

# ANIMAL SHELTER COALITION FOR EL DORADO COUNTY

November 12, 2011

Board of Supervisors  
El Dorado County  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

Re: November 15, 2011 Board Agenda Item #34 – Western Slope Animal Shelter

Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Animal Shelter Coalition, I would like to provide the following comments. While extremely concerned with the additional costs related to additional design and engineering work to resume the project, we believe the additional engineering is necessary. Clearly a lot of work has been done to bring the two complex agreements in Item #34 before your Board. It's clear that a great deal of the additional \$161,899 "not to exceed" cost (leaving aside for the moment the \$27,500 for contingency) is in:

1. Additional structural, mechanical/plumbing, and electrical engineering work (\$55,820)
2. Civil engineering work related to storm water pollution control regulations (\$42,600)

The first derives from the need to convert the structure from a concrete tilt up to a conventional stud frame shear wall construction to position the project for the best bids, as well as plan review/update because the Building Code was updated between plan completion and now. The second results from new Storm Water Pollution Prevention regulations that were implemented while the project remained on hold, resulting in additional engineering work and additional costs. The additional work is necessary to move the project forward.

We recognize that direction was given over the years about building type and pace of progress, based on information the Board had at the time, significant operating budget challenges, and with the best intentions. As much as we dislike more engineering expense, we dislike the prospect of more detours and delays even more. The permanent Western Slope Animal Shelter needs to be completed; not just a road; not just plans for a shelter; not just more oversight and management – none of that houses a single animal. Every dollar spent on those activities is not available for construction of the shelter. I urge you to move forward to complete this project, amend agreements as necessary, underscore cost accountability at every stage of the project and focus the organization on the end goal – a permanent Animal Shelter. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely



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