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RIO SALADO FOUNDATION NAMES KIM KNOTTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Celebrating 12 years of successful community capital projects

PHOENIX (October 2, 2013) – Kim Knotter has been named executive director for the Rio Salado Foundation, a local nonprofit whose mission is to preserve the history and natural beauty of the Rio Salado and Papago Park and to ensure the area’s success as a major cultural, recreational and urban destination through the creation of public-private partnerships.

Knotter has worked in nonprofit management and fundraising in Phoenix for over 20 years and has served with some of the Valley’s most notable charities including The American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, Planned Parenthood of Arizona, Hospice of the Valley, Phoenix Art Museum, and Ballet Arizona. She is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and Planned Giving Round Table of Arizona. Knotter holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration & Advertising from Stephens College.

“I am impressed with the many successful and diverse projects of the foundation and look forward to elevating the organization’s profile, refreshing the brand and raising some significant dollars for this important work,” said Knotter. “Now that the local economy is improving, the Rio Salado Foundation is positioned to not only contribute to the development of this regional asset, but to be a catalyst for enhancing the quality of life for Rio Salado corridor and Papago Park.”

The Rio Salado Foundation has overseen several historically significant restorations and economic development projects funding over \$15 million around Tempe Town Lake and Papago Park. Through public-private partnerships and support from the City of Tempe, donors such as SRP, APS, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, Vestar, and Cox Communications to name a few have been instrumental in the success of our projects. Completed projects include: Tempe Town Lake, Tempe Center for the Arts, Children Splash Playground at Tempe Beach Park, the Pedestrian Bridge, the relocation of the Sandra Day O'Connor House and restoration of Hayden Flour Mill Community Venue, as well as the Papago Park Regional Master Plan. Knotter joins the foundation’s longtime Operations Director Kristin Patrick on moving forward with current and future projects including the final restoration of the historic Eisendrath House in the Carl Hayden Campus for Sustainability in Papago Park, a Veteran’s Memorial at Tempe Beach Park, and the Arizona Boathouse and Welcome Center.

About The Rio Salado Foundation

The Rio Salado Foundation was initially formed in 2001 to ensure the success of the Rio Salado Project. Governed by a board of directors over the past 12 years the foundation has supported the construction of several historical, cultural and recreational projects. The numerous benefits of bringing water back to the Rio Salado include the restoration of natural habitats, new residential and economic development opportunities and a wealth of recreational and cultural amenities for all Valley residents and visitors alike. With parks and museums, educational activities for children, and venues for performing arts and sporting events, the region is one of the most popular draws in the state with over 2.6 million visitors annually. Tempe Town Lake is one of Arizona's most popular attractions for fishing, jogging, boating, bicycling and many international and local sporting events such as the IronMan Triatholon. For more information about Rio Salado Foundation please visit www.supportriosalado.org or call 602-421-8857 or 480-473-0245.

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