

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **ONE DEAD AND FIVE CRITICALLY ILL PUPPIES ABANDONED IN BOX ALONG HIGHWAY IN URGENT NEED**

**TACOMA, WA** – On Jan. 2, six puppies were found in a box by a community member along the Highway 7 in Elk Plain.

“I had to pull over and that’s when I heard dogs crying on the other side of the barrier,” says the community member who found the puppies. “I went to look and found a wet box full of puppies. I knew they needed help immediately.”

One puppy was found deceased wrapped in a plastic bag along with five of its siblings experiencing severe vomiting and diarrhea.



*One of the puppies receiving medical care at the shelter.*

The five puppies were brought to the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County where they are currently being cared for. They arrived at the shelter sick and lethargic.

All five of the puppies tested positive for parvovirus, a deadly and contagious virus that affects the gastrointestinal tract.

If left untreated, parvovirus attacks the gastrointestinal system and causes a miserable, painful death.

The shelter’s veterinary team is providing critical care, administering medication, fluids, and food.

Donations from the community are urgently needed to help provide medical care for these five puppies as they battle the virus. Donations are being accepted on the shelter’s website at: [www.thehumanesociety.org/parvo](http://www.thehumanesociety.org/parvo).

### **About the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County**

As one of the oldest animal welfare organizations in the nation, the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County cares for around 10,000 animals every year and maintains multiple humane programs. Dedicated to "Making Happy Happen," the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County works tirelessly to protect animals, support pet owners, and enhance relationships between animals and people. Learn more at [www.thehumanesociety.org](http://www.thehumanesociety.org).

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