

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: South Robertson Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 11/21/2013

Type of NC Board Action: General Comments

Impact Information

Date: 09/25/2014

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 13-0953

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests that the City include provisions protecting and requiring net neutrality in the winning City-wide broadband service provider.

Additional Information: Passed by SORO NC with a vote of 16 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.



Council File: 13-0953

Community Impact Statement

As adopted by vote of the full SORO NC governing board

Yes: 16	No: 0	Abstain: 0	Recuse: 0
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Date of vote: 21 November 2013

Official Statement

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council requests that the City include provisions protecting and requiring net neutrality in the winning City-wide broadband service provider.

Additional information

The Los Angeles City Council is currently considering issuing a request for proposal (RFP) for free city-wide broadband internet services. The winning proposal would likely be a combination of fiber-optic (government offices and residences) and wifi (public spaces).

Over the past several years, major internet service providers (ISPs) have been campaigning the Federal government to be allowed to offer tiered internet service. In short, subscribers would find that some sites would load more quickly than others, either because the ISP has a business relationship with the site or that the subscriber is charged an additional fee for faster access to individual sites. For example, Comcast might throttle access to YouTube and speed up its own competing streaming video site.

Many believe that this would inhibit innovation and fracture the democratic nature of the web. It would also place the US at a distinct global disadvantage.

To date, the Federal government has protected the idea of a neutral internet, although its immediate future is far from certain. As a growing hub of internet-based services, LA should act to ensure it keeps its competitive advantage.

Submitted by: Doug Fitzsimmons

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