

TIME for *Stillwater*  
stillwaterok.gov

# Stillwater Animal Welfare

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# Background & Current Facility

# Background

- In 2021, Stillwater Animal Welfare was identified as one of the TIME initiatives, along with Roadways/Transportation and Fire Station #2.
- In 2022, voters passed both propositions for the Transportation Sales Tax and Fire Station #2.
- From 2022 to 2025, staff did a thorough analysis of the Animal Welfare TIME project - collaborating with architects, engineers, financial advisors, residents, neighborhoods, stakeholders, legal and City Council.
- In January, City Council approved; asking voters to consider a bond proposition to fund this safety project.
- Animal Welfare presentations at City Council meetings are online at: [stillwaterok.gov/time](https://stillwaterok.gov/time).

# 4 PRINCIPLES of STILLWATER ANIMAL WELFARE

## **Adoption, Reunification, Education and Enforcement**

Animal Welfare **Calls for Service** include:

- Code enforcement; education; reunification; police assistance; removal of killed or injured animals; and investigation of animal-related neglect, cruelty, nuisance and bite cases.
- Total calls for service in 2023 was 3,732.
- Total calls for service in 2024 was **4,760**.



# Concerns with Existing Facility

- Insufficient/too small facility size – no additional square footage to add much-needed kennels and catteries.
- Deficient quarantine operations and no medical care area.
- Lack of storage areas and office space; no staff training or work rooms.
- No intake/assessment area; no separation for adoption or surrender.
- Insufficient drainage system: clogs, difficult for sanitary environment.
- HVAC system lacks ability to recycle clean, healthy air.
- No room for expansion: buildable site is too small for a new facility and would limit Stillwater Fire Dept. expansion (next door).
- Not energy efficient due to poor insulation, difficult to heat/cool.
- Overall, the facility does not meet the needs of our community.





Edmond



Midwest City



Moore



Stillwater



We need more kennels & catteries.

Staff have one area for adoptions, surrenders, medical needs, emergency calls, volunteer efforts, and education initiatives.



