

Resolution

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.