



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Next Generation Community and Event Center Opens with a Grand Opening Celebration that Showcases Southeast Sacramento's Diversity: Saturday, Sept., 26

Sacramento, California, September 24, 2009—Councilmember Kevin McCarty and the residents of southeast Sacramento invite the media to attend the ***Grand Opening of George Sim Community Center and Event Center***, what can only be described as the next generation in community and event centers. The celebration will take place this **Saturday, September 26**, beginning with a ***Community Parade at 10 a.m.***, a ***Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 11 a.m.***, and **family-friendly activities and games throughout the day** until 4 p.m.

Local dignitaries, youth and families, neighborhood groups, and cultural performers will all take part in this weekend's celebration. George Sim Community and Event Center is located at **6207 Logan Street**.

"In this new and impressive facility, the residents of southeast Sacramento will find amenities and resources that reflect their current needs and future aspirations," said Councilmember McCarty. "They will also find dedicated City staff members who will nurture this community's children, inspire its youth, and care for its older adults."

The new facility provides free WIFI; in addition, it offers a wide-assortment of amenities and features that will equally serve residents' diverse needs:

- A 20,013 sq. ft. community center with a forward-thinking design, fitness center, computer training center, resource room, teen center and abundant meeting space.
- A 15,696 sq. ft. event center that houses a collegiate-size basketball court with 6 separate backboards, performing arts stage, and a full, state-of-the-art kitchen.
- The first automated library book dispensing machine in Sacramento County.

This next generation facility will help support southeast Sacramento's continued social and economic empowerment for years to come by serving as a place where residents can access:

- Social services, counseling, community development support, and job assistance.
- Mentoring, afterschool and summer programs for youth.
- Affordable venues for celebrating weddings, birthdays, and other life-events.
- Facilities and fitness equipment that can enhance community members' well-being.

The community and event center project, which was designed to achieve LEED Silver certification, was funded by the Community Reinvestment Capital Improvement Program and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency.

Media-related inquiries can be forwarded to Hindolo Brima, Media and Communications Specialist for the Department of Parks and Recreation, at (916) 622-8066.

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