

PRESS RELEASE



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TAHOE TRANSPORTATION OFFICIAL ALFRED KNOTTS TO HEAD TRANSPORTATION PLANNING *Charged with overseeing all elements of Park City's transportation planning function*

April 16, 2015 – PARK CITY – City Manager Diane Foster announced that Tahoe Transportation District's Transportation Program Manager, Alfred Knotts, will become the new leader of the City's Transportation Planning Department. Knotts' official start date as Transportation Planning Manager will be May 18, 2015. He replaces longtime transportation expert Kent Cashel, who is retiring after serving the citizens of Park City for 17 years.

Knotts will take the reins of the City's transportation planning efforts during what promises to be a transformational era in Park City history. Vail Resorts recently won approval to link Park City Mountain Resort and Canyons Resort, which will create the largest ski resort in the United States. In addition, a rebounding construction industry and resort economy are creating impacts that need to be balanced with resulting community concerns about traffic and congestion—all while preserving Park City's unique character.

Knotts boasts more than 15 years of regional transportation and land-use planning experience, including stints with the Tahoe Transportation District, a bi-state entity created by the U.S. Congress, and El Dorado County's Department of Transportation, where he managed transportation planning, environmental monitoring, and bicycle and pedestrian programs. In addition to those duties, Knotts developed and managed the county's stormwater program, requiring compliance with some of the most stringent standards and requirements in the country. Prior to El Dorado County, Knotts worked for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (also a federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization) and was responsible for the regional transportation planning of five counties located in two different states.

In Tahoe, Knotts focused on increasing system capacity through public transit, alternative transportation strategies, and transportation demand management (TDM) programs. In addition, Knotts also managed major transportation infrastructure-related projects, such as major highway relocation and bridge reconstruction, waterborne passenger ferry programs, and redesigning state highway systems in a manner that reflects community character and the surrounding natural environment.

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Foster provided comment on the experience Knotts brings to his new position: “Alfred has a unique perspective regarding transportation planning, environmental restoration/preservation, and project delivery after having worked on long-range transportation elements focused at the project design and construction level in Tahoe. Given the political and regulatory complexity of that area—which encompasses Nevada and California—I am confident that Alfred has the tools and skills to successfully engage our community, regional partners, and other stakeholders in a meaningful way,” she said. “This is a great opportunity for Park City, and Alfred is well equipped to begin working on today’s transportation challenges with an eye toward tomorrow.”

Knotts, speaking about his new appointment, said “Park City is the gold-standard of the resort community. Tahoe routinely references Park City as a place that effectively balances the demands and expectations of residents and visitors. This commitment to balance is part of what makes it a world-class destination.” But that achievement, Knotts continued, “comes with its own set of challenges—many of which require increased coordination, partnerships, and some forward-thinking implementation strategies. I feel that I am well positioned to effectively address these challenges given my experience with the environmental, social, and political complexity of the Lake Tahoe Basin. Both areas face challenges that require constant relationship-building and management while balancing the realities of competing interests. If we play our cards right, Park City has the opportunity to continue as the role model for how a mountain town can retain its sense of community in the face of increased pressure to grow and expand. I can’t wait to join the Park City Team and community, and get to work. I couldn’t think of a more ideal situation for me professionally or personally.”

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