

TUESDAY TECH TIP



NIAGARA FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY/NIAGA LIBRARY SYSTEM

DECEMBER 12, 2017: NET NEUTRALITY

The American Library Association recently issued a press release opposing the proposed order on net neutrality. Many Americans agree that commercial Internet Service Providers should not “control or manipulate the content” we access via the web, but most still have a hard time understanding what network neutrality means, and its potential effect on their everyday lives. This bibliography is intended to help internet users learn more about the topic.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: ALA STRENUOUSLY OPPOSES FCC PROPOSED ORDER ON NET NEUTRALITY

<http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2017/11/ala-strenuously-opposes-fcc-proposed-order-net-neutrality>

Preserving net neutrality is essential for equitable access to online information and services and thus a vital concern for our nation's libraries. Now that the internet has become the primary mechanism for delivering information, services and applications to the general public, it is especially important that commercial Internet Service Providers are not able to control or manipulate the content of these communications. Libraries, our patrons and America's communities will be at risk if the FCC repeals all protections contained in its 2015 Open Internet Order with no plans to replace with any enforceable rules.

GOVERNMENT LINKS

FCC FACT SHEET: RESTORING INTERNET FREEDOM DECLARATORY RULING, REPORT AND ORDER, AND ORDER - WC DOCKET NO. 17-108

http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db1122/DOC-347927A1.pdf

DECEMBER 2017 OPEN COMMISSION MEETING

<https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2017/12/december-2017-open-commission-meeting>

“Restoring Internet Freedom” is on the agenda for the December 2017 Open Commission Meeting, which may be viewed via live webcast Thursday, December 14th at 10:30am.

A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN RELEASES OPEN LETTER TO FCC: NET NEUTRALITY PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS CORRUPTED BY "MASSIVE SCHEME"

<https://ag.ny.gov/press-release/ag-schneiderman-releases-open-letter-fcc-net-neutrality-public-comment-process>

As FCC Chairman Pai announced his plan to dismantle the net neutrality regulations that ensure a free and open internet, Attorney General Eric Schneiderman released an open letter regarding the massive scheme to corrupt the FCC's notice and comment process through the misuse of enormous numbers of real New Yorkers' and other Americans' identities.

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<http://niagarafallspublib.org/>

ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC SCHNEIDERMAN: FAKE COMMENTS

<https://ag.ny.gov/fakecomments>

New Yorkers can search this database to confirm if a fake comment to the FCC notice was submitted under his or her name.

LINKS FROM ORGANIZATIONS OPPOSING THE ORDER

ACLU: WHAT IS NET NEUTRALITY?

<https://www.aclu.org/issues/free-speech/internet-speech/what-net-neutrality>

FIGHT FOR THE FUTURE

<https://www.fightforthefuture.org/>

FREEPRESS SAVE THE INTERNET: NET NEUTRALITY: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW NOW

<https://www.savetheinternet.com/net-neutrality-what-you-need-know-now>

NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF RECENT NEWS STORIES (COMPILED DECEMBER 11, 2017)

ARS TECHNICA: COMCAST DELETED NET NEUTRALITY PLEDGE THE SAME DAY FCC ANNOUNCED REPEAL

<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2017/11/comcast-deleted-net-neutrality-pledge-the-same-day-fcc-announced-repeal/>

BUSINESS INSIDER: GOVERNMENT PROPOSED NEW RULES THAT WOULD LET INTERNET PROVIDERS BLOCK APPS AND CREATE FAST LANES — READ THE FULL PLAN

<http://www.businessinsider.com/fcc-releases-final-net-neutrality-proposal-2017-11>

The main difference from the current policy in Pai's proposed order is that broadband internet access would be classified under Title I of the Communications Act instead of under Title II — basically, ISPs would be "information services" instead of "public utilities."

This seemingly small change would allow ISPs like Comcast and Verizon to legally experiment with so-called fast lanes for internet traffic, in which they prioritize some apps and services over others. Theoretically, under these rules, an ISP could prioritize its own traffic or even block certain apps or services.

CNET: NET NEUTRALITY PROTESTORS TAKE TO THE STREETS

<https://www.cnet.com/news/net-neutrality-protesters-take-to-the-streets/>

FLICKR PHOTOS: DEC 7TH NET NEUTRALITY PROTESTS

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/141697942@No8/sets/72157689309670051/>

COMMON DREAMS: NET NEUTRALITY DEFENDERS PLAN MASS ONLINE PROTEST 48 HOURS BEFORE FCC VOTE

<https://www.commondreams.org/newswire/2017/12/11/net-neutrality-defenders-plan-mass-online-protest-48-hours-fcc-vote>

FORBES: RELIGIOUS LEADERS, CELEBRITIES CALL FOR NET NEUTRALITY AHEAD OF NATIONWIDE PROTESTS

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/janetwburns/2017/12/06/religious-leaders-celebrities-call-for-net-neutrality-ahead-of-nationwide-protests/#4b7eaff57660>

FORTUNE: NET NEUTRALITY EXPLAINED: WHAT IT MEANS (AND WHY IT MATTERS)

<http://fortune.com/2017/11/23/net-neutrality-explained-what-it-means-and-why-it-matters/>

THE NEW YORK TIMES: F.C.C. PLANS NET NEUTRALITY REPEAL IN A VICTORY FOR TELECOMS

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/21/technology/fcc-net-neutrality.html>

WASHINGTON POST: THE FCC'S NET NEUTRALITY PLAN MAY HAVE EVEN BIGGER RAMIFICATIONS IN LIGHT OF THIS OBSCURE COURT CASE

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-switch/wp/2017/12/06/the-fccs-net-neutrality-plan-may-have-even-bigger-ramifications-in-light-of-this-obscure-court-case/?utm_term=.53e49756ba18

LIBRARY SOURCES


OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS IN CONTEXT

For additional information about net neutrality, please consider using the database *Opposing Viewpoints in Context* to research the topic. Access this database by clicking the link for it on the following page:

https://nioga.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/default/?rm=ONLINE+DATASo%7C%7C%7C1%7C%7C%7C%7C%7C%7Ctrue

Then, begin typing 'net neutrality' into the top search bar. After completing your search, you are taken to a page with information from several sources. Everything included on the page may be clicked and viewed.

Net Neutrality



Protesters call for net neutrality and an open Internet outside City Hall in New York

Access to the Internet is now available to more than half of the world's population, and debate has raged for several years over whether it is legal to control its content and connection speeds. Providers of broadband, or high-speed Internet access, have the ability to slow the connection speeds they offer to users who might be researching better prices. They may also sell "priority access" at a premium to companies that provide a high volume of content, such as video-streaming services. Priority access may include higher speeds or clearer connections. Opponents of these practices contend that such tactics are unethical... [View More](#)

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