

A message from Dan Silverman:

As you may (or may not) know, OpenCape is a multi-year project to bring high-speed internet to the Cape, which was identified as an underserved area for internet connectivity.

It was grant-funded to create a fiber optic "backbone" covering the entire Cape, with the intent of providing the basic requirement for a more robust and faster internet service to towns and businesses.

In my prior role as fire chief, I was involved in some of the planning and implementation of the system, from the perspective of high-speed data access for emergency services.

OpenCape committed to connecting municipal facilities first (public safety, schools, senior centers, town halls). The plan was that once the fiber optic backbone was in place, smaller providers would more easily be able to compete with Comcast and Verizon to offer so-called "last mile" service to hook up businesses and homes. but it was always recognized that the low density of housing units, especially on the outer Cape, would be a challenge to attracting providers.

Well finally, OpenCape is partnering with CrowdFiber to gauge interest on a town-by-town or neighborhood-by-neighborhood basis.

There's an article in today's Cape Cod Times that discusses this:
<http://www.capecodtimes.com/news/20160725/opencape-envisions-expansion-of-fiber-optic-network>

I already went to the OpenCape web site to register our family's interest. It's easy, maybe 5 minutes, and not requiring any commitment.

If some or most of you are interested and go through the registration process, perhaps we can get Wellfleet to be early in line to get this service when it's offered. (We already showed how progressive our town could be with the Solarize Wellfleet initiative, having one of the highest rates of participation in the program).

Here's the link to OpenCape's website: <https://opencape.org/>

You can read more about the OpenCape initiative, and if you agree that this would be a benefit, use the "Take Action" button to begin the registration process.

And please share this email with your own network of Wellfleetians. Apologies to those who receive this email more than once, as there's bound to be overlap among our personal networks.

Thanks.

Dan Silverman

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