

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2004

Dr. David L. Evans
Under Secretary for Science
Smithsonian Institution, Castle Bldg.
Room 230 MRC009
1000 Jefferson Drive, S.W.
Washington, DC 20560

Re: The Open Park Project

Dear Dr. Evans:

Earlier this year, The Open Park Project (Open Park), a Washington D.C. non-profit organization, launched a free WiFi hotspot on Capitol Hill as the first step toward creating a wireless Internet park on our National Mall. This public hotspot has already become a valuable public resource allowing citizens to freely access information and communicate on-line while they are visiting the Congress and the Supreme Court.

We understand that Open Park is now ready to take the next step in implementing its vision and has submitted a proposal to your office to obtain roof top access at several Mall museums for the installation of the group's WiFi access point antennas on a one year trial basis. We further understand that the cost of installing and operating this WiFi equipment during this trial period would be borne solely by Open Park and that the group's WiFi Internet service would continue to be free to the public as well as to Smithsonian visitors using WiFi equipped museum guides.

As a locally based non-profit organization committed to providing free public Internet service, Open Park appears to be well qualified to carry out this service trial and we understand that no other entity (commercial or non-profit) has announced plans to provide a similar public service on the Mall.

We believe that Open Park's proposal has merit and trust that you will give the organization's plans a prompt and careful review. We would also request that you keep our offices informed regarding the Smithsonian's action on Open Park's proposal.

Sincerely,



Theresa

Mindy

Edaucher

Danny & Annie

T. Holder

Ciro Rodriguez

Mr. Row

Mr. G. Shaw

John

John

John Adams

Robert E. P.

Pete Stark

Tim Ryan

Hilda Foster

Ben Chandler

Ann Bell

John

Signatories to this letter include the following Representatives:

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