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PAWS Clarifies its Role in King County Animal Services Regional Proposal

Lynnwood, Wa.—Following King County’s announcement yesterday of a regional animal services [proposal](#), [PAWS](#) wanted to clarify its role in the plan.

PAWS will provide sheltering services for cats and dogs from the city of Shoreline beginning in May. Negotiations are still being finalized with Bothell, Kenmore, Lake Forest Park and Woodinville, but PAWS expects to provide services for these cities sometime in the future. Until all contracts are finalized and dates set, citizens in these communities need to continue to take strays to [King County’s shelter](#).

“Since these communities are geographically close to us, and we have an established system for handling strays, we reached out to them last fall when King County announced it would close its shelter,” said PAWS’ Executive Director Annette Laico. “We feel confident we can handle the number of animals from these communities, while still providing the high-quality care we give the animals today.”

Laico added, “PAWS has always strongly believed in collaboration as the best way to achieve a humane community and create a safety net for abused, unwanted and lost pets. We are glad we were able to fill an important need in this region.”

PAWS has not entered into negotiations with any other King County city nor with the County itself to take in animals from other areas. It already provides sheltering services for unincorporated Snohomish County, Mill Creek, Mukilteo, Lynnwood and Brier.

A champion for animals, PAWS is a nationally recognized leader in rehabilitating injured and orphaned wildlife, sheltering and adopting homeless pets, and educating people to make a better world for animals and humans. Established in 1967, PAWS is a local, private, non-profit animal welfare organization located in Lynnwood, Wa.