

Santa Cruz SPCA and  
Humane Society  
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## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### SANTA CRUZ SPCA MOVES INTO NEW HOME

SANTA CRUZ, Calif., December 10, 2020—The Santa Cruz SPCA has completed construction of its new building at 2601 Chanticleer Avenue, and has begun a phased move-in of animals and staff to the new building.

“We are thrilled beyond measure to be moving into our beautiful new forever home,” said Ali Talley, executive director, Santa Cruz SPCA. “After many years of planning and much hard work, we have finally made our dream of a new home a reality. In this new facility we will be able to save many more animals, expand our life-saving programs, and engage even more fully with our community.”

“Due to COVID-19, we are unable to have the joyful public celebrations that we planned,” continued Talley, “but we look forward to celebrating with the community when safe to do so next year. In the meantime, we’ll be sharing all of our special ‘firsts’ on social channels and on our website — first adoption at the new facility, first dog play group, first group of cats living in the community cat room, and much more. Small, appropriately distanced tours will be available by appointment starting in January.”

“On behalf of the board of directors, I want to express my profound gratitude to the extraordinary staff, volunteers, donors, and community members who made this day possible,” said Moira Gagen, president, SPCA Board of Directors. “It’s been a very long journey, with many obstacles to overcome — from COVID-19 restrictions to unexpected site complications — but as ‘The Little Shelter That Could,’ we persevered through it all, and have finally arrived at this major new chapter in our history.”

#### **About the New Facility**

The new Santa Cruz SPCA facility is 7,092 square feet — nearly six times the size of the former site. The shelter features 3,500 square feet of modern animal habitats that support best practices in animal rescue; multiple indoor and outdoor dog exercise areas; enclosed “catios” and a cat group room; dedicated dog and cat get-acquainted rooms; separate spaces for

adoption and intake/surrender; dedicated isolation rooms for animal care and recovery; a 750-square-foot multi-purpose community room; and 700 square feet for administrative use.

Bogard Construction, Inc. of Santa Cruz built the SPCA's new shelter. The architect was Animal Arts of Boulder, Colorado, a firm exclusively focused on design of animal care facilities.

Santa Cruz County approved the SPCA's building permit application in January 2019. Groundbreaking took place in February 2019. Construction was temporarily halted due to Covid-19 protocols in spring 2020, but was able to resume under strict new protocols. The County completed all approvals and signed off on the project in November 2020.

### **About Santa Cruz SPCA**

*The Santa Cruz SPCA is a private, nonprofit organization, which receives no federal, state, or local government funding, and relies solely on generous donations from the public. The organization is not affiliated with any other SPCA or Humane Society. Established in 1938, the Santa Cruz SPCA is focused on ensuring the best possible quality of life for animals, and promoting respect and reverence for all. The organization offers a comprehensive range of services and programs for the Santa Cruz community, including humane education, low-cost spay/neuter assistance, the Second Chance Fund, and Blackie's Senior Friends. The main shelter is newly located at 2601 Chanticleer Avenue in Santa Cruz.*

*Due to Covid-19 protocols, the SPCA is currently open by appointment only for adoptions and surrenders, but phones are answered daily. The Pet Pantry will continue at the new site every Friday from 3:30-5:30. Humane Education and Ask the Dog Trainer programs are virtual at this time. The SPCA is currently accepting volunteer and foster applications, and orientations will begin in 2021.*

*Further information can be obtained at 831-465-5000 or via the SPCA website at [www.spcasc.org](http://www.spcasc.org).*

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