



Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter must pay impact fee to Greene Township

By JIM HOOK Senior writer

Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter must pay a traffic impact fee for its planned shelter near Letterkenny Army Depot.

Greene Township Supervisors refused this week to waive the \$24,780 traffic impact fee for the nonprofit animal shelter. They fretted that other nonprofits would also seek exemption.

"I thought it wouldn't hurt to ask because Greene Township has been so helpful to us," Nancy Gardner, president of the animal shelter, said on Wednesday. "We aren't disappointed. We understand."

Supervisors previously waived the shelter's \$3,500 fee for the land use permit.

Crews are to begin work this month on the shell of the new shelter, she said. Shelter officers are discussing in-kind contributions for the construction.

"We're hoping for significant contributions," she said. "The business community has been very generous with their in-kind contributions. We're very encouraged. People are supporting us to the

extent they can in this economy."

The \$4.2 million shelter should be under roof before February and finish work should start in the spring, she said.

The shelter is moving from Country Road in Guilford Township to 11 acres off Letterkenny Road because of the clamor from the CSX truck-rail terminal built next door. CSX pledged \$600,000 if the shelter moves by September 2010.

Greene Township Supervisors have held the line on transportation impact fees since adopting them in 2007. Other groups have sought exemption from the fees.

"I think this is one area we can't waive because we open a Pandora's box," Supervisor Dave Jamison said.

The township has contributed annually to the shelter and will continue to support the project, Supervisor Todd Burns said.

The fee helps finance a list of transportation improvements necessary to keep pace with growth in the township. All new development pays a fee to the township based on anticipated traffic from the development.

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What you can do

For more information on the project or how to help, contact the shelter at 263-5791, cvascampaign@innernet.net or <http://www.cvas-pets.org>.

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