

The City of Riviera Beach and communities like it are striving to realize a better future through redeveloping its economically depressed areas. Success will afford current and future residents a better quality of life that will be sustainable for generations to come. In Riviera Beach we have adopted a "wholistic approach" to this effort--bridging the digital divide is very much a part of our goal. As an African-American charged with the responsibility to lead this effort in a community that is predominantly African-American, I firmly believe that the fulfillment of the AT&T/BellSouth Merger Proposed Commitments would aid immensely in our movement in that direction. I urge the Commission to approve the proposed merger.