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PRESS RELEASE: DECEMBER 8, 2018 – ASCENSION PARISH ANIMAL SERVICES TAX

United for Ascension Parish Animals, 10/5/2018 – When residents head to the voting polls on December 8, 2018, there will be a proposed 1 mill (0.001%) property tax on the ballot to support parish animal services. This tax will be a dedicated tax which means that the collected revenues can only be spent on animal services. This protects the tax payer in such a way that you know exactly where the revenue is going and for what purpose. The chart below represents the most current estimated annual property tax according to the Ascension Parish Assessor's Office.

The collections from this tax will provide a stable and predictable source of revenue for all animal services of Ascension parish including the following: animal shelter services, animal control services, a new facility to properly and safely house staff and animals, facility maintenance, and other educational and low cost clinic services available to parish residents.

As our parish continues to experience an accelerated population growth so too does the number of abandoned and lost animals entering the system. The level of animal services is based on demand which in an ever changing environment is difficult to meet with sporadic and limited funding resources. However, the parish is legally responsible for this population and if adequate and humane provisions are to be continued then additional revenue is necessary.

Approximately three years ago, the parish entered into a contract with a non-profit to take over shelter operations. In these few years, the number of shelter animals that have been rehomed, adopted, and transported to other rescues, far exceed the number of those euthanized. This is a complete about face relative to the previous management's results. As a modern and thriving community this is the trend we should want to support and stand behind. For many parishes throughout our state, the word 'shelter' represents bleakness and despair. Help us to continue to change that in our community where we provide shelter, rehabilitation, and homes for this population.

Residents, the time is now for our parish to engage in proactive measures and continue to be innovative and prudent where animal services is concerned. Help us seize this opportunity to increase community outreach, responsible pet ownership education, veterinarian clinic services on spay and neuter, vaccinations, medical treatment, and other population control services. Help

us to make it a reality for the employees and animals to coexist in a structurally sound/safe facility as opposed to a facility that routinely fails to meet local and state building code requirements.

With this tax, the residents of Ascension parish will have the opportunity to be a proud sponsor of animal service reform initiatives that will ultimately lead to improved animal population control. Please stand with United for Ascension Parish Animals (non-profit group of tax payers), and do what's in the best interest of the animals, as well as the future of our community. On December 8, 2018, please cast your favorable vote in support of this tax.

| Property Value | ESTIMATED TAX AMOUNT | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Residential Property with Homestead Exemption Applied | Vacant Land or Residential Property without Homestead | Commercial Property |
| \$ 75,000 | \$ - | \$ 7.50 | \$ 11.25 |
| \$ 100,000 | \$ 2.50 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 15.00 |
| \$ 150,000 | \$ 7.50 | \$ 15.00 | \$ 22.50 |
| \$ 200,000 | \$ 12.50 | \$ 20.00 | \$ 30.00 |
| \$ 250,000 | \$ 17.50 | \$ 25.00 | \$ 37.50 |
| \$ 300,000 | \$ 22.50 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 45.00 |
| \$ 350,000 | \$ 27.50 | \$ 35.00 | \$ 52.50 |
| \$ 400,000 | \$ 32.50 | \$ 40.00 | \$ 60.00 |
| \$ 500,000 | \$ 42.50 | \$ 50.00 | \$ 75.00 |
| \$ 1,000,000 | \$ 92.50 | \$ 100.00 | \$ 150.00 |
| \$ 1,500,000 | \$ 142.50 | \$ 150.00 | \$ 225.00 |
| \$ 2,000,000 | \$ 192.50 | \$ 200.00 | \$ 300.00 |

Date: 8/7/2018

Source: Ascension Parish Assessor's Office