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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Farmington Regional Animal Shelter waives adoption fees for adult animals

Modified operations implemented

FARMINGTON, N.M. - In response to the governor's recent emergency declaration, balanced with concerns for animal overcrowding, the Farmington Regional Animal Shelter is altering its operations as necessary beginning today (3/17/20) until further notice. The shelter will be closed to the general public; however, services will continue with the following modifications:

- **ADOPTIONS:** **The shelter is currently at capacity for dogs.** In order to reduce the number of animals currently in the shelter, **adoption fees are waived for adult animals over the age of 6 months.** Puppies and kittens under the age of 6 months will have a reduced adoption fee of \$50. Adoptions will be by appointment only. Individuals who are seriously interested in adoption are asked to go to fmtn.org/animalshelter and click on the "Adoptions" button to look at the shelter's available animals then call the shelter to set up an appointment time to meet with staff and the animal.
- **FOSTERING:** **The City is strongly encouraging fostering to reduce the number of animals being cared for in the shelter.** Anyone interested in fostering can visit the Farmington Regional Animal Shelter's website at fmtn.org/animalshelter to fill out a foster application. Shelter staff will be working with foster families by appointment.
- **REHOMING:** Limited space and resources are available at the shelter. Individuals needing to rehome an animal are encouraged to try and locate a new home for their animal (e.g. ask a friend or relative, post on social media, etc.) rather than bringing them to the shelter, as intakes will be limited. Stray or trapped cats will not be accepted during this time as they are exempt from at-large ordinances.
- **LOST PETS:** Anyone searching for a lost pet may go to the shelter to look for them. Stray walk-throughs and reclaims will be permitted from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., seven days a week. Individuals should go to the Owner Surrender/Reclaim door and ring the doorbell for assistance.
- **SPAY & NEUTER PROGRAM:** New applications/appointments for the shelter's public spay and neuter program is suspended. **Surgeries that have already been scheduled will take place as scheduled.** The shelter will not be accepting any new spay and neuter applications until at least April 9.
- **DOG WALKING:** Dog walking will be limited to five walkers per hour between 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Only one person will be allowed in the building to pick up a dog to walk. If there are multiple people in your party, they may wait outside and then walk together on the park trails.

The City of Farmington and the Farmington Regional Animal shelter thanks the community for their ongoing understanding as we continue to work to provide services to our community.

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