

Animal Shelter Tornado Repair FAQ

1) Why are repairs taking so long?

Damage caused by the January 24, 2023 tornado went far beyond what could be seen from the outside. Comprehensive inspections revealed that the tornado not only severely damaged the roof, but also negatively impacted crucial operating systems within the building. Along with a new roof, these internal systems needed to be repaired and, in some instances, completely replaced.

After cleanup and inspections were completed, our team was then able to assess the cost of repairs. Mayor Wagner immediately appealed to the Pasadena City Council and brought forth an Emergency Ordinance Reading that provided \$3.2 million dollars in funding be made available for all the necessary repairs. Council approved the Emergency Ordinance unanimously.

2) What is being done to the building?

Shelter repairs required extensive inspections and safer, new designs. This process took several weeks to make sure all damage was properly assessed and proposed repairs would not be just “a band-aid solution”.

Unlike the previous metal shelter roof, the new building roof includes a stabilized pier system in which support columns are connected to concrete bases that have been drilled far into the ground. This reinforces the strength of the roof to withstand high winds caused by tornados or hurricanes.

Critical electrical and HVAC systems were also damaged during the tornado strike. These are elements that cannot be seen from the outside, but it was crucial to have them properly assessed and repaired. Further inspection revealed some of these elements needed to be completely replaced, therefore the reconstruction timeline had to be extended.

3) When will the shelter reopen?

Providing the weather cooperates, and construction can continue, we are hoping to have a grand reopening ceremony in January 2024.

4) What can I do to help in the meantime?

PLEASE consider adopting or fostering a pet from the Pasadena Adoption Center. If you cannot do that, we have several ways you can support our furry friends through monetary donations, in-kind donations, medical funding or event sponsorships. For more information, please visit this link: <https://www.pasadenatx.gov/615/Donations>.

Your financial support and dedication to our pets have buoyed our spirits here at the shelter and we cannot thank you enough for your patience and understanding. We look forward to celebrating the Grand Re-Opening with you soon!