



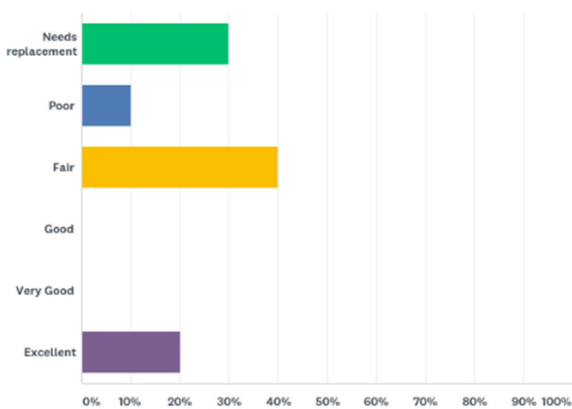
NYSAPF is the voice of New York’s Humane Societies, SPCAs, Non-Profit and Municipal Animal Shelters

## MEMO IN SUPPORT \$5M FOR THE COMPANION ANIMAL CAPITAL FUND

On January 21, 2020, the third RFP process for the Companion Animal Capital Fund closed. Once these awards are made, the Fund will have granted close to \$15,000,000 to shelters across New York. We couldn’t have completed this RFP process without your leadership in the Senate. Your championing of the Companion Animal Capital Fund led to its inclusion in the last capital bill of the 2019 session.

The Companion Animal Capital Fund is the first in the nation funding stream for capital projects at New York’s network of animal shelters. To date, 27 shelters have received funding in the first two years of the program. Please see the addendum to this letter for the full list of grantees. As you can see from this chart, the physical plants of the shelters that have responded so far to our 2020 capital needs shelters are in great need of replacement or repair.

Q3 What shape is your present building in?



**The New York State Animal Protection Federation is asking each house to add the \$5 million Companion Animal Capital Fund in your respective budget bills. Our 2020 Shelter Capital Needs Survey so far shows that there are 16 shelters in New York with capital needs of over \$100 million. We are also asking that the budget language be changed to provide parity for shelters that do not have municipal contracts. They provide needed sheltering services in their communities and deserve the right to compete for funding.**

### Please speak out for the Fund in your conference.

As private, not for profits, the state’s humane societies and Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) do not receive any direct state funding. Yet, they provide an essential service to their local communities. Article 7, Section 114 of Agriculture and Markets Law requires every municipality to operate an animal shelter. For those municipalities that do not have their own shelters, they contract directly with their

local humane society, SPCA or nonprofit animal shelter. This saves taxpayers dollars—the contracts cost much less than the municipality staffing and managing an animal shelter of their own.

When we proposed the creation of the Companion Animal Capital Fund in FY 2018, our hope was that it would be a recurring source of capital funds for humane societies, SPCAs and nonprofit and municipal shelters. They want to make difference in the lives of the animals in their charge by enhancing their facilities' physical plants.

From new air handlers to cat condos and dog kennels to improved plumbing and study roofs, this funding will enhance the quality of life of the thousands of animals who pass through the doors of New York's shelters. **As Chair of the Senate Domestic Animal Welfare Committee, we appreciate your leadership in supporting a new \$5 million allocation for this coming fiscal year.**

Over 150,000 companion animals are adopted from our shelters each year. With better facilities, more people will come to our shelters and adopt even more animals. Just as important, our shelters will be able to construct more efficient facilities that streamline the cost of operation.

Thank you.



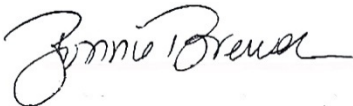
Gary Rogers, President, New York State Animal Protection Federation  
President, Nassau County SPCA



Libby Post, Executive Director, New York State Animal Protection Federation



Deb Balliet, Executive Director, Animal Protection Foundation (Scotia, NY)



Bonnie Brewer, Executive Director, Humane Society of Yates County



Alice Calabrese, President and CEO, Lollypop Farm, the Humane Society of Greater Rochester



Regina Carbonari, CPDT-KA, Executive Director, Ulster County SPCA



Donna Chambers, Vice President, Animal Alliance of Greater Syracuse



Deb Crute, Director of Shelter Operations, Heart of the Catskills Humane Society



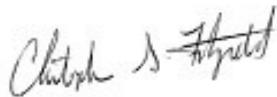
Debbie DiBernardo, President, Hi-Tor Animal Care Center



