

**“Internet for All Benzie County” (IFA-BC)
Cherry Capital Connection, LLC (CCC)
February 2024**

RDOF and BDC

The USAC / HUBB audit associated with CCC reaching the 20% 2-year milestone is complete and approved. CCC is currently at 26% for the March 1, 2024, filing. By the end of year 2024 we must be at 40%. BDC is reviewing our 2022 / 2023 fiber households passed filing. Based on receiving federal funds BDC is doing their due diligence. The initial inquiry (conversation) went well. The process is anticipated to be complete by the end of April.

The MIHI office has requested that CCC provide at the location level details on what and when CCC will complete our RDOF obligation. This report is due in the middle of February. There was no information provided on how the MIHI office will use this data. We assume all RDOF awardees are being requested to provide this information.

Mercury Broadband and CCC discussion continue. Areas of common interest have been defined and a goal of meeting the second QTR of 2024 has been established.

ARPA Internet for all – Benzie County/ROBIN

- a. Construction along M-115 between US-31 and the City of Frankfort is on schedule.
- b. Construction along US-31 between Lake Ann Road and Maple city road is in process.
- c. Benzie County Road Commission (BCRC) permits have issues for Lake Ann Rd, Fewins Road, Reynolds Road, and Cinder Road. The BCRC has requested that limit the number of active per road permits to 4. At our current pace this is workable. However, after we add additional construction crews, we will be requesting 4 per crew / per area. Per road permitting is a new process for BCRC and CCC. Details are being worked out as proceed. Road with applications submitted include Carmean, Hulbert, Bendon, St. Johns, Brundage, and Burnt. (note Airport Road permit issued)
- d. The project includes 415 roads that includes 192 private roads. The 223 roads remaining are either county roads or State roads. Permission to construct on private roads varies by roadway.
- e. Our pre-engineering department will be surveying roads over the next 45-60 days in Crystal Lake and Benzonia townships, and City of Frankfort.
 - a. Reminder to all citizens, please do not remove Miss Dig Flags. If digging call miss dig at 811
- f. **Open access**
 - a. Contract with COS for has been signed. The first meeting associated with configuring the consumer facing web site will be Friday 1-19-2024 with an anticipated production late February.
 - b. Integration with CCC CRM and electronics provisioning aspects will be completed by end of April.
- g. The USA distributor for the Heights home and small business gateway has been secured.
 - a. The selection of Heights was in response to our consumers requesting that we provide an integrated gateway that supports the Fiber ONT, provide 10G ethernet pass off, provide POTS line interface, and provide WiFi-6e capabilities.
- h. Post Cards will be sent before the next reporting cycle to all households along our construction route. This would be the second mailing. Door to door efforts will continue through 2024.
- i. FCC has announced December 26, 2024, Urban Rate Survey. The FCC 2023 Urban Rate survey was included within ROBIN. CCC will publish new subscription rates.
 - a. Public Notice: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-23-1207A1.pdf>
- j. Huts at Inland and Crystal Lake township complete waiting on light from middle mile provider.

BEADS

Benzie County, Mitch, and CCC are reviewing publicly available data with the goal of producing a map that would outline potential areas for the BEADS application. It is anticipated that once the MIHI office has defined locations they will publish their results.

Benzie County Road Commission

The BCRC listened to our concerns. The board voted to reject our suggested resolutions. The BCRC staff recommended a new process for permitting call "Per Road". This removed the per road crossing charge associated with the per road permit.

Other projects

CCC will be providing a strategic fiber plan to the City of Frankfort DDA.

Unserved and underserved areas of Gilmore, Blaine, and Lake townships should be evaluated after BEADS data has been released.

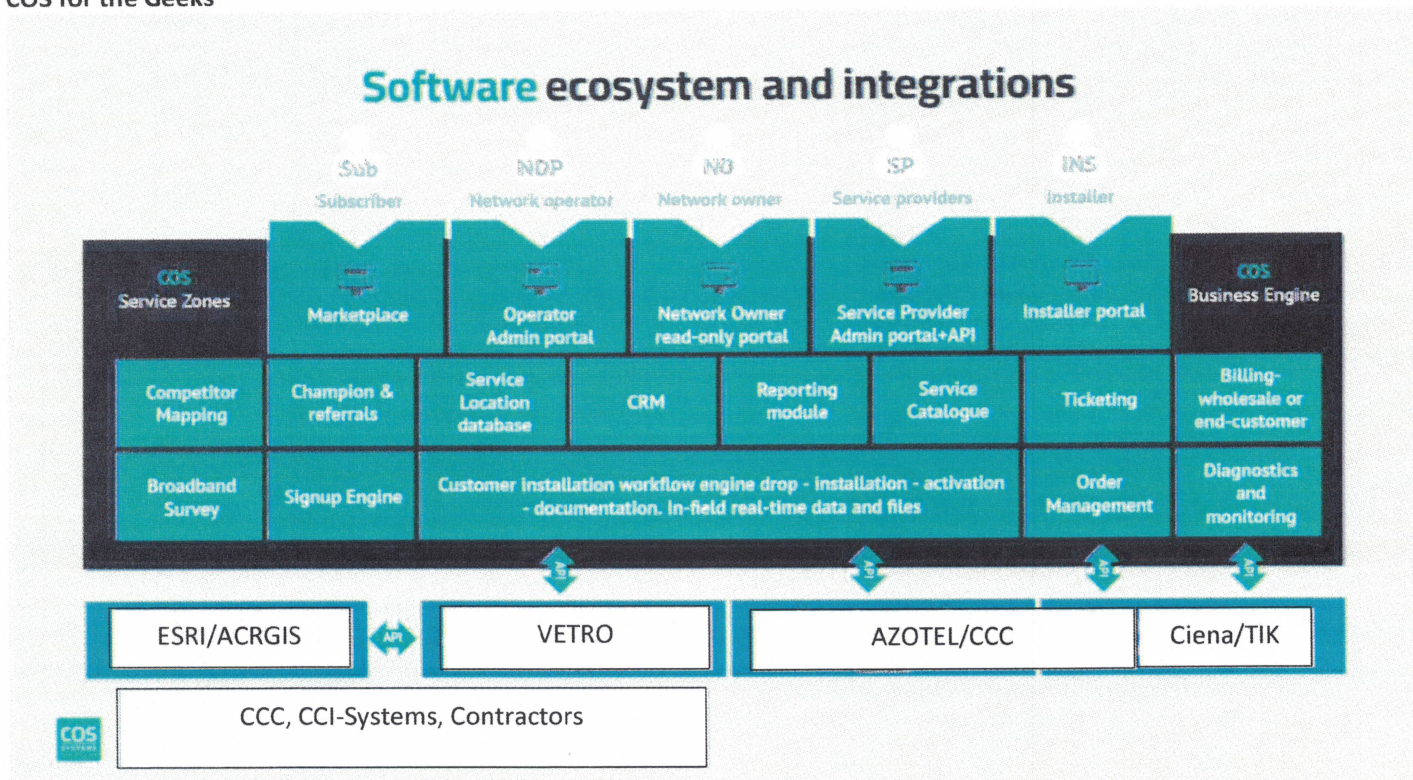
Human Resources

Justin has been promoted to the CTO position and will focus on community outreach development.

Our new COO starts January 22, 2024.

We have openings in OSP, Customer Service, Sales, and IT.

COS for the Geeks



Evaluating other funding opportunities

Kind Regards - Tim Maylone - CEO and Managing Member, Cherry Capital Connection, LLC