

President Obama's FCC wants to let greedy telecom corporations levy "market-based" tolls to send or receive content on the internet.

They call it their "fast lanes" proposal. It gives priority "lanes" to wealthy corporations like ABC-Disney, CBS-Viacom, NetFlix, HBO, ESPN, YouTube, Amazon, and Facebook, all of which can pay Comcast & other internet backbone owners millions for the privilege of reaching you. Since Comcast also owns NBC-Universal, it will reserve high speed capacity for its own content too.



It means broadcast radio stations that stream their content via the internet will have to pay up, or their listeners must pay to hear them.

It means internet radio, which has never made much money, will be over, since it will not be able to afford the tolls.

It means low cost phone providers like Vonage & Magik-Jack and all the makers of long distance discount phone cards must raise prices steeply to pay the tolls, or go out of business, because they all route their calls over the internet.

It means newspapers, magazines and online journalism of all kinds, along with the voices of scholars, small businesses, blogs and communities will quickly disappear, unable pay "fast lane" tolls. Opinions independent of the owners of corporate media will become difficult to publish and hard to find.

It means artists who sell their work over the internet will be forced to use just a few middlemen, like Amazon and Apple, which will take an even larger rake off the top and will possess nearly complete control over what is available.

It means greedy telecom companies will finally achieve their dream of being able to charge for "long distance" or "international" email, or to limit the number of emails you can send, forward or receive without additional tolls.

It means email listserves which send bulk email to customers, scholars, and interest groups of all kinds might be forced to pay tolls as well.

More than 3 million Americans told the FCC this is a bad idea before it was put on the table for a 60 day public comment period ending July 15.

But the FCC, owned by Comcast & the telecoms, just isn't listening. Neither are Congress & the White House. So let's shout louder. Let's give them something to listen to, at a

**Save the Internet Atlanta Town Hall Meeting
Tuesday July 8, 7-9 PM at
First Iconium Baptist Church
542 Moreland Ave SE, Atlanta, GA 30316**

Invited guests include Atlanta congressmen Hank Johnson, John Lewis & David Scott, none of whom are pledged to prevent these "market based" measures that will turn the internet into cable TV, and FCC Commissioners.

Come out and tell Congress & the FCC that cheap, universally available broadband internet ought to be a public utility, available to everybody.

Endorsed by Georgia Green Party, WRFG Radio, Atlanta International Action Center, Atlanta Community Masjid, People TV and many more...