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THE MILE HIGH CITY

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Boulder firm chosen to design new Denver Municipal Animal Shelter

New shelter will be more than double the size of existing facility

July 29, 2008 – Denver Environmental Health, Animal Care & Control announced today that Animal Arts, a Boulder-based architecture firm that specializes in designing veterinary hospitals and animal shelters around the country, has been chosen to design the new Denver Municipal Animal Shelter.

Established in 1979, Animal Arts has designed shelters for the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region, the Humane Society of Boulder Valley, Longmont Humane Society, as well as the Dumb Friends League's Castle Rock-based Buddy Center, among others.

“We are grateful to the citizens of Denver for passing the bond initiative that is allowing us to take this important step,” says Environmental Health Deputy Manager Sherry Purdy. “We’re excited to be working with Animal Arts and benefiting from their expertise and years of experience designing state-of-the-art animal facilities.”

The Denver Municipal Animal Shelter is currently housed in a 15,000 square foot facility that was built in 1972. It is one of the oldest shelters in Colorado.

Originally built as a dog pound, the shelter has expanded services while not expanding space. The Denver animal population continues to grow and the shelter takes in an average of 9,300 animals each year.

The new facility will most likely be built less than a mile north of the current shelter, located at 678 S. Jason Street, and is anticipated to be more than double the size of the existing location.

Funding for the project is provided by a 2007 voter-approved bond initiative to invest in the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of city facilities.

Construction is slated to begin in early 2010.

For more information about the Denver Municipal Animal Shelter, including pets available for adoption, visit www.denvergov.org/animalcare.

To learn more about Better Denver bond projects, visit www.denvergov.org/betterdenver

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