



FORSYTHCOUNTY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GROUND BROKEN FOR
NEW FORSYTH COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER**

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – On March 20, 2013, ground was broken for Forsyth County’s new animal shelter. Funded by the voter-approved Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) VII program, the new shelter will be located on County Way off of GA 400 in northern Forsyth County.

During the groundbreaking ceremony, Forsyth County Commission Chairman R.J. (Pete) Amos thanked voters for making the project possible, and thanked all those involved in the project. He extended a special thank you to the members of the county’s Animal Control and Shelter Advisory Committee, a group formed to help ensure the project was undertaken in the most effective and efficient manner possible. The members of this committee are Commissioner Todd Levent, Dr. John McGruder, Dr. Lanier Orr, Lance White, and Kathy Genovese. County staff members Tim Merritt and Cindy Henderson are also a part of the committee.

Amos also extended his appreciation to Dr. Lanier and Annette Orr, who have partnered with the county since the early 1980s, providing animal shelter services for the community.

“A simple thank you is nowhere near enough to express the county’s appreciation for their services throughout the years,” Amos said. “I especially want to thank them for continuing to operate the current shelter as we have been working toward construction of a new shelter. You both have provided such a valuable service to our community and I want you to know how much you are appreciated.”

District 3 Commissioner Todd Levent noted during the ceremony the hard work that went into getting the project to the groundbreaking phase.

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“Careful consideration has gone into planning this facility and to meeting the animal shelter needs of the community,” Levent said. “It has been designed to promote adoption, public education and collaboration with local animal advocacy groups.”

The approximately 13,700-square foot facility was designed by RKS Green Consulting and Shelterplanners.com. The general contractor for the project is CRS Building Corporation. The new shelter will replace the current arrangement in which the county contracts out shelter operations.

The new shelter is slated for completion in early 2014.

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