

## **Animal Shelter Coalition for El Dorado County - November 2010 Update**

We are pleased to report that the **El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce Board recently voted to support moving ahead to complete the Western Slope Animal Shelter.** We appreciate the Chamber's review of this important issue and are pleased to count this important organization among our supporters.

On July 20, 2010, **the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, in a 3-2 vote (Briggs, Knight and Santiago approving) acted to move forward with the permanent animal shelter, in a phased approach.** At that meeting, project staff believed they would bring additional action items back to the Board to begin Phase 1 work in Fall 2010. We were recently informed that staff work has not progressed as quickly as they originally thought and plans and specs for Phase 1 site work and the authorization to bid will not be presented to the Board of Supervisors until after the first of 2011.

In the meantime, we should note, that there are some that would like to see the Board take the project dollars away from the shelter project and use them to help make up the County's projected Operating Budget deficit in next fiscal year. At its November 15th Budget meeting, however, the Board **did not opt to take shelter project dollars,** as they worked to find \$4 million of next year's \$11 million operating budget shortfall.

See the News Page for a My Turn article on this issue and why shelter project funds need to be used for the shelter.