# New Facility Components, Renderings & Floor Plan





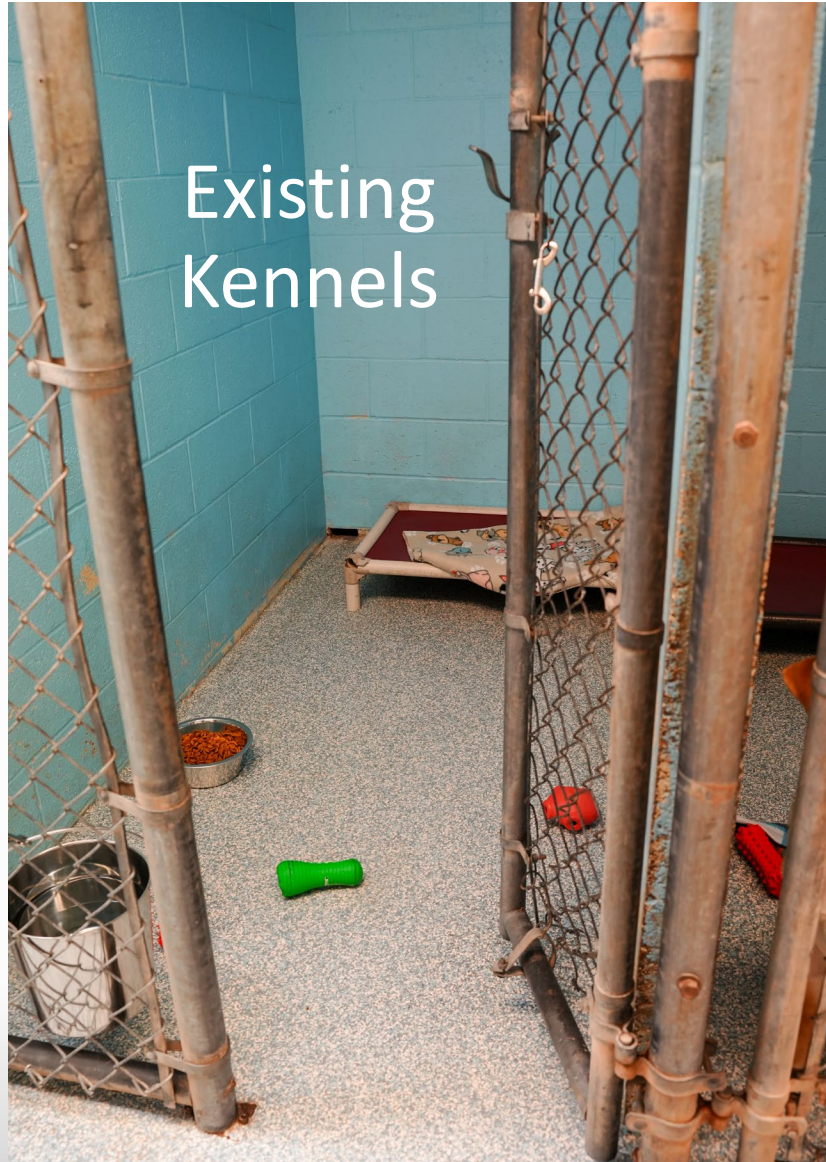
# A New Facility Provides Solutions



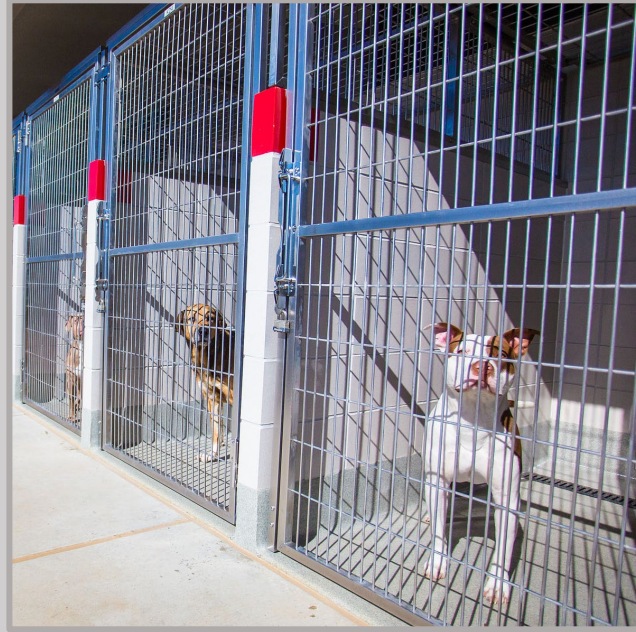
- Close to a 100% increase in animal holding capacity.
- Efficiency with area layout which allows staff and volunteers to be more effective.
- Increase removal of rabid, sick and dangerous animals from our neighborhoods and streets.
- Increase patrols of problem areas within our town.
- Increase capture and remove abandoned or nuisance animals within neighborhoods, public areas and community spaces.
- Continued removal of deceased animals from roadways.
- More low-cost vaccination clinics to reduce disease.
- New opportunities for public education.



