



# Cochise County Board of Supervisors

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Clerk of the Board

May 7, 2019

Robert Quintanar  
Manager, Resource Reclamation  
Copper Queen Branch  
Freeport Minerals Corporation  
36 West Highway 92  
Bisbee, AZ 85603

RE: Purchase, Long-term Lease or Donation of Property for County Animal Shelter

Dear Mr. Quintanar:

The Cochise County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests the purchase, long-term lease or donation of seven (7) acres from Freeport property parcel number 61105141A to Cochise County for the development of a County Animal Care Center. The specific area is outlined on the attached map. This request includes all property currently leased by Mr. Deane Cartwright. Once the matter is complete, the County will engage in negotiations with Mr. Cartwright to purchase the buildings and other assets on the land. Mr. Cartwright is aware of these plans.

A County Animal Care Center is a priority within the Board's strategic plan. Currently, the County does not operate an animal shelter. Instead, the County maintains partnerships with the City of Douglas and the City of Willcox for the care and sheltering of dogs and cats impounded by animal control officers within the Cochise County Sheriff's Office (CCSO). There is a lack of shelter space within the county, and therefore staff was tasked to research the cost/benefits of a regional center.

The benefits of a County Animal Care Center are far reaching. A new facility will relieve pressure on the City of Douglas shelter, which is the primary impound location for the CCSO. The City of Bisbee will benefit from access to a larger facility. Further, the County is developing a partnership with Friends of the Bisbee Animal Shelter for operation of the Animal Care Center. Finally, most animals impounded by the CCSO are from the areas of Palominas and Hereford. A shelter closer to these population centers will lead to more owner/pet reunions, thus decreasing impound and long-term care costs.

The request for 7 acres allows the County to expand services into the future. Once the Center is built, funds may be raised to include veterinary care services for spay/neuter and vaccinations, exercise trails to the

current Bisbee Dog Park, recreation areas and educational services. Care will be taken in the building design to mitigate impacts to neighboring properties by ensuring the site is clean, accessible and attractive.

Plans for the Animal Care Center will be exponentially advanced by a successful negotiation of the requested property. Many other sites were considered, but none compare to the unique opportunities and appealing location of this area. The project will be bolstered by the support of Freeport McMoran, a strong partner within the Bisbee and Douglas communities.

Please feel free to contact Ed Gilligan, County Administrator, at [egilligan@cochise.az.gov](mailto:egilligan@cochise.az.gov) or 520-432-9200 with any questions on this matter. We look forward to your response and the next steps in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

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Peggy Judd, Chairman  
District 3

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Ann English, Vice-Chairman  
District 2

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Thomas E. Borer  
District 1

Enclosure: Cochise County GIS Map of Animal Care Facility