



# City of Spokane

August 10, 2011

Honorable Todd Mielke  
Spokane County Commissioner  
Office of the Spokane County Commissioners  
1116 W. Broadway  
Spokane, WA 99260

RE: Regional Animal Control

Dear Commissioner Mielke:

After many discussions that you and I and our respective staff representatives have had regarding animal control, I propose this letter ("Letter of Intent") to set forth the preliminary understanding between the City of Spokane and Spokane County with respect to forming a regional animal control partnership.

This Letter of Intent does not create a binding legal obligation on the part of either the City or the County, or on the part of any other person or entity, until such time as the parties execute definitive agreements describing all of the principle terms and conditions under which the parties will partner in providing a facility for regional animal control. The letter is, however, a statement of intent setting forth the general terms of such a partnership and supporting good faith negotiations on such terms.

The following are the general terms under which the City of Spokane is willing to partner in providing a regional animal control facility:

1. Both parties are willing to partner for a regional animal control facility if voters approve a bond for capital costs of facility acquisition and remodeling.
2. The City would offer to sell to the County the property situated at 1001 N. Havana at a price that covers the City's cost of acquiring the property or the appraised value determined by an MIA appraiser, whichever is less. The purchase price will be paid out of bond proceeds.
3. The sale of the property would be subject to the terms of leases in effect at the time of such offer.

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4. The County will satisfy itself with respect to the suitability of the property as a regional animal control facility, including the adequacy of public right of way attached to the property for animal control facility purposes.
5. The County would lock in rates the City pays for animal control services through SCRAPS at no more than rates the City is currently paying to Spokanimal for at least the term of years that coincides with repayment of the voted capital facility bonds.
6. If revenues for operations and maintenance of the facility fall below projections, the City and County will meet and engage in good faith efforts to increase revenues and donations to support the operations and maintenance costs of SCRAPS.
7. Both parties understand that final property transfer agreements and contractual terms for animal control service will be subject to approval by the City Council and the Board of County Commissioners, and that such approval will be sought after the election results on the voted capital bond are certified.

I believe these terms comport with our previous conversations, and ask that you take appropriate action to secure concurrence with the terms from the Board of Commissioners. Once I have an indication of the Board's support for this Letter of Intent, I will seek assurances of support from a majority of Members of the City Council.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at your convenience.

Very truly yours,



Mary B. Verner  
Mayor

cc: Al French, County Commissioner  
Mark Richard, County Commissioner  
Marshall Farnell, County Executive Officer  
Thomas E. Danek, Jr., City Administrator