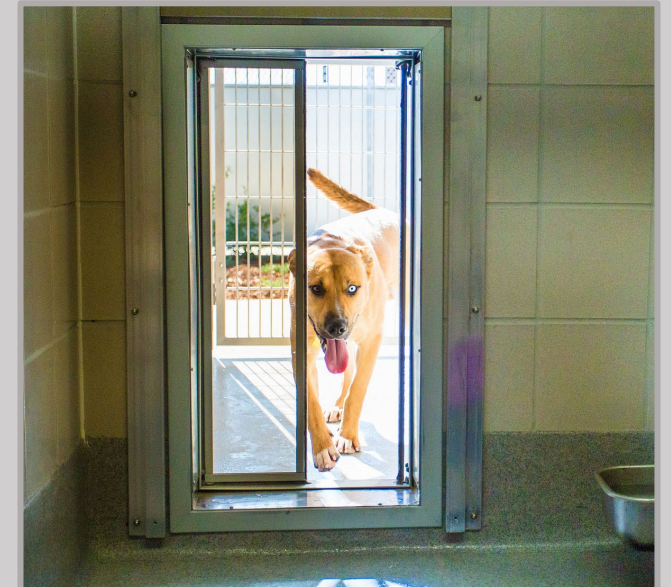
# Dog Housing



## New Facility Components



- Double Compartment Housing
- Natural Light
- Access to Yards





# Cat Housing



## New Facility Components



- Portalized Housing
- Natural Light
- Enrichment



# Improved Safety & Efficiency





Rendering provided by





Rendering provided by



Rendering provided by





Rendering provided by



# DOGS

## Animal Welfare

Adoption, Reunification, Education, and Enforcement





Rendering provided by



DOGS





Rendering provided by



# Floorplan

Lobby/Intake

Dogs

Cats

Isolation/Medical

Office/Staff

Utility/Storage

12,200 sq.ft.





