

Encouraging Progress on Western Slope Animal Shelter Project

June 22, 2011 Update: We are pleased to report that in April, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors approved the “Faster Track” schedule recommended by Project Manager Kris Payne and requested monthly progress reports. Mr. Payne, a Department of Transportation staff member, provided details and a schedule of work needed to get both the site improvements and the shelter structure phases of the project ready to bid and contract.

This Faster Track schedule calls for both phases (site improvements and the shelter building) to be under construction in 2012. Kris delivered his first monthly progress report yesterday and we are encouraged by progress made on the many details that must be completed by DOT staff in order to get both phases ready to go out to bid. You will recall that the property at the El Dorado Y was purchased in 2006 and a building design was complete in early 2009. Amendments needed for the realignment of the access road are now underway, as is the additional environmental review needed as a result of the preferred road alignment. Design has begun on the road and water line. Necessary amendment is underway, as well, to the architect’s scope of work to address Phase 1 site improvements coordinating with Phase 2 construction and some modification needed to the design of the building’s envelope.

Project Funding: Funding approved for this capital project in prior years remains in place and unchanged. While some suggested raiding project funds to temporarily reduce an operating budget deficit, a balanced 2011/12 budget was recently approved that included many difficult reductions, but did not take funding away from capital projects.

We thank you for your support of completing the permanent Western Slope Animal Shelter. Your participation is essential and you continue to make a difference in the outcome of this important public project. For the first time in over two years, the project is moving again.