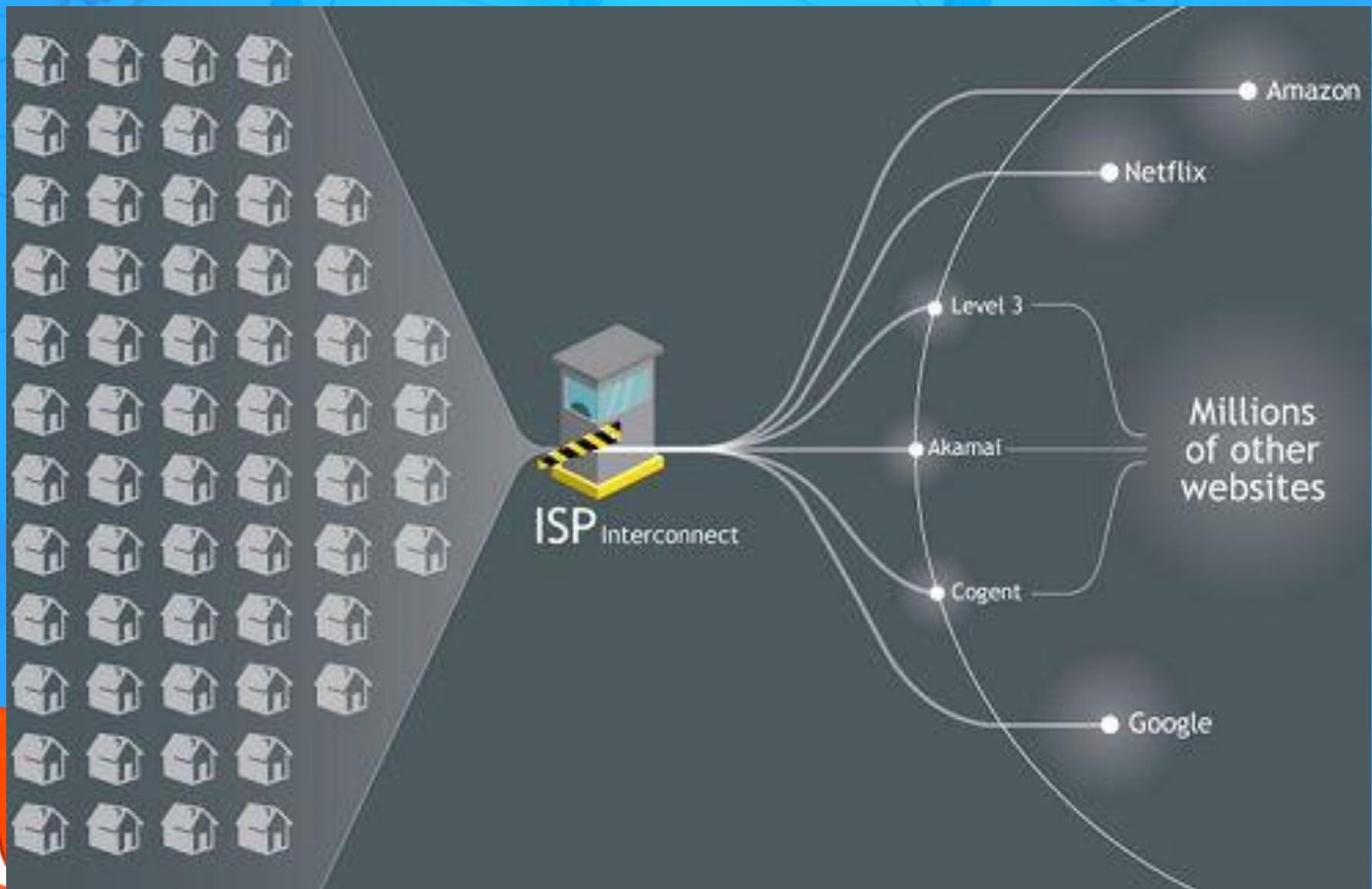
