

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE
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Indianapolis Animal Care Services to Temporarily Close as It Relocates to New Facility

Community's support encouraged at major adoption events to ensure animals move into new homes instead of the new shelter

INDIANAPOLIS — On Monday, May 4, Indianapolis Animal Care Services (IACS) will temporarily close its current facility on South Harding Street for staff to transition operations to the new, state-of-the-art shelter. The new shelter, located at 5001 E. Raymond St. on the near southeast side, marks a major milestone in the City's ongoing commitment to improving animal welfare.

The temporary closure (scheduled to last from May 4-10) will allow IACS the necessary time to relocate critical resources to the new shelter, which is more than twice the size of the current 24,000-square-foot facility. During the closure period, new intakes will be limited to animal control officers only. If a community member finds an animal that requires IACS' care during this time, they can:

- Request an appointment by emailing indyacs@indy.gov
- Submit a service request with [Request Indy](#)
- Call the Mayor's Action Center at 317-327-4622
- Or call non-emergency dispatch at 317-327-3811

"This is a transformative moment for animal welfare in our city. The new shelter will give our team the ability to provide a higher level of care and support for every animal who comes through our doors," said IACS Director Amanda Dehoney-Hinkle. "We want the animals currently in our care to be in new homes and not transferred to new shelter. We ask our community to step up now to help us place as many pets as possible into loving families before the move."

As of today (April 20), IACS is currently caring for 41 cats and 205 dogs (98% dog capacity). Since there will be no adoptions during the temporary closure, the community is strongly encouraged to adopt or foster animals to reduce the shelter population ahead of the transition. To support this effort, IACS will host two major adoption events at the Harding Street facility.

- Empty the Shelter: The Final Countdown
Saturday, April 25 from 12-6:30 p.m.
- The Big Empty: Adoption Event
Saturday, May 2 & Sunday, May 3 from 12-6:30 p.m. (both days)

To make the adoption process easier, all adoption fees will be waived. Every available animal is up to date on vaccinations, as well as spayed or neutered and microchipped. Light snacks and refreshments will be available along with information about the new facility. Residents interested

in welcoming a new animal into their life should attend one of the upcoming events or visit the current shelter during regular hours *prior* to the May 4 closure.

Fostering is another great way to support animals in IACS' care. It immediately creates space in the shelter, gives animals a calm place to decompress, and can save lives. Learn more about fostering at indy.gov/activity/apply-to-foster-an-animal.

Following the move, the new shelter is scheduled to open to the public on May 11 with daily operating hours from 12-7 p.m. Normal operations including regular intake and adoptions will resume. Additional details on a ribbon cutting ceremony will be shared soon.

The new IACS shelter represents years of collaboration, innovation, and commitment to improving outcomes for animals. It is purposely located in the 46203 ZIP code, which historically has had some of the highest stray pick-ups and animal control-related runs in Marion County. Designed with both animals and people in mind, the new shelter features expanded medical and laboratory space, a modern lobby and reception area, dedicated areas for animal assessment and monitoring, and improved amenities for staff and visitors.

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About IACS

[IACS](#) is the largest animal shelter in Indiana and works in partnership with the community to promote responsible pet ownership, address pet overpopulation, and protect the health, safety, and welfare of pets and livestock in Marion County. The agency works with animal rescue organizations both locally and nationally and offers pet owner assistance through the [Indy CARES program](#).

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Media Contact:

Dawn Olsen
Chief Communications Officer
Department of Business and Neighborhood Services
dawn.olsen@indy.gov
317-327-3785 (office) | 712-242-5638 (cell)

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