



Update on Plans to Shelter County's Orphan Animals

November 5, 2009

The Seattle Humane Society's mission is to save the lives of all healthy and adoptable companion animals in King County. To that end, we are working with the King County Executive to develop an agreement to provide sheltering services once the Kent and Crossroad shelters close. We are also engaged in similar discussions with local cities.

Several important issues remain to be decided, and both sides are working diligently to resolve them. The goal is for the agreement to serve the animals in our community, to make good sense financially, and to support the legislative direction of the County Council.

This process may take longer than initially anticipated. We may need a short-term plan for the animals in the event the Green River floods and a long-term plan for the sheltering services for stray and orphaned companion animals. We look forward to continued negotiations with the King County Executive and hope the process will also include representatives from the County Council and the cities so that we can have a totally transparent process.

Regardless of the status of our negotiations, the Seattle Humane Society remains committed to help shelter any animals at the county's Kent shelter if and when an emergency evacuation due to flooding becomes imminent.

We are heartened to learn that the Army Corps of Engineers no longer believes that the Howard Hanson Dam poses an imminent risk of flooding of the Green River. Now we all have more time to ensure that sheltering agreements between the Seattle Humane Society, King County, and local cities are strong and deliver the very best care to the animals in our county. They deserve nothing less.

Seattle Humane Society has been awarded the coveted 4-star rating by Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. Founded in 1897 to bring people and pets together, Seattle Humane Society provides incredible companion animals for adoption 7 days a week, pet workshops and training, a pet food bank, a low-fee spay/neuter surgery program, humane teen club, a visiting pets program and more. Seattle Humane Society is located in Bellevue, at 13212 SE Eastgate Way. For directions and more information, visit www.seattlehumane.org or call (425) 641-0080.

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