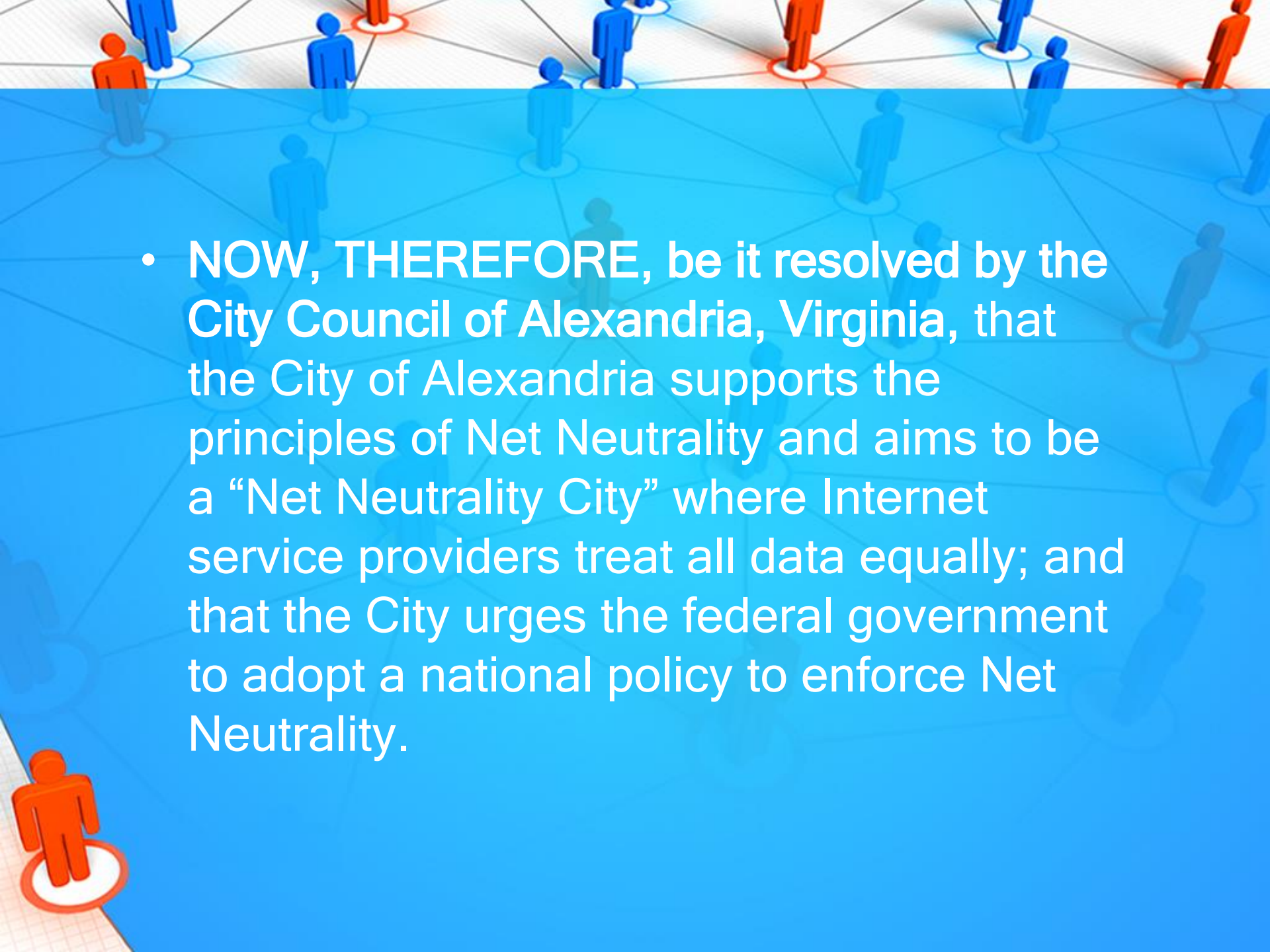


