Congress is in session.



On a recent trip to Iraq, Rep. Woolsey meets with soldiers from the 6th District who were part of Task Force Tamalpais.

But no experience has been more informative than meeting with troops from the North Bay during a recent visit to Iraq. Anyone who talks with them comes away prouder than ever of those who wear the uniform. But their courage makes the situation all the more tragic — I believe our leaders have sent some of our finest Americans to war on false pretenses, on a poorly defined mission, without all the tools they needed, and without a plan to get them out of there.

That trip has made my support for the troops that much stronger. What better way to support them than to ensure that they return home to their families and that they receive the benefits they've been promised when they return?

Sincerely,

Lynn Woolsey

## Flood Protection: Before and After the Storm Hits

Just before the new year, severe storms pummeled the North Bay and other parts of Northern California. High waters and mudslides damaged or destroyed homes, businesses, schools and public facilities. Marin and Sonoma Counties each reported more than \$100 million in damage.

Moving quickly to secure federal disaster relief from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and working closely with county officials and the Governor, we made our case directly to the President himself. And we were successful – the federal disaster declaration was made on February 3rd.

Our people and communities are now eligible for small business loans, personal property replacement, road and bridge repairs, and other forms of assistance, including hazard mitigation, designed to soften the blow of the next storm.

In fact, the impact of this recent storm would have been far worse if not for investment in certain preventive projects over the years. Federal funds, which I helped deliver, prevented damage by raising over 200 homes on the Russian River and the Petaluma Flood Control Project protected neighborhoods that had felt the wrath of previous storms. Federal funds are also contributing to flood planning efforts in the Laguna de Santa Rosa and the Corte Madera Creek watershed.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Even as we invest in today's recovery, we must remain one step ahead; working together now will allow us to withstand tomorrow's severe weather.

### Need Help Getting Flood Relief?

Call one of my offices and my staff can help to point you in the right direction.

### How to Contact Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey

**Sonoma County Office**  
1101 College Avenue  
Suite 200  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
707.542.7182

**Marin County Office**  
1050 Northgate Drive  
Suite 354  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
415.507.9554

**Washington, DC Office**  
2263 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
202.225.5161

To be an effective voice for California's Sixth District, I need to hear regularly about what is most important to you. My website offers a great way for us to keep in touch about the issues. Please visit [www.woolsey.house.gov](http://www.woolsey.house.gov) today!

## Bringing Home Transportation Dollars For the North Bay

Transportation is one of the most daunting and persistent challenges facing the North Bay. With Congress working this past year on a comprehensive transportation bill, I made sure that our communities got our fair share of the federal investment.

The new legislation is delivering \$117.1 million to California's 6th District (in addition to the \$65.3 million for the district in the 1998 reauthorization), allowing us to upgrade infrastructure, minimize traffic, reduce air pollution, improve public health, generate jobs, and contribute to the overall quality of life.

Highway expansion is a part of our community transportation strategy. But we believe in a balanced, multimodal approach, so the dollars we're receiving will also help improve mass transit and encourage travel by foot and by bicycle.



Rep. Woolsey meets with Marin bicycle leaders about the new non-motorized transportation pilot program.

### Some Examples of Funding Coming to the North Bay:

- ◆ \$58.8 million – Seismic retrofit of the Golden Gate Bridge, to ensure that it can withstand a major earthquake.
- ◆ \$27 million – Widening Highway 101, to ease congestion along the Marin Sonoma Narrows
- ◆ \$25 million – Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program. Marin County was one of four communities nationwide to be selected for this new effort to provide a workable model that will make travel easier for pedestrians and bicyclists

## Protecting Our Coast and Our Environment, Investing in Renewable Energy

No weapons system or military campaign could do more for our national security than a bold commitment to energy independence. Unquestionably, American reliance on imported oil, much of it from the Middle East, has made us less safe.

Some people want to address that problem by increasing domestic production of oil, which means drilling holes in some of America's most magnificent natural treasures, like our gorgeous and bountiful coastline along the North Bay.

We cannot let this happen. I have introduced a bill that will extend the protections of the National Marine Sanctuary Program to the entire Sonoma Coast. This would put our waters permanently off-limits to oil and gas extraction, instead of relying on the uncertain renewal of a year-to-year drilling moratorium.

In addition to their aesthetic value, the Sonoma waters are an invaluable community resource. With their unique and abundant marine life, they are a research treasure trove. And between commercial fishing and tourism, they are a key contributor to our local economy.

The solution to what President Bush called America's addiction to oil is not to drill our way to energy independence. I have offered legislation that would stimulate demand for cleaner, more efficient ways to power the cars, machines and appliances we all depend on. With technology and a strong federal commitment, we can unlock the vast potential of wind, solar, biomass, and other renewable energy sources.



Rep. Woolsey meets with John Kramer at Bodega Bay to discuss her Marine Sanctuary Expansion bill.

## Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey Working for You

Since entering Congress in 1993, I have brought home almost \$400 million for our district. Here are some examples of local projects in Marin and Sonoma counties that I have been able to provide federal dollars in FY05 and FY06:

### Flood Control Projects (To Date: \$31.2 million)

■ Corte Madera Creek – \$463,000

■ Petaluma River – \$3 million

### Environmental Restoration Projects (To Date: \$52 million)

■ Bolinas Lagoon Ecosystem – \$300,000

■ Hamilton Wetlands – \$19 million

■ Laguna de Santa Rosa – \$825,000

■ Napa-Sonoma Salt Marsh – \$375,000

■ Russian River Ecosystem – \$650,000

■ San Pablo Bay – \$875,000

■ Santa Rosa Creek Watershed – \$825,000

■ Sonoma Creek and Tributaries – \$374,000

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### Other Army Corps Projects (To Date: \$45.6 million)

■ Dry Creek Lake and Channel – \$11.3 million

■ Bay Delta Model – \$2.3 million

### Transportation Projects (To Date: \$220.2 million)

■ Highway 101 Widening – \$1.85 million

■ Marin Parklands Visitor Shuttle – \$1.278 million

■ Sonoma Compressed Natural Gas Buses – \$300,000

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### Miscellaneous Projects (To Date: \$47.5 million)

■ Center Point – \$570,000

■ Earle Baum Center for the Blind – \$250,000

■ Marin County Breast Cancer Research – \$440,000

■ Marine Mammal Center Hospital Improvement – \$2 million

■ Monte Rio Sanitation Project – \$200,000

■ Novato Law Enforcement Technology – \$200,000

■ Project Avary Camp Expansion – \$500,000

■ Sonoma State Lifelong Learning Institute – \$200,000

■ Valley of the Moon Children's Center – \$97,000

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