



Humane Society of Pikes Peak Region Contribution to the Community

The Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region (HSPPR) Expansion and Renovation project provides much-needed space for lost pets, animal behavior rehabilitation, and isolation areas for sick animals. According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), more than seven million companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide every year. Many of these are lost pets who will hopefully be reunited with their owners, but many are animals in distress who need immediate care and loving homes.

GE Johnson renovated four areas of the existing HSPPR shelter and built a brand new 16,000 square-foot two-story addition. The project created new housing areas for dogs and cats designed to reduce anxiety, show off their personalities to potential adopters, and make it easier for people to find their lost pets. There is also a space for behavior rehabilitation, new intake area, isolation room for sick animals to prevent the spread of disease, kennel area for long-term holding of dogs with special sound absorption to reduce stressful noise, and a flexible animal holding space for special circumstances such as the rescue of dozens of animals

from a hoarding situation or natural disaster. Renovations also created new adoption spaces for small animals such as rabbits and reptiles. The new cattery allows cats to have more space and interaction with potential adopters.

Since opening in September of 2016, the HSPPR's newly renovated and expanded campus has earned rave reviews and allowed the Humane Society to expand its services in the Pikes Peak region. This important community project was truly a team effort from the fundraising stage through construction and is a proud achievement for all involved.

Meeting the Special Needs of Our Furry and Scaly Companions

The additions and renovations at the Humane Society came in response to tremendous capacity issues at the facility; the resulting work doubled available housing for cats (capacity is now 400 cats per day), and added 50 kennels (2,500 more dogs can be housed each year). Extensive site work also took place on the facility grounds, where the dog walking area was expanded and a barn structure was built by GE Johnson to shelter chickens, goats, llamas, horses and other livestock in need.

Most remarkably, all construction was

undertaken while the facility remained operational, and animal housing continued uninterrupted. Animal welfare, staff efficiency, and overall project success was prioritized on this heartfelt project by a team that was committed to providing the best outcomes for the agency's animals. When GE Johnson installed a new transformer, they coordinated 60 days in advance with HSPPR to identify which systems needed to remain online during the complete shutdown to all building power. Cremation coolers and vaccination/medication refrigerators were critical to the support of the agency and the animals that were in the facility during the event. GE Johnson brought in generators and ran extension cords, staying at the facility until 2 AM to ensure the switchover to the new transformer happened without issue. This dedication and the enhanced communication mitigated any impact from the loss of power.

Giving Back

GE Johnson's team has a passion for animals, so this project and the Humane Society organization are easily supported. Major project costs were mitigated during the design development through cost studies and donations from GE Johnson and the subcontractors on site. In total, approximately \$25,000 in in-kind donations were collected from all of the subcontractors on the site. When the Humane Society wanted

some enhancements made, GE Johnson provided scoping options which delivered functionality and comfort for the animals without compromising the project budget. Additionally, GE Johnson volunteers went the extra mile for the Humane Society with several volunteer activities. A site cleanup was organized prior to construction, bringing dozens of GE Johnson-led volunteers together to clean up the proposed site. As work progressed, project managers and project engineers in the company held community drives to raise funds for and gather items needed by the Humane Society.

GE Johnson also supported Pawtoberfest and the Fur Ball – two major annual fundraisers which

the company has been involved with for years. The Fur Ball raised funds for homeless and abused animals. GE Johnson was a presenting sponsor and employees volunteered to escort animals on the runway at the event, encouraging adoption of cats and dogs in need of a home. Pawtoberfest features craft brews and spirits tastings, a two-mile dog walk, sponsors and vendors, music, agility demonstrations, food, and pet contests. GE Johnson supports this event year after year with a booth that provides pet-friendly giveaways such as collapsible water dishes, and enters teams that participate in the dog walk. Funds raised from this event help the Humane Society care for thousands of lost, abandoned, abused, and unwanted pets.



Pawtober Fest



Planning Partner

Helping Our Community

Pets can be an important and cherished member of any family. According to AgingCare, elderly pet owners benefit from reduced stress, lower blood pressure, and increased social interaction and physical activity. The Humane Society's work to spay, neuter, and vaccinate cats halts hormone production and cats' tendency to yowl, fight, spray, and have kittens, which improves our community by reducing stray cats. Also, the Humane Society can return cats to their homes to reduce the likelihood of new cats spreading in a community. Generally, once cats are removed from and territory new cats will move in and form a new colony in that space. This is called the "vacuum effect". Fixing the colony and returning it to its location controls new kittens and the adults protect the territory against new cats coming and joining the colony.

The Humane Society's wide variety of humane education programs, including classes to tours

to day camps, encourages respect for people, animals, and the environment, and recognizes interdependence of all living things. Their educational component contributes to the community by providing programming to show children how to be responsible and compassionate pet owners.

