

**Tim Carroll**

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**From:** OpenCape Update [info@opencape.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2011 3:00 PM  
**To:** execsec@chilmarkma.gov  
**Subject:** OpenCape Newsletter March 2011

**The OpenCape Newsletter  
March, 2011**

OpenCape continues its forward progress toward the development of the OpenCape system. We are moving at a steady pace toward completion of the OpenCape system in the winter of 2013.

We appreciate your continued support and involvement. We will keep you informed through our Quarterly Newsletter and other announcements.

Again, thank you for your support.

Dan Gallagher, CEO

**Organization Development**

OpenCape began its transition from an all-volunteer grass roots initiative to a professional organization with staff in July, 2010. OpenCape currently has three full time employees: Dan Gallagher (CEO), Gary Delius (Construction Manager), and Allyson Pocknett (Administrative Assistant). They currently occupy temporary offices in the Cape Cod Commission building, which reflects the strong partnership between the two organizations. OpenCape staff will remain there until the Regional Collocation Center is ready for occupancy.

OpenCape has relied on several private firms for outsourced support to include Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP, Horsley Witten Group, Accounting Management Solutions Inc., Cape Cod Five Cent Savings Bank, The Executive Suite, Foley & Foley, and O'Connor & Drew P.C.

The OpenCape Board of Directors continues to play a major role in the development of OpenCape. The Board has formed a Community Outreach Committee to foster and improve our relationships with such organizations as the Cape Cod Commission, Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, Cape Cod Technology Council, and others in developing strategies and activities to promote broadband as an infrastructure to support economic development and improve government services on Cape Cod.

**Environmental Assessment Approved**

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to OpenCape in December, 2010 as part of the environmental and cultural review process. Receipt of the FONSI satisfies a condition of OpenCape's \$32 million federal grant award that restricted the expenditure of the funds to non-construction activities until the FONSI was received. The release of a FONSI allows OpenCape to move forward with its project and eliminates the need for a full Environmental Impact Statement.

OpenCape, assisted by Horsley Witten Group, is now engaging the Army Corps of Engineers to seek the permitting of two crossings of the Cape Cod Canal. OpenCape seeks to create two new telecommunications crossings of the Canal. At the west end OpenCape intends to cross over the Railroad Bridge. At the east end OpenCape intends to bore under the canal. These two new crossings will greatly increase the redundancy and survival of telecommunications to CapeCod, a critical issue of emergency preparedness.

3/11/2011

## **Commonwealth Advances Broadband with OpenCape**

On January 10, 2011 OpenCape completed necessary contracts with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to begin the flow of \$5 million in state matching funds as part of OpenCape's \$40 million telecommunications infrastructure project in southeast Massachusetts.

OpenCape will in exchange provide fiber-optic strands to the Commonwealth for the creation of a government network communication system in southeast Massachusetts. OpenCape, the Commonwealth's Information Technology Division (ITD,) and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) have worked together closely to form a partnership that will advance the Commonwealth's interests in improving public safety and other services.

### **Field Data Collection OpenCape Hits the Street**

OpenCape has engaged UC Synergetic to perform field survey, licensing and permitting, and engineering of the OpenCape fiber optic network. UC Synergetic (UCS) is a national engineering, technical services, and consulting company based in Charlotte, with local offices in Mansfield, MA. They are in the field collecting detailed information about the telephone poles, bridge crossings, and other infrastructure that will receive the OpenCape fiber optics. They are also managing the process of applying for licenses from Verizon, NSTAR, and National Grid to place fiber optics on the telephone poles and in conduit to receive the OpenCape fiber. UC Synergetic is simultaneously engineering the detailed plans needed for the installation of the fiber optics.

### **Design, Build and Operate OpenCape Network**

OpenCape conducted a competitive request for proposal (RFP) process in November and December to select a company to design, build and operate the OpenCape network. OpenCape selected CapeNetLLC from the respondents and executed a contract with them in early March, 2011.

CapeNet LLC, a joint venture of Telecom Global Inc. and CapeNet Partners, Inc., will immediately begin preparations to install OpenCape's fiber optic and microwave network in the spring of 2011. CapeNet will work closely with UC Synergetic to survey and engineer the fiber optic component of the network.

The CapeNet team was selected in large part because it brought a combination of national and international telecommunications experience and a comprehensive understanding of the region's needs. Short term, its commitment to regional and local sub-contracting ensures the greatest economic impact during construction, while its comprehensive plan for market and services development ensures the long term sustainability of the project.

### **Regional Collocation Center**

OpenCape Corporation received a lease for the vacant Barnstable County Public Safety Building from Barnstable County following a County RFP process. OpenCape will renovate the building and create a regional collocation computing data center as an integral part of the OpenCape system. OpenCape has formed a very strong partnership with Barnstable County and the Cape Cod Commission to advance the development of a digital infrastructure to service our region. The contribution of the lease is a further reflection of the County's commitment to our common purpose.

OpenCape issued an RFP for the general renovation of the former Barnstable County Public Safety Building on March 7, 2011. Responses are due in mid-April and a vendor will be selected in early May. A second RFP will be issued in April to construct a computing data center on the ground floor of the renovated building.

### **Looking Forward**

OpenCape and its contractors will engage local towns, school districts, and libraries to assess the engineering and administrative requirements of delivering fiber optic laterals from the backbone of the OpenCape network into the [anchor institutions](#) identified

in the OpenCape grant application.

OpenCape and its contractors will engage water districts to assess the engineering and administrative requirements of delivering fiber optic laterals and installing microwave backhaul and 700Mhz mobile public safety radios on water towers.

OpenCape and its contractors will engage leaders of Martha's Vineyard to determine the placement of OpenCape microwave backhaul components on the Island. OpenCape has committed to building a high capacity microwave connection to the Island, establishing a link to a regional shelter, and creating an interconnection point that can serve the needs of Chappaquiddick Island.

OpenCape and its contractors will engage other major stake holders such as the Massachusetts Military Reservation, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and the public colleges of southeast Massachusetts to assess engineering and administrative requirements of delivering fiber optic laterals from the backbone of the OpenCape Network to their facilities.

OpenCape and its contractors will begin the process of applying for special permits associated with the project.

Visit our web page and blog to stay up to date: [www.opencape.com](http://www.opencape.com)

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