



## **Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit Breaks Ground for New Shelter**

DEARBORN. October 17, 2017—The Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit (FAMD) today broke ground on its new Animal Adoption & Education Center (AAEC).

The new Center will be located at the former Amtrak station in Dearborn at 16121 Reckinger Road, just off Michigan Avenue near the Henry Ford Centennial Library. The land was donated to FAMD by the City of Dearborn.

The AAEC will be a new, state-of-the-art animal shelter that provides homeless animals a refuge in an environmentally-friendly facility. It will replace the current shelter at 2661 Greenfield Road, which is more than 30 years old, overcrowded and no longer suitable for the animals or the people who care for them.

The AAEC is slated to be built in two phases:

- Phase One: 10,000 square feet, to include larger, double-compartment housing for the adoptable pets, cage-less community space for cats, and acquaintance rooms where adopters can interact with adoptable dogs and cats
- Phase Two: 6,000 square feet, to include animal intake/evaluation space, medical facilities and administrative space

Neumann/Smith, one of Michigan's most prominent architectural firms, is responsible for the design, with partner Ghafari Associates leading engineering and Taktix Solutions coordinating project management. Phoenix Contractors of Ypsilanti is handling the construction.

"We've waited almost a decade to celebrate this day," said Elaine Greene, executive director, FAMD. "Our animals, staff, volunteers and community deserve a place that is inviting and provides a healthier environment. We're grateful to many donors, including two generous gifts totaling \$325 thousand which came in this week, which have helped us begin construction. We know we still have to raise 3.5 million more dollars to finish both phases of the project."

“I am reaching out to all the animal lovers in the metro Detroit region,” said FAMD Board Chair MaryAnn Wright. “If an animal has ever made a difference in your life, please consider a donation to this campaign. Our animals and volunteers deserve to live and work in a clean and safe environment.”

“We have a new area on our website called “Stock the Shelter” where you can purchase cages, collars, treats and food,” Wright added. “Please visit and help us give these animals what they deserve.”

To donate to the new Dearborn Shelter capital campaign, visit [www.metrodetroitanimals.org](http://www.metrodetroitanimals.org).

### **About FAMD**

After more than 20 years of nurturing more than 50,000 animals, the Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit has embarked on public phase of their “Our Animals Need A Home” capital campaign to construct a new Animal Adoption & Education Center at the site of the former Dearborn Amtrak station on Michigan Avenue. For more information about FAMD, visit [metroetroitanimals.org](http://metroetroitanimals.org)

###

MEDIA CONTACT: Colleen Robar, 313-207-5960, [crobar@robarpr.com](mailto:crobar@robarpr.com)