

WESTERN SLOPE ANIMAL SHELTER

October 2011 Project Update

Status Report, Environmental Document Addendum, and Revised Project Schedule

The Board of Supervisors received a status report on October 4, 2011, adopted a CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) addendum, and received a revised project schedule. DOT staff plan to have the amendment to the purchase agreement that establishes the preferred location for the access road before the Board on November 15, 2011. The architectural services agreement amendment is expected on the 11/15/11 Agenda, as well. The road location amendment is a task needed for Phase 1 – the access road and water line. The updated Schedule calls for Phase 1 going to bid in April 2012 and construction between July and October 2012. If the architectural agreement amendment is approved on 11/15/11, then the architect can begin the redesign of the building's envelope to finally begin to move Phase 2 work forward. The revised schedule calls for Phase 2 going to bid in May 2012 and construction between August 2012 and May 2013.

Once again, however, some Supervisors pointed out that Phase 2 construction has not yet been approved by the Board, while others expressed frustration over slower than hoped progress. The Board also directed staff to include grading for the building site as an optional element to the bid package for Phase 1 of the project. The Assistant Director of DOT clarified his understanding of the Department's authority – they are tasked with completing Phase 1 and getting Phase 2 to the point of being ready to go out to bid. In response to comments about the need to build the complete project, Supervisor Sweeney stated that four of the five members of the Board "expect to build this shelter unless there's a budget catastrophe." He also noted that the Board would not give approval to Phase 2 in advance of the project being at that stage and being before the Board for award of the construction contract.

The Coordinator of the Shelter Coalition and the President of PAWED (People for Animal Welfare in El Dorado County) Board of Directors addressed the Board of Supervisors, stressing again the need for the permanent shelter and citing the schedule adopted by the Board in April that includes both Phase 1 and Phase 2 – we care about a completed permanent shelter – not just an access road. Recall that the lease on the temporary shelter, as well as the temporary use permit from the City of Placerville will terminate in late 2013 and the temporary shelter is not adequate, not functional, and is a 70 plus year old, dilapidated warehouse building. To avoid a crisis and unacceptable temporary relocation costs like those of 2007, the County must complete the permanent facility and do so in the next two years.