When temperatures drop and winter weather settles over Colorado, Animal Law Enforcement receives a high number of calls from concerned citizens regarding pets left out in the cold. While it is better for animals to have shelter in the winter, it is not against the law for pets to be outdoors. The Humane Society provides a place for animals to receive care and shelter, and spreads the word to owners to keep animals out of the frigid weather.

The Humane Society provides care and second chances to animals who need a forever home. It rescues and cares for animals in distress, reunites lost pets with their owners, finds loving homes

for homeless animals and teaches people how to properly care for and respect animals, as well as enforcing licensing and other animal ordinances.

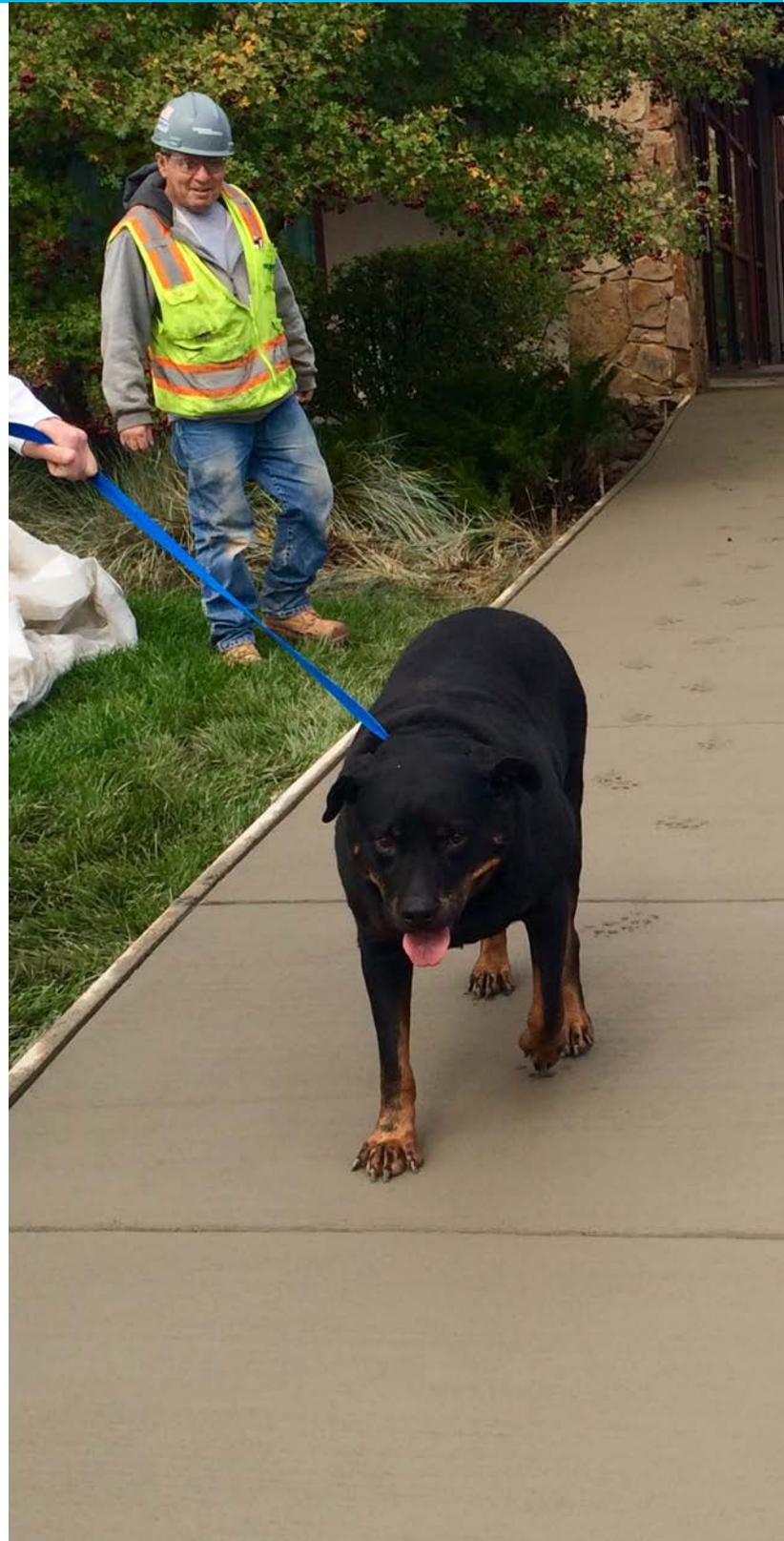
Long-Range Value

The Humane Society is an open admission shelter, meaning no domestic companion animal is turned away. With the mission of a compassionate community where animals and people are cared for and valued, this organization took in more than 18,000 animals in 2016, and is able to care for even more this year with the completed expansion.

