



## **Construction to Begin on New FAMD Adoption Center**

- Center to be located in former Amtrak station on Michigan Avenue
- Capital campaign has raised \$4.7 million to date

DEARBORN. November 1, 2016—Construction of the first phase of the Animal Adoption and Education Center located on Michigan Avenue will begin in Summer 2017.

The Board of Directors of the Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit (FAMD) announced at Friday's Black Tie and Tails event that they will begin construction on the new Animal Adoption & Education Center (AAEC). 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.

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 new Animal Adoption & Education Center will be located at the former Amtrak station in Dearborn at 16121 Michigan Avenue. The land was donated to FAMD by the City of Dearborn.

The AAEC is slated to be built in two phases:

- Phase One: 10,000 square feet, to include all dog and cat housing, expanded adoption services, and some storage space
- Phase Two: 6,000 square feet, to include animal intake/evaluation space, medical facilities and administrative space

After 22 years of nurturing more than 48,000 animals, the Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit are in the final stage of a capital campaign to construct a new Animal Adoption & Education Center. The project totals \$5.7 million. To date, \$4.7 million has been raised.

“With just about a million dollars left to raise for Phase 1, it is time to start building our new shelter,” said MaryAnn Wright, FAMD board chair. “We are moving forward as the area’s animals and their future owners deserve a more soothing, comfortable and low-stress environment sooner rather than later. I am confident we will raise the rest of the money to complete our new facility with the continued support of the community.”

The new shelter will also significantly improve the experience for our adopters, volunteers, staff, and all community visitors.

“We believe that when you help animals, you get back a love that’s more than what’s humanly possible. We encourage all animal lovers to help us complete this facility,” added Wright.

To contribute to the campaign, visit [www.metrodetroitanimals.org](http://www.metrodetroitanimals.org).

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