



NEWS ALERT

For Immediate Release

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Mayor Villaraigosa Joins PVJOBS to Celebrate Grand Opening of Free Job Resource Center in South Los Angeles

Los Angeles – January 25, 2010 – Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa today joined PVJOBS (Playa Vista Job Opportunities & Business Services) to celebrate the grand opening of the job program’s new headquarters and job resource center based in the heart of South Los Angeles. “Maximizing job creation is goal number one over the next four years,” says Mayor Villaraigosa. “We have to rethink how the City of Los Angeles practices economic development and aggressively target emerging sectors of growth to attract new businesses to our city.”

The free resource center at PVJOBS provides residents with access to 15 internet-accessible computers, phones, faxes, resume preparation software, and job postings. Designed by RAW International and built by Swinerton Builders, the 12,500 square foot green-friendly facility has been renovated to receive a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification.

“Purchasing our own facilities has been part of our strategic plan since our community services began nearly 12 years ago,” says PVJOBS Executive Director Ernest Roberts. “Now we can house all of our staff in one location, rather than leasing space for them at three different sites.”

As part of the celebration, the mayor – flanked by Councilmembers Jan Perry and Bernard Parks, Playa Vista President Steve Soboroff, and several PVJOBS board members and supporters – gathered in front of the building to officiate the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Following the event, a special public tour of the building was made available for the local community.

The new building location is 4112 S. Main Street in South Los Angeles. For more information about PVJOBS, please call (323) 432-3955.

PVJOBS is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization that works with several major construction projects and provides construction job opportunities to at-risk residents. These at-risk youth and adults have either come from single-parent homes, have been welfare recipients, did not complete high school, have former gang affiliations, endured homelessness or have been incarcerated. For these individuals, poor life choices and circumstances made it difficult for them to obtain meaningful career-track living wage employment. Since its formation in 1998, PVJOBS has served more than 12,000 persons who have had unusual barriers to employment, filling more than 4,500 positions.

Photo Caption: Gathered at the PVJOBS grand opening event are (from left): Council member Bernard Parks; founding PVJOBS board member Challis MacPherson; board member Jim Bickhart; board member Mary Richert; Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; PVJOBS Executive Director Ernest Roberts; board member Sibyl Buchanan; board member Nora MacLellan; Los Angeles Community College District Board President Mona Field; Playa Vista Chairman Steve Soboroff; and board member Michael Dolphin.

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