



openairboston.net

**Massachusetts Technology Collaborative
Massachusetts Broadband Institute**

Western Massachusetts

*Response To
Call for Solutions*

December 19, 2008

Prepared By:

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Solution Cover Sheet

Name of Respondent Organization openairboston.net															
Mailing Address: 10 High Street	City/Town: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02110												
Telephone (617) 605-7550	Fax	Respondent Web Address www.openairboston.net													
Name of Primary Contact (Individual): Brian Worobey															
Primary Contact Title: Chief Operating Officer		Contact email address: bworobey@gmail.com	Direct Telephone #: 617.605.7550												
<table border="0"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Service Provider</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Network or Systems Integrator</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Government Organization</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Interested Individual</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Manufacturer</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Investor/Venture Capital</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-profit Organization</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Consultant</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equipment Vendor</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy Group</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Owner of Physical Assets (please specify Asset: _____ _____)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify Other: _____ _____)</td> </tr> </table>				<input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Service Provider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Network or Systems Integrator	<input type="checkbox"/> Government Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Interested Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Manufacturer	<input type="checkbox"/> Investor/Venture Capital	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-profit Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Consultant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equipment Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Owner of Physical Assets (please specify Asset: _____ _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify Other: _____ _____)
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<p>Brief Description of Organization (please outline previous experience with broadband deployment and/or provision of broadband services)</p> <p>Openairboston.net has been working on wireless initiatives within the city of Boston. We have completed a 1.1 sq. mile network in the Grove Hall neighborhood, and are currently deploying an open source mesh network for the Fenway and Mission Hill areas. Our expertise is in low-cost, high-performance mesh networks, leveraging fiber optic backbones, stimulating innovation, and community development.</p>															
<p>List of anticipated partner organizations</p> <p>Galaxy Internet Services</p>															



openairboston.net

Massachusetts Broadband Institute
C/o Massachusetts Technology Collaborative
75 North Drive
Westborough, MA 01581
broadband@masstech.org
December 19, 2008

Dear Broadband Institute,

Openairboston.net has been working on wireless initiatives within the city of Boston. We have completed a 1.1 sq. mile network in the Grove Hall neighborhood, and are currently deploying an open source mesh network for the Fenway and Mission Hill areas. Our expertise is in low-cost, high-performance mesh networks, leveraging fiber optic backbones, stimulating innovation, and community development.

Our work in Boston leverages existing backbone infrastructure to provide ubiquitous wireless coverage of a region. MBI's challenge is to stimulate the development of both backbone infrastructure and last-mile solutions. Rather than put forth our own end-to-end solution, openairboston.net could best serve MBI by collaborating with vendors whose expertise complements our own.

As a prospective collaborator on an RFP response, we hope that the MBI will issue a strong RFP from which many powerful solutions can emerge. It is in this spirit that we present ourselves, and the following 'points of consideration'.

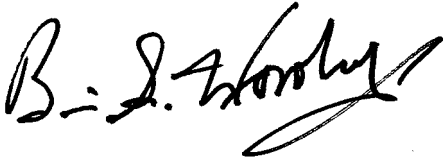
Points of Consideration:

- 1) Net Neutral - Network should be "net neutral" in that it a transport mechanism and should be engineered to be free of restrictions on content, sites, or platforms, on the kinds of equipment that may be attached, and on the modes of communication allowed.
- 2) Operator Neutral - Network should be "operator neutral" in that access to end-users is owned by a network access company and with services to be provided by separate companies.
- 3) Openness – Consumers should have the right to access any content and services that they desire. Further, the network protocols need to be non-proprietary.
- 4) Standards - Network should strive to reach 802.3ah (GEPON) or 802.3av (10G-EPON) standards for speed, and access.
- 5) Rates - Network should provide for regulated access with layered rates.
- 6) Accountability – RFP must have well defined measures of accountability in performance, access, reach, and economic development. There must be recourse to 're-license' areas where there is failure to meet and exceed these measures.
- 7) Customer Service – There must be well-defined responsibilities for service similar to the Mass Turnpike exit 'Service Areas' which is viewed to be an effective public-private partnership.
- 8) Enduring Assets – MBI funds should be spent on long-term assets, such as fiber, towers, conduit systems, etc...
- 9) End User Investment – The Network should leverage end user investment, that is to say as customer premise and portable equipment gets better and more powerful in the years

to come, the Network should get more powerful as a result.

- 10) Research and development – Further research is required. Asset inventories are needed, coverage areas should be updated and demand-side modeling needs to be carried out. In addition, MBI should invest in research on new technologies that might be utilized during this effort, such as ‘white space’.
- 11) Innovation – The network needs to be flexible and allow for the experimentation of new protocols, new products and new solutions.
- 12) Openairboston.net supports the philosophy set forth in the FreePress.com, Internet for Everyone “Plan for Internet Freedom in Massachusetts.”

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. J. Worobey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Brian Worobey
Chief Operating Officer
Openairboston.net

About openairboston.net

Openairboston.net (OAB) is a non-profit organization created to develop, implement and operate a network to provide affordable wireless Internet access throughout the City of Boston. OAB was founded to implement the recommendations of Mayor Menino’s Wireless Broadband Task Force. Our team is made up of local leaders from the telecommunications, information technology and non-profit sectors.