

Whetstone project should have no impact on the HSSA/County shelter in Bisbee

The HSSA/County Shelter in Bisbee MUST

Have a minimum of 30 dog kennels; a minimum of 10 quarantine kennels; a minimum of 10 intake kennels

Have a minimum of 15 cat kennels; a minimum of 6 quarantine/sick/feral kennels; a minimum of 6 intake kennels

Whetstone is ideally located

Volunteers are available in the area

The shelter could be run by the County, a County Animal Control Officer, rotating or a new position;

The shelter could be open to the public 4 days a week, Thursday-Sunday;

DOC could be contracted to clean the shelter weekdays;

Animal drop offs, by County ACOs could occur Monday-Sunday, versus only week days;

Medical could be arranged with one of the Benson vets.

Whetstone needs some upgrades, but selling the 8 acres behind the kennels could net \$100,000 for repairs.

Roof perhaps

Upgrade kennels with new chain link

Upgraded drainage system

Whetstone has 50 kennels, 25 could be intake/quarantine; half could be adoptable dogs

Whetstone has space that can easily be dedicated to a cat room

Currently every shelter in Cochise County is at capacity. Sierra Vista, for example, has boarded dogs to avoid euthanasia of healthy adoptable dogs.

Douglas uses rescues, county shelters, to place dogs. They adopt virtually NO dogs from the Douglas facility. HSSA is full and not transporting dogs.

Perhaps the City would consider partnering with Cochise County so they have overflow capacity as well. Remember Sierra Vista came to the rescue of Huachuca City in December 2018, and took ALL the cats and dogs from the shelter when the electrical fire occurred.

We are a rural county, we need the capability to house horses, chickens, farm animals. During the recent Moson Rd. fires the Sierra Vista shelter again came to the rescue and took displaced rural animals. Fires in Palominas 6 22 2023 Sierra Vista mobilized again to assist. We NEED a rural shelter.

Comparison

Whetstone Facility

Douglas Existing Shelter

Central location

Remote Location

50 kennels

10 county kennels (10 city)

Indoor/outdoor space for dogs

Indoor space only, no outdoor access

Kennel size 4 x 10 (includes outdoor)

Kennel size 3 x 5 (no outdoor)

Outdoor fences exercise area

No outdoor space for dogs

Cat room 10 kennels (quiet separate)

4 cat kennels in lobby (70% euthanasia rate)

8-16 acres for volunteers to walk dogs

No outdoor area to walk dogs

Adoptions available to the public

Adoption fees prohibitive-adoptions
Adoptions not encouraged. Do network
dogs as time permits

Volunteers available

Volunteers not welcome/encouraged
Claim is they must pass a 6 mo. background
check to become a volunteer

ACO office/kitchen/restroom

No ACO accommodations

Website/FB page/Petfinder

No website/FB/Petfinder

Adoption Events

None

Transport to HSSA

Transport to HSSA (one hour closer)

Rural Shelter to accommodate farm animals

None