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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Calling All Dog Owners Take Home The Most Wag-Worthy Solar Dog House in Denver

**DENVER – Oct. 3, 2017 –** Want to take home one of the best doggy digs in town? We are encouraging dog owners to bid online on one of the sustainable solar dog houses on display at Denver International Airport (DEN)! The online auction is hosted by the Dumb Friends League and all proceeds benefit the League's mission of ending pet homelessness and animal suffering.

Dog lovers can add a stylish and environmentally friendly dog house to their yard starting at a minimum bid of \$300, but keep an eye on your favorite dog house as the bidding continues through Oct. 9 at midnight. You can bid online and learn more about each dog house at <a href="www.flydenver.com/bark">www.flydenver.com/bark</a>. Each of these unique dog houses are valued at a minimum of \$1,200 and up to \$11,000.

We enlisted some of the top architecture firms in Colorado to design environmentally friendly, solar dog houses that will make any pup the envy of the neighborhood. You can view the 15 dog houses at DEN through Oct. 9, at the Sustainable BARKitecture Dog House Competition located for public viewing on the plaza between the Westin Denver International Airport and the Jeppesen Terminal, just steps from the commuter rail station. A DEN team also created a sustainable dog house that is part of the online auction. DEN's dog house is on display in the center of the Great Hall in the Jeppesen Terminal.

"We are extremely proud to partner with DEN and these incredible architecture firms in support of our mission to end pet homelessness," said Chris Orzechowski, Dumb Friends League Vice President of Marketing & Communications.

Members of DEN's Canine Airport Therapy Squad (CATS) program served as inspiration for the design of the houses, which had to cater to the dog's size, unique personality and preferences. In addition to solar energy, each dog house integrates sustainable features like rainwater collection, solar-powered lights or fans, reclaimed materials or passive cooling. Panasonic donated the solar panels for this unique competition and local design and architecture firms donated their time and materials to create these unique dog houses. To learn more about the CATS program at DEN, visit <a href="https://www.flydenver.com/cats">www.flydenver.com/cats</a>.

DEN's Sustainable BARKitecture Dog House Competition is being held in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon, which will be held on airport property at 61<sup>st</sup> and Peña Blvd. from Oct. 5-15. The Solar Decathlon is a collegiate competition of 10 contests that challenge student teams to design and build full-size, energy-efficient, solar-powered houses. The winning team most successfully blends design excellence, smart energy strategies, innovation, and market potential. The Solar Decathlon allows visitors to tour the team houses free of charge and visit the Sustainability Expo to gather ideas to use in their own homes. For more information about the Solar Decathlon, visit <a href="https://www.solDOEardecathlon.gov">www.solDOEardecathlon.gov</a>.

## About the Dumb Friends League

Founded in 1910, the Dumb Friends League is the largest community-based animal welfare organization in the Rocky Mountain region, helping pets and people in the Denver metro area and beyond. In 2012, the League expanded the scope of its services to include providing shelter, care and hope for abused and neglected equines in Colorado. Last year the League placed more than 19,000 homeless pets and horses. The Dumb Friends League has shelters at 2080 S. Quebec St. in Denver and the Buddy Center at 4556 Castleton Court in Castle Rock, as well as the Dumb Friends League Harmony Equine Center™ at 5540 E. Hwy. 86 in Franktown. For more information, visit ddfl.org or call (303) 751-5772.

Denver International Airport is the 18th-busiest airport in the world and the sixth-busiest airport in the United States. With 58.3 million passengers traveling through the airport each year, DEN is one of the busiest airline hubs in the world's largest aviation market. DEN is the primary economic engine for the state of Colorado, generating more than \$26 billion for the region annually. For more information visit <a href="www.FlyDenver.com">www.FlyDenver.com</a>, check us out on YouTube, Pinterest, and Instagram, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For current employment opportunities, visit jobs.flydenver.com.