Improving Environmental, Health, and Safety for Animals and People

The new cattery at the Humane Society provides more space to the cats that stay there, which keeps them healthier and allows for more interaction with potential owners. The cattery features a webcam (CatCam) with a live feed on the Humane Society website (hsppr.org). Research shows watching cats play online can boost energy levels, heighten positive emotions and decrease negative feelings. Some researchers even say watching while at work can make people more productive. At the least, it is believed to help a few more cats find homes.

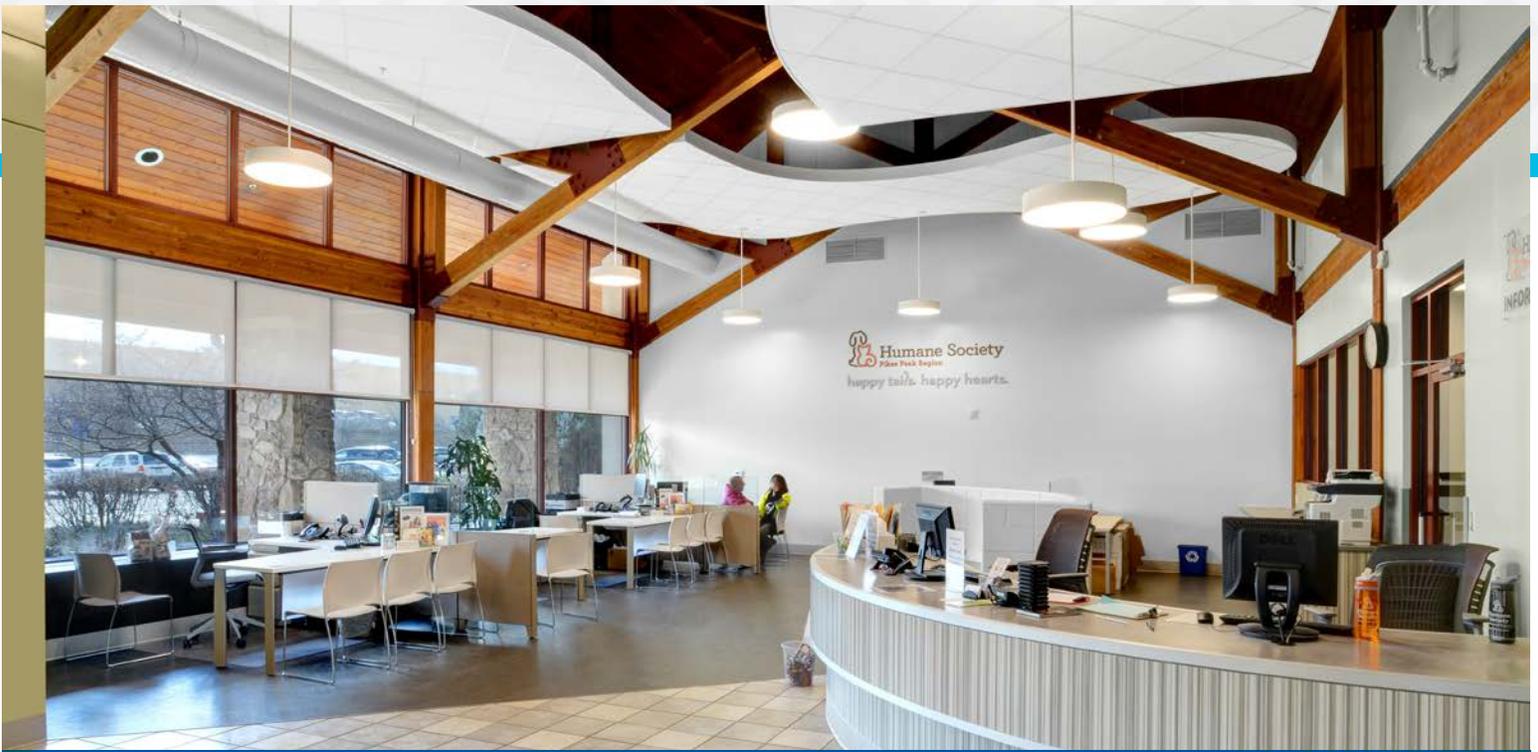
The design of the new spaces emphasized animal welfare and health at every turn. The new dog walk



area has been integrated into the site with a walking bridge connecting the main campus to a pond area. This expanded loop encourages exercise and engagement for both dogs and volunteers. Within the facility, materials were specially selected to improve animal comfort and cleanliness; Pyrok was installed in the dog kennel areas to deaden the noise of barking, thereby reducing stress on the animals, and an epoxy flooring was used which is more easily cleaned, greatly reducing the risk of contagious illnesses being transmitted. Every step of the way, animals were at the center of this community project.



INTERIOR



INTERIOR



Exterior



Construction



Medical Room