# Location & Site Plan

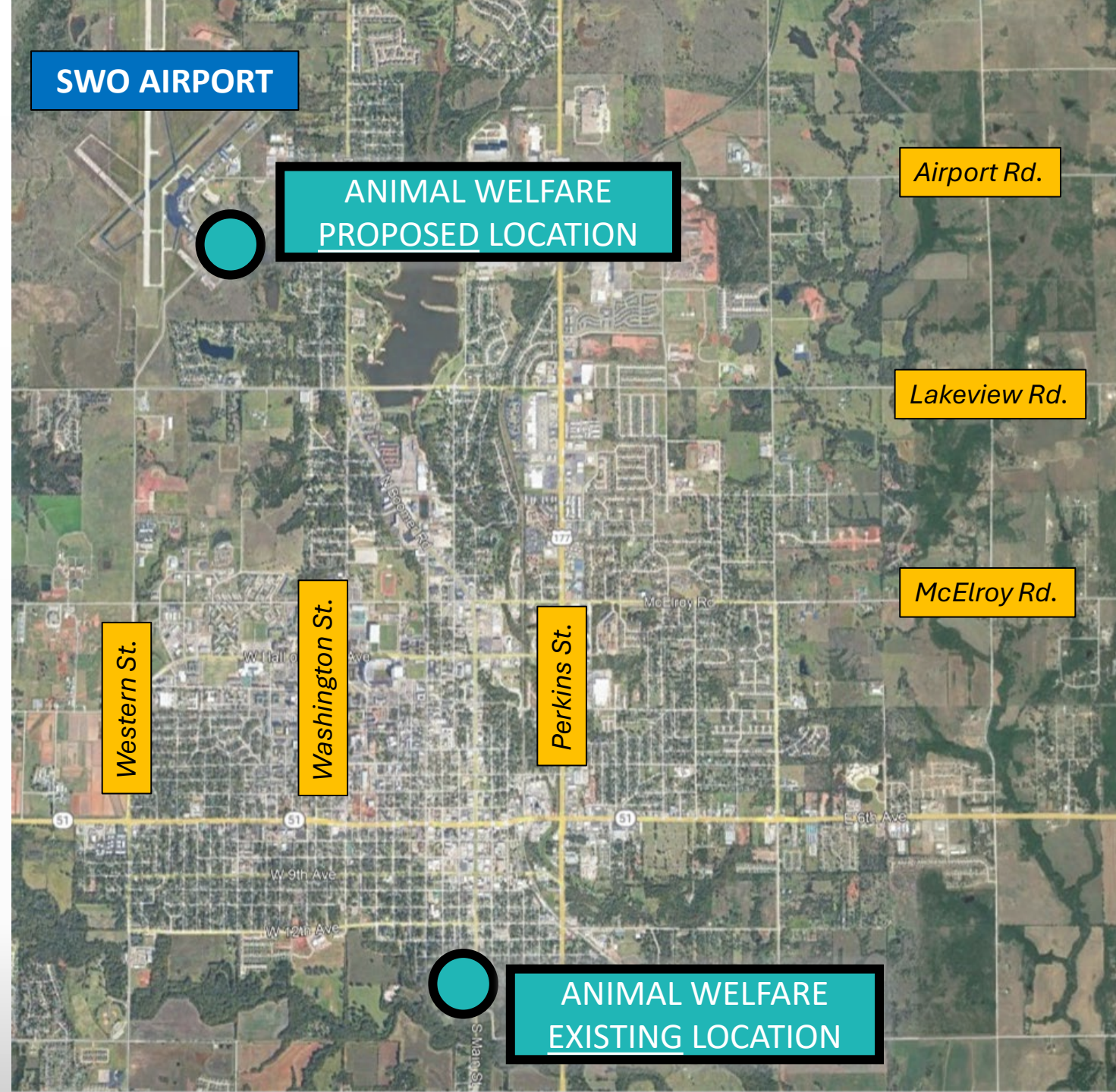


# Location

## Nearby features:

- *New* Fire Station 2
- *Future* Hargis Rd realignment with 10-ft sidewalk
- Sanborn Lake, walking trails, ballfields
- *New* SWO terminal
- *New* Ray and Linda Booker OSU Flight Center
- Waste Management Administration Office
- No adjacent residences
- OSU Vet Med, 2 miles south