Alexandria  
IT Commission Net Neutrality  
discussion

June 26, 2018





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- **NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved by the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia, that the City of Alexandria supports the principles of Net Neutrality and aims to be a “Net Neutrality City” where Internet service providers treat all data equally; and that the City urges the federal government to adopt a national policy to enforce Net Neutrality.

A network diagram with blue and orange human figures connected by lines, set against a blue background. The figures are arranged in a circular pattern, with some highlighted in orange and others in blue. The background is a solid blue color with a faint grid pattern.

## “IT Commission supports the principles as layed out in the resolution (6/4/18)”

- Repeal of NN creates economic gatekeeper(s) in our internet-depend economy
- After June 12, Comcast\* will be able to legally throttle any Alexandria internet activity (economic, political). Not healthy for our economy or democracy
- 75% of communities have only one provider for 25/3 (including Alexandria)
- Competition alone is not the solution. Competition in cell phone industry did not stop APP blocking & data caps. (Documented violations by cellular & cable cos)

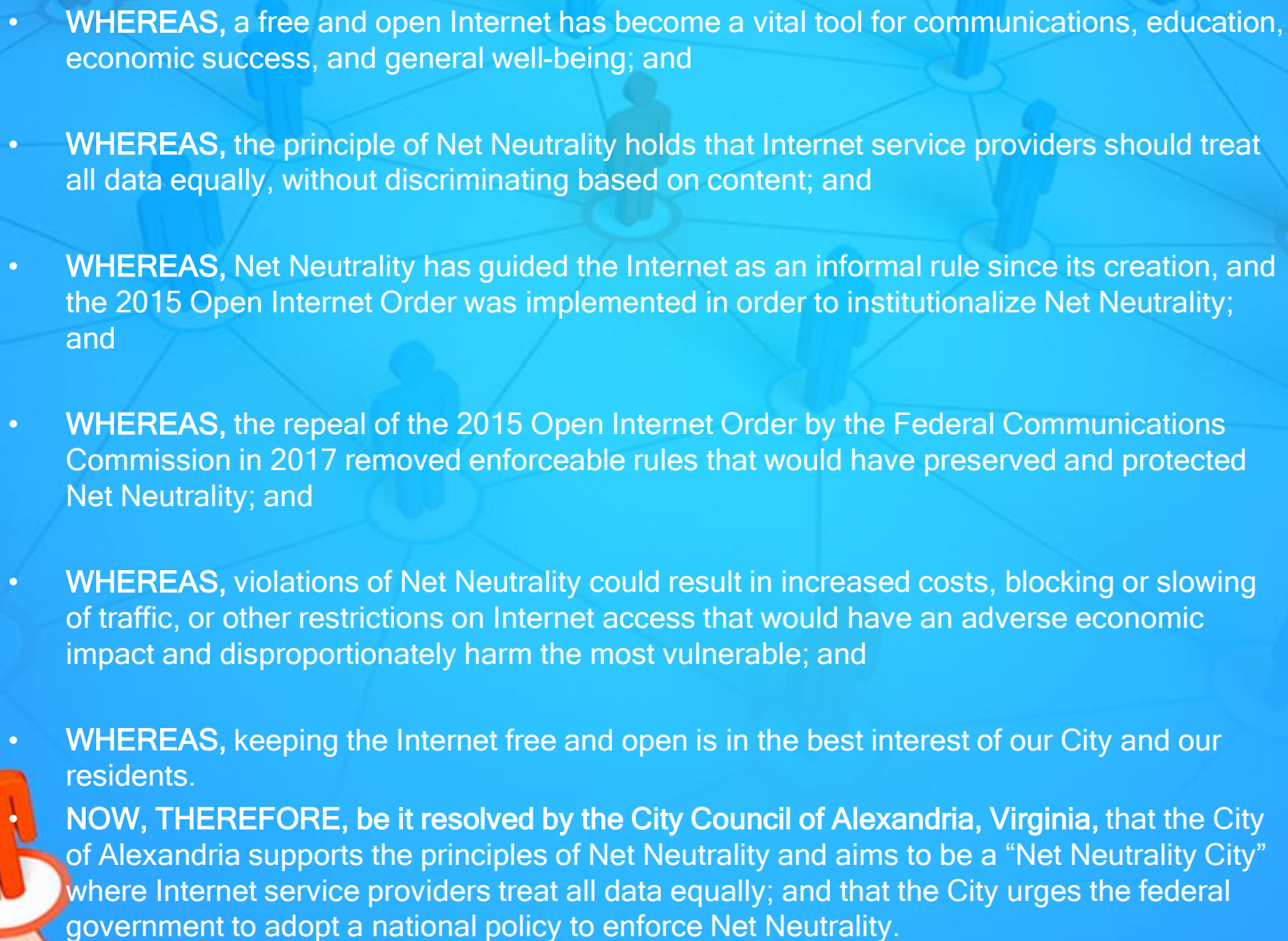
• \*September, 2018 per NBC merger conditions

A network diagram with blue and orange human figures connected by lines, set against a blue background with a grid pattern. The figures are arranged in a circular pattern at the top, with lines connecting them. The background is a solid blue color with a faint grid pattern. The text is white and centered in the upper half of the image.

## “IT Commission supports the principles as layed out in the resolution”

- NN creates competition & choice; Alexandria needs to attract pro net neutrality companies (muni fiber backbone)
- Repealing NN threatens “the guy in the garage” (startups). Alexandria needs to be a welcoming environment for small business
- Resolution language is “window dressing” - did not go far enough. *e.g.*, state legislation & executive orders limit state business to only companies who support NN; require carriers doing business with Alexandria to honor NN
- Dissenting voice: prefers competition to regulation; prefers laws not regulations.



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- **WHEREAS**, a free and open Internet has become a vital tool for communications, education, economic success, and general well-being; and
  - **WHEREAS**, the principle of Net Neutrality holds that Internet service providers should treat all data equally, without discriminating based on content; and
  - **WHEREAS**, Net Neutrality has guided the Internet as an informal rule since its creation, and the 2015 Open Internet Order was implemented in order to institutionalize Net Neutrality; and
  - **WHEREAS**, the repeal of the 2015 Open Internet Order by the Federal Communications Commission in 2017 removed enforceable rules that would have preserved and protected Net Neutrality; and
  - **WHEREAS**, violations of Net Neutrality could result in increased costs, blocking or slowing of traffic, or other restrictions on Internet access that would have an adverse economic impact and disproportionately harm the most vulnerable; and
  - **WHEREAS**, keeping the Internet free and open is in the best interest of our City and our residents.
  - **NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia, that the City of Alexandria supports the principles of Net Neutrality and aims to be a “Net Neutrality City” where Internet service providers treat all data equally; and that the City urges the federal government to adopt a national policy to enforce Net Neutrality.