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DELIVERING NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

Newport Beach Pets Are Awarded a New Leash On Life

SUBMITTED BY HON. ROBYN GRANT, CITY COUNCILMEMBER, 4TH DISTRICT

Friends of Newport Beach Animal Shelter (FONBAS) is being honored in Sacramento as a 2023 California Nonprofit of the Year after being nominated by Assemblymember Diane Dixon.

Now in its eighth year, the Nonprofit of the Year initiative provides the opportunity for each California state legislator to choose an organization doing outstanding work in their district. The program gives elected leaders the opportunity to shine a light on what

nonprofits are accomplishing in their districts and culminates with a celebratory luncheon at the Capitol on California Nonprofits Day, which this year is June 7.

FONBAS is one of more than one hundred nonprofits that will be recognized for outstanding contributions to the communities they serve. The group is dedicated to the needs of animals to restore their well-being and reunite them with their owners or find new forever homes. Founded in 2017 by a group of local community leaders in a public-private partnership with the City of Newport Beach, FONBAS has been supplementing city funding to provide upgraded amenities and medical care.

“Our original mission to support lost and displaced animals in our community resonated very well with the community,” said Jon Langford, FONBAS President. “We were able to grow the effort to include a capital campaign to establish a permanent animal shelter in our city”.

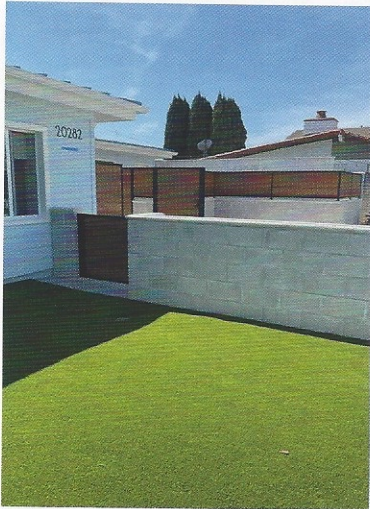
The new shelter is nearly complete and includes a single-story, 1,600-square-foot building with a 750-square foot kennel to house dogs, cats, and other animals, plus a feline playroom, parking, two front-yard greeting areas, and a secure rear-yard exercise space.

With the end of construction in sight, FONBAS continues to partner with the community to fund the project. Contributions in any amount are welcome with donors of \$5,000 or more included on the permanent Donor Wall.

“This project is a truly outstanding example of a public-private partnership funded entirely by non-government resources. The community will benefit from a valuable permanent amenity, but the real benefit is to the animals we serve,” said FONBAS Board Member Sharon Esterley.

To participate or become a FONBAS member, go to www.FONBAS.org.

About the Author: Robyn Grant is a member of the Newport Beach City Council. First elected in 2022, she represents the 4th District and can be reached at rgrant@newportbeachca.gov or [@robyngrant](https://twitter.com/robyngrant).



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