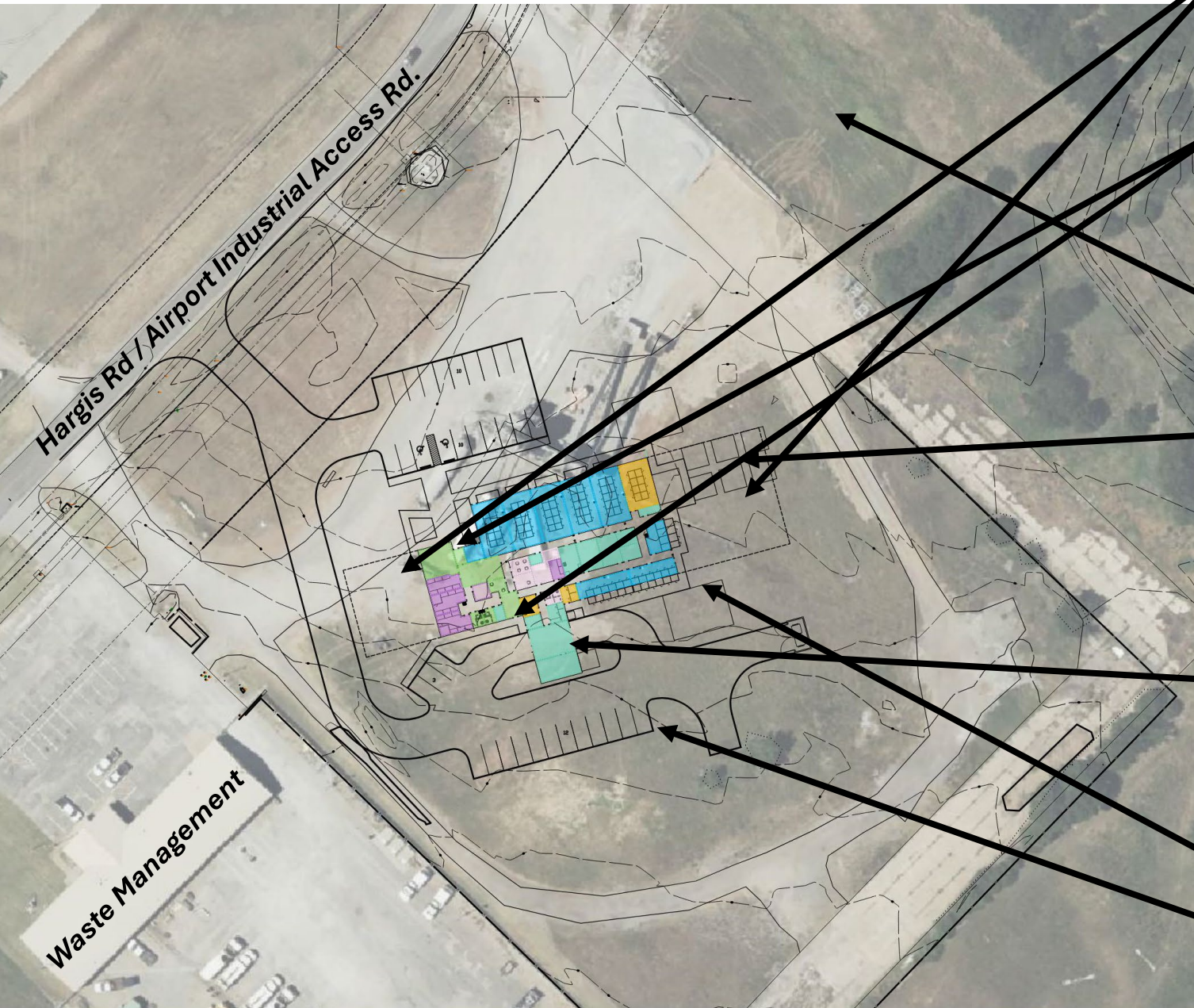
*FAA approved*





# Site Plan

Presented by Barrett L.  
Williamson Architects on 1.13.25



- Expandable in the future

- Separate adoption and surrender entrances

- Potential area for future dog park (contingent upon

- Training and exercise yards

- Sally port for protection from the elements and to prevent animals from escaping during transfers

- Building skewed for "passive solar orientation" parking



# Financials & Proposition

# Funding Challenges

- Stillwater continues to thrive and grow, while working through challenges with an aging infrastructure.
- Municipalities and all departments must continue to meet State and Federal mandates, regardless if additional funding is provided.
- Oklahoma is the only state that does not allow Ad Valorem (property taxes) for municipalities' General Funds.

# General Obligation (GO) Bonds

- Most common way for cities to pay for large public projects. *Funds must be used for projects in the proposition, capital improvements and construction materials.*
- Funded by Ad Valorem (property taxes).
- Requires a majority vote.
- Last municipal bond was passed in April 2022 for the new Fire Station, for \$9 million, 20 years. *New FS#2 will be ready in August!*





# 15-Year Bond Scenario

GO Bond Par Amount	Term Length	Estimated Maximum Levy <sup>1</sup>	Estimated Increase to Levy <sup>2</sup>
\$8,750,000	15 Years	3.93	2.33

Estimated ANNUAL Impact to Property Taxes			
Real Property Taxable Value <sup>3</sup>			
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000	\$400,000
\$26.56	\$53.12	\$79.69	\$106.25

Estimated MONTHLY Impact to Property Taxes			
Real Property Taxable Value			
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000	\$400,000
\$2.21	\$4.43	\$6.64	\$8.85

1. If the Animal Welfare Project Bonds are also designated as General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds, then the statutory maximum levy is 5.00 mills.
2. The projected sinking fund levy for FY 2025-2026 is currently 1.60 mills for the Fire Station bonds. All projections are based on 3.00% annual growth in the City's Net Assessed Valuation.
3. The median home value for the City of Stillwater is estimated at \$240,000 as of November 2024.

Example: \$200,000 property

Annual  
\$53.12



Monthly  
\$4.43



## *Schedule, if proposition passes:*

- Final Design: February 2026
- Permits, Bidding, Contracts: July-August 2026
- Construction Complete: Winter 2027-2028



# Proposition

“Shall the city of Stillwater, State of Oklahoma, incur an indebtedness by issuing its bonds in one or more series in the sum of eight million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$8,750,000) to provide funds for the purpose of constructing, furnishing and equipping a new animal welfare facility and levy and collect an annual tax, in addition to all other taxes, upon all the taxable property in said city sufficient to pay the interest on said bonds as it falls due, and also to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof when due, said bonds to bear interest at not to exceed the rate of ten per centum (10%) per annum, payable semiannually and to become due serially within fifteen (15) years from their date?”

☐ **FOR THE PROPOSITION – YES**

☐ **AGAINST THE PROPOSITION – NO**

Proposition text can be confusing. Sample ballots will be provided by the Payne County Election Board. <https://www.paynecounty.org/election-board>



# Questions?

We want to ensure the facility and services meet the safety needs of our residents and animals, are economical for taxpayers, and increase the quality of life.

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