



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PETS IN NEED APPROVES AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF PALO ALTO**

*Nonprofit Will Begin Operating Palo Alto Animal Shelter Early Next Year*

**(REDWOOD CITY, Calif.)** – The Pets In Need Board of Directors on Wednesday, Dec. 12 approved an agreement for Pets In Need to provide animal care services for Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills beginning in early 2019.

“Pets In Need is pleased to partner with the City of Palo Alto and is excited for the opportunity to expand our life-saving work on behalf of our four-legged friends,” said Pets in Need Board President Rob Kalman. “This partnership will serve as a national model for the humane treatment of animals in public shelters and will ensure the communities of Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills continue to have access to a local animal shelter.”

The agreement was approved by Palo Alto City Council last month and was conditioned upon acceptance by the Pets In Need Board of Directors. Board members unanimously approved the agreement Wednesday afternoon during their regular meeting.

Under the agreement, Pets In Need will assume the day-to-day operations of the city shelter, saving the city more than \$400,000 a year in operating costs and enabling Pets In Need to expand its rescue operations and advance its no-kill mission.

Pets In Need will accept any animal brought into the Palo Alto shelter by animal control officers or residents of Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hill. Once fully operational, the shelter will be open for adoptions seven days per week.

Additionally, Pets In Need will provide the broader community with greater access to educational programs and low-cost or free spaying and neutering critical to reducing the population of homeless animals.

“I am grateful to Palo Alto City Council and city staff, my colleagues at Pets In Need and our dedicated board, all of whom worked diligently to develop this agreement,” said Pets In Need Executive Director Al Mollica. “Now we are ready to get to work providing high quality service to residents of Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills and giving even more at-risk animals a second chance at life.”

**About Pets In Need**

Headquartered in Redwood City, Calif., and founded in 1965, Pets In Need is Northern California’s first no-kill animal shelter. The nonprofit organization rescues cats and dogs from public shelters in the Bay Area and beyond when they are in danger of being euthanized due to space or financial limitations. To learn more about Pets In Need visit <http://www.petsinneed.org>.

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