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## **For Immediate Release** STAFFORD RESIDENTS ALONG WITH FORT BEND PETS ALIVE! TESTIFY TO SAFEGUARD FUTURE LOCATION OF A PRIVATE ANIMAL SHELTER.

Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (Stafford, TX) – Animal advocates incentivize City of Stafford to include provisions in the new zoning ordinance to allow development of an animal sanctuary in the Primary Corridor or Island Districts.

At the Joint Stafford City Council & Zoning and Planning Commission Meeting, President of Fort Bend Pets Alive! Claudine Vass, along with several folks from Stafford and local business owners recommend to the Mayor, City Council and Commissioners of Stafford to include provisions in the new zoning ordinance to allow Fort Bend Pets Alive! to develop an animal sanctuary in the Primary Corridor or the Island Districts.

It is with our utmost concerns that City of Stafford gives the permission to allow an animal sanctuary to be developed in the prestigious districts that provide high accessibility and visibility for the homeless animals. Our group has the interest, know-how and capabilities to put a plan together to develop an impressive, first-class animal sheltering facility to take care of the companion animals in Stafford. The animal sanctuary will take care of the homeless pets with the goal that they will be placed in good and caring homes. Our vision is to make Stafford a no kill community with an elevated awareness of kindness to animals. We will lead by example to develop, to promote and to share great new ideas and programs to help Stafford residents care for their pets. We believe that Stafford can become a city that will grab national attention, attract employers and residents to treasure these pets. It will be recognized as influential because of it being tolerant, innovative and compassionate.

Long time resident Sandy Holloman, who takes pride living in Stafford, wants to see Stafford's homeless pets being taken care of. She urges the city government and zoning and planning commission to update the zoning ordinance to allow a no kill shelter to be developed. Maria Rychlik, also a resident from Stafford agrees the shelter needs to be located in the PC District for excellent exposure. Janet Starr is hopeful the community involvement will be beneficial to Stafford and will foster relationships with small animals and enhancing quality of life in the city.

All animal advocates present are very impressed with the general concurrence from both the Stafford City Council and the Zoning and Planning Commission that the homeless pets in Stafford need assistance and protection. Most of the officials are favorable and excited how they can provide safety and security to the animals in Stafford.

About Fort Bend County Pets Alive!

FORT BEND PETS ALIVE! is a non-profit, 501(C)3 organization, dedicated to helping make Fort Bend a no kill community through programs such as adoptions, education and community outreach, low cost spay and neuter surgeries, fostering, Positive Alternatives to Shelter Surrender (PASS), and rescuing from euthanasia list. ####