Renee L. Earl, President, Fulton County Regional SPCA



Chris Elton, Director, Babylon Animal Shelter



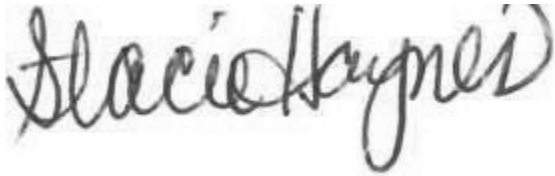
Christopher Fitzgerald, Director, Rochester Animal Services



AnnMarie Gaudio, President, Humane Society of the Hudson Valley



Leslie Granger, President & CEO, Bideawee, Inc.



Stacie Haynes, Executive Director, Susquehanna SPCA



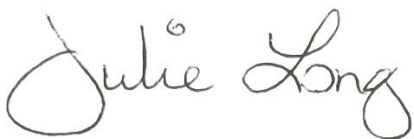
Scott Howe, Executive Director and CEO, Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons



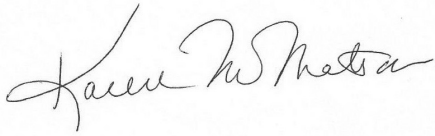
William Ketzer, Senior Director of State Legislation, Northeast Region of the ASPCA



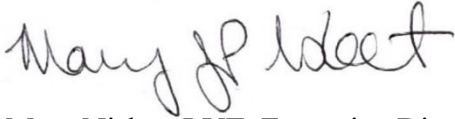
Shannon Laukhuf, Executive Director, SPCA of Westchester County



Julie Long, President, Wyoming County SPCA




Karen Matson, Executive Director, Broome County Humane Society



Mary Nisbet, LVT, Executive Director, Hornell Area Humane Society



Laurie Parsons, President, Elmore SPCA (Peru, NY)



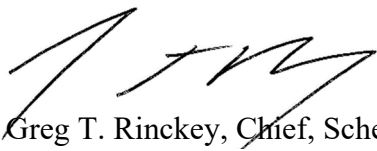
Mark Plyter, Executive Director, Humane Society of Wayne County



Lynda Pruski, President, SPCA Serving Allegany County



Gillian Pultz, Executive Director, North Folks Animal Welfare League (Suffolk County)



Greg T. Rinkey, Chief, Schenectady SPCA



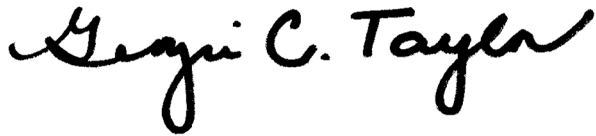
Ken Ross, President, SPCA of Putnam County



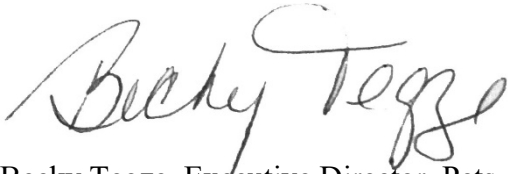
Beth Shapiro, Chief Operating Officer, SPCA Serving Erie County



Brian Shapiro, NYS Director, State Affairs, Humane Society of the United States



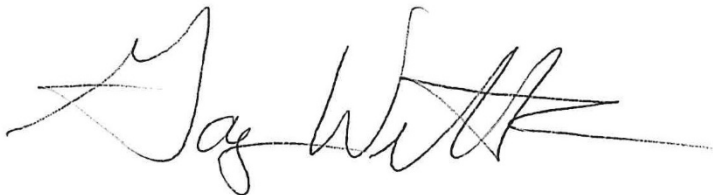
Georgie Taylor, Executive Director, Humane Society of Schuyler County



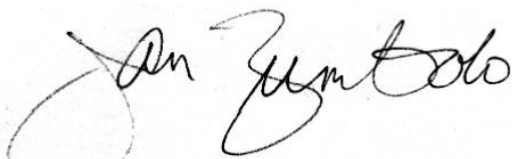
Becky Tegze, Executive Director, Pets Alive, Middletown, NY



Risa Weinstock, CEO, Animal Care and Control, NYC



Gary Willoughby II, President & CEO, SPCA Serving Erie County



Jan Zumbolo, President, Montgomery County SPCA