

## **A RESOLUTION TO MAKE DEKALB COUNTY A NO-KILL COUNTY**

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the State of Georgia delegates to DeKalb County the authority to establish and enforce laws and regulations pertaining to animal control and sheltering; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County has made great progress in recent years to improve the quality of life of DeKalb pets and their owners through extensive new services, improve efforts to find new homes for DeKalb's homeless pets through adoption and rescue programs, improve the conditions in the DeKalb shelter through the construction of a new state-of-the-art shelter, improve the live release rate and significantly reduce the euthanasia rate, and improve County ordinances related to animals; and

WHEREAS, the goal of DeKalb County is to save the lives of all healthy and treatable dogs and cats in the possession of the DeKalb County Animal Services and Enforcement; and

WHEREAS, to obtain the national standing of becoming a "no-kill" county means saving 90 percent or more of all animals entering the county shelter system with the goal of saving all healthy and treatable animals; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County is nearing that achievement on a consistent basis and seeks to continue this trajectory; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County recognizes that animal friendly policies and procedures are a very important factor in the quality of life for DeKalb County citizens; and

WHEREAS the residents of DeKalb County want to help bring about positive change for the dogs and cats in the care and possession of the DeKalb County Animal Shelter; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County is committed to implementing national best practices for shelter programs, partnerships with local, statewide and national organizations, animal-friendly solutions to stray cats and policies to reduce intake of all pets, increase live outcomes for healthy and treatable dogs and cats and decrease euthanasia; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County and its citizens are committed to collaboration to achieve the national 90% no-kill standard through public involvement and community wide support; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County and its citizens wish to solidify a commitment to creating a sustainable system that saves the lives of all healthy and treatable cats within its care and maintaining and improving upon it thereafter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS DECLARED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA, that DeKalb County desires to save the lives of all healthy and treatable dogs and cats at the DeKalb County Animal Shelter and is committed to achieving the national 90% no-kill standing by no later than December 31st, 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DeKalb County is hereby committed to working in collaboration with related rescue and animal welfare groups to attain and sustain a no-kill status by December 31st, 2018.