



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tom Evans  
[tom@evanscommunications.com](mailto:tom@evanscommunications.com)  
602.448.5483

## **New Element Hotel to Break Ground at SkySong Thursday, March 15**

*Jackson-Shaw to Begin Work on High-End, Eco-Conscious Hotel to Open Next Spring*

**SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (March 5, 2018)** — Construction is slated to begin this month on a 157-room hotel that will provide critical support for the more than 50 businesses that now call Scottsdale's SkySong home as well as the surrounding Scottsdale community.

An Element hotel, a high-end, boutique addition to the Marriott family of hotels, will soon occupy the southwestern corner of SkySong, the ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center complex near Scottsdale Road and Enterprise Drive.

Developed by Jackson-Shaw, one of the nation's most notable names in hospitality development, Element covers an expansive, 99,345 square feet of space and provides a highly sustainable, health-focused environment for guests. Boasting 2,170 square feet of communal and meeting space and a 7,572 square-foot open-air courtyard, Element offers a wide variety of amenities for guests, ranging from a natural saline swimming pool to an oversize gym and bike rental opportunities.

"Element hotels rely on green building, sustainable designs and eco-friendly practices, and we're honored to play a role in bringing a smarter, more environmentally conscious and wellness-focused place to stay in the Scottsdale area," said Michele Wheeler, President and Chief Operating Officer for Jackson-Shaw. "It offers the elegant, luxurious nature many leisure travelers associate with Scottsdale, but it also serves as a tremendous asset for business and group travelers that will help SkySong and the city draw even more businesses and job opportunities to the area."

A fixture in the national hospitality and real estate development scene for more than 45 years, Jackson-Shaw has had a hand in the development of 21 hotels and the operations of more than 100 since its inception. The new Element hotel offers evidence of the company's continued reliance on spaces that emphasize not only comfort and convenience, but also whole living and health.

Jackson-Shaw engaged Cooper Cary, a nationally lauded architectural firm, for the innovative design and Layton Construction Company will build the hotel. UMB Bank is providing construction financing.

Sharon Harper, president and chief executive officer of SkySong's master developer, Plaza

Companies, noted the need for this type of infrastructure in the area.

“Hotels, restaurants and other amenities are crucial when it comes to attracting new businesses and catering to existing ones,” Harper said, noting that a substantial percentage of current SkySong tenants utilize local hotels on a weekly basis. “A high-end hotel that bears the Marriott name will undoubtedly help SkySong attract even more regional and national corporate tenants looking to set up shop in the Southwest.”

Plaza Companies is the construction manager and master developer of the overall SkySong development. Plaza, University Realty LLC and Holualoa Companies are investors in SkySong, which is built in partnership with the City of Scottsdale.

SkySong, the ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center, is home to a global business community that links technology, entrepreneurship, innovation and education to position the university and Greater Phoenix as global leaders of enterprise and innovation. SkySong-based companies also benefit from a special relationship with ASU and enjoy a single point of contact at the university they can turn to for introductions to researchers or faculty members, or to find out more about programs relevant to their needs.

Expect Element Hotel to open its doors sometime next spring. For more about Jackson-Shaw, visit [JacksonShaw.com](http://JacksonShaw.com). For more about SkySong, visit [www.skysong.com](http://www.skysong.com) or stay connected socially at [www.facebook.com/skysongcenter](http://www.facebook.com/skysongcenter).

— 30 —

### **About SkySong**

Plaza Companies is the developer of the project in partnership with Arizona State University Foundation, the City of Scottsdale and Holualoa Companies. Lee and Associates provides the brokerage services and Plaza del Rio Management Corporation provides the property management and construction services. Architects at SkySong include Pei Cobb Fried and Partners, DMJM Design, Butler Design Group and Kendle Design Collaborative.

### **About Jackson-Shaw**

Jackson-Shaw, a national real estate development company headquartered in Dallas, has 45 years of experience developing diversified real estate properties that meet the needs of its clients and partners. The company has completed more than 60 million square feet of development since its founding and develops a variety of project types, including office, industrial, mixed-use, residential and hospitality. Jackson-Shaw’s consistent goal is to increase and enhance values in real property assets for its clients and capital partners. Jackson-Shaw has offices in Dallas; Jacksonville, Florida; and Washington, DC. For more information, visit [www.jacksonshaw.com](http://www.jacksonshaw.com).

### **About Plaza Companies**

With offices in Peoria, Scottsdale and Tucson, Plaza Companies is a full-service real estate firm specializing in the management, leasing and development of medical office and commercial office properties, technology and bioscience facilities, mixed-use properties and senior housing communities. Since 1982, Plaza Companies has established a proud track record as a

competitive, connected and conscientious real estate firm with partnerships throughout the industries it serves. For more information, visit [www.theplazaco.com](http://www.theplazaco.com).

#### **About University Realty LLC**

University Realty LLC's primary goal is to advance the mission of Arizona State University by accepting, monetizing and investing in real estate holdings. It is part of ASU Enterprise Partners, the parent organization to distinct entities that raise and invest private support for the benefit of ASU.

#### **About Holualoa Companies**

Holualoa Companies is a real estate investment firm focused on the successful acquisition, repositioning, redevelopment and disposition of real estate assets. Headquartered in Tucson, Arizona, with offices in Phoenix, Santa Monica, Hawaii and Paris, its investments span the United States and Europe and include office, retail, industrial, multi-family, hotel and mixed-use investment properties. Holualoa is an experienced investor for its own account and on behalf of a select group of private investors.

#### **About the City of Scottsdale**

Scottsdale is one of the state's leading job centers, with a diverse economy built on medical research, high-tech innovation, tourism and corporate headquarters. Scottsdale is home to nearly 18,000 businesses supplying over 150,000 jobs. The high-tech innovation center SkySong, located just a few miles from Downtown, is designed to help companies grow through a unique partnership with nearby Arizona State University. The Scottsdale Cure Corridor is a partnership of premier health care providers and biomedical companies seeking to advance medicine and patient care through cutting-edge research. For more information, visit [ChooseScottsdale.com](http://ChooseScottsdale.com).