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## ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS POST OFFICE BOX 8181 200 SOUTH CAMERON STREET HILLSBOROUGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27278



August 16, 2002

The Honorable Kevin Foy Mayor, Town of Chapel Hill 306 N. Columbia Street Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

Re: New Location for Orange County Animal Shelter

Dear Kevin,

We've had a productive partnership with Chapel Hill in providing animal services over the years and would very much like that collaboration to continue.

As you know, the Orange County Animal Shelter is located on land for which the lease will expire in 2006. We are actively looking at possible options for re-location. We would like to discuss the possibility of building a new animal shelter on town property on Eubanks Road near your relocated public works operation.

We consider the southern part of the county to be the best location for the county animal shelter since it is convenient for the largest concentration of the populace. The Eubanks Road location has the additional advantage of providing easy access via interstate for residents in northern Orange. In the year 2000, shelter statistics show that Chapel Hill accounted for 14 percent of the "admissions" to the shelter and the night deposit box accounted for another 11 percent. Residents in Carrboro contributed six percent of the total. In addition, 50 percent of the emergency animal rescues were performed in Chapel Hill.

The preliminary results of an Orange County Space Needs Study, completed during 2000, show that a new shelter would require around 20,000 square feet. This allows for a modest growth in the current shelter size and for co-location of animal control offices with the Animal Protection Society staff that operate the shelter. We believe this will enhance and strengthen our collective responsibilities in the area of providing humane services.

## www.co.orange.nc.us

The Honorable Kevin Foy Mayor, Town of Chapel Hill August 15, 2002 Page 2 0f 2

Given the 2006 deadline, we feel some urgency in considering suitable locations for a new animal shelter. The process of design and construction is anticipated to take at least eighteen months. Thank you for your consideration. We would be happy to meet with you and members of Council to discuss this further.

Barry Jacobs, Chair,

John Link, Orange County Manager

Jonathan Klein, Chair, Orange County Board of Health

Cc: Cal Horton, Chapel Hill Town Manager

Rosemary Summers, Health Director

Pam Jones, Purchasing Director

Pat Beyle, Chair, Animal Protection Society of Orange County