



Southeast Community  
Development Corporation



**VERNON.**  
The City That Does More.

## Media Advisory

For Immediate Release: September 11, 2008

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### **California Emerging Technology Fund and the City of Vernon Announce Major Grants to the Southeast Cities to Close the Digital Divide**

- WHAT:** Presentation of grant awards to the Southeast Community Development Corporation from the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) for \$476,000 and the City of Vernon for \$301,000 to close the growing Digital Divide among residents in the Southeast Cities of Los Angeles County.
- WHO:** Speakers will include Michael Peevey, President of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and Chairman of the CETF, Ronald Garcia, President of the Southeast Community Development Corporation (SCDC), and City of Vernon representatives.
- WHEN:** Thursday, September 11, 2008  
10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
- WHERE:** Vernon City Hall – Main Entrance  
4305 Santa Fe Avenue  
City of Vernon, California 90058
- WHY:** Studies have shown that residents of the Southeast Cities, including the communities of Bell, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Maywood, South Gate, Vernon and Walnut Park / Florence-Firestone, are largely disconnected from the Internet due to the lack of broad public access to computers, technical assistance and computer literacy education. The Southeast Cities Technology Collaborative will conduct a three-year technology initiative in these communities to develop strong pathways for improving educational and health outcomes by expanding community broadband access, implementing a comprehensive computer literacy program, and enhancing existing community service programs throughout the region.

After the program, above speakers will be available for interviews. Lunch will be provided by the Southern California Gas Company.

*The mission of the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) is to close the Digital Divide and ensure that California is a global leader in the use of broadband technology (high-speed access to the Internet). The California Public Utilities Commission directed the establishment of CETF in approving the mergers of SBC-AT&T and Verizon-MCI in 2005. AT&T and Verizon are contributing a total of \$60 million in seed capital to advance broadband deployment and adoption. CETF is a non-profit public-benefit corporation. For more information: [www.cetfund.org](http://www.cetfund.org)*

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