

WESTERN SLOPE ANIMAL SHELTER

November 15, 2011 Update

Key Steps Approved to Move Project Forward

We are pleased to report that the Board of Supervisors took two key actions today that were needed to keep the Western Slope Animal Shelter Project moving ahead. Equally encouraging were comments made by most Board members about the need for this shelter and a growing sense of forward momentum. Make no mistake, there will continue to be challenges – the biggest being updated building cost estimates that are expected soon. But the long “to do” list of tasks that lead to getting the project ready to “bid out” are being ticked off by the project manager assigned to this project in April. First, at today’s meeting, the agreement that sets the preferred location for the access road to the site was approved. The access road is being designed now and can be put out to bid in the Spring of 2012.

Second, the Architect Services Agreement was amended to set out some additional engineering work that must be done to get the building, itself, in a position to bid out. With the approval of this amendment the project’s Architect can resume work; manage and direct all the engineering specialties that have pieces of this complex project, and most importantly, provide DOT Project Managers with updated cost estimates for the 17,300 square foot shelter building. This is a critical step in the future of this project and one that we will be closely following. DOT Project Managers have assumed cost of the site improvements at \$1.5 million and cost of the building, itself, at \$3.9 million.

The Board of Supervisors expect to get a report about these estimated building costs, as well as a status report on Phase 1 and Phase 2 work, a review of the project budget and an accounting of project expenditures to date on each Phase on **December 20th**. That will be an important meeting because, based on estimated construction costs compared to remaining project budget, the way the animal shelter building proceeds will be at stake.

Comments from four Board Members, today, underscored their understanding that there is no question that the permanent shelter is needed.

Please stay tuned. We will keep you posted and send out a meeting advisory for the December 20th meeting, once we are sure the Shelter Project’s next critical review is on that agenda.