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THE MILE HIGH CITY

City and County of Denver

Environmental Health

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For Immediate Release

Editor Note: Photo Op

City leaders kick off construction of new Denver Municipal Animal Shelter

New shelter approved as part of Better Denver Bond Projects, expected to be complete by June 2011

Feb. 7 – More than 120 city, state, and federal officials will kick off construction of the new Denver Municipal Animal Shelter, a state-of-the-art 36,476 square foot facility, at a groundbreaking event at **10 a.m. on Feb. 11.**

Located at **1241 W. Bayaud Avenue** along the I-25 corridor and adjacent to the South Platte River, the new shelter site offers better visibility, a larger lot, and better access off the Platte River bike trail.

“We are grateful to the citizens of Denver for passing the bond that allows us to build this much-needed community resource,” says Doug Kelley, Director of Denver Municipal Animal Shelter. “We look forward to all the new opportunities having a new facility will bring.”

In addition to a new location, the shelter will be integrated with sustainable design elements to achieve Silver LEED certification, with the goal of attaining Gold. Highlights of the new facility will include:

- Kennels with radiant floor heating
- 26 percent increase in interior space
- Significant increase in cat housing, ability to house urban wildlife
- Separate facilities for adoption and lost and found
- More natural lighting throughout the building focusing on animal areas
- New education/community room
- New in-house surgical suite
- Medical isolation areas
- Additional parking
- Increased energy efficiency, photovoltaic-ready design

The new shelter site is located on the Central Platte Campus, a brownfield redevelopment site recently awarded a \$200,000 grant for additional environmental cleanup through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

More than 8,000 animals pass through the Denver Municipal Animal Shelter each year. The current shelter, located at 678 S. Jason Street, was built in 1972.

The new shelter is expected to be complete by June 2011.

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