

In all significant respects, the internet is a utility. My access to the internet is controlled, in part, by an agreement between my city government and the ISP, permitting the ISP access for installing their infrastructure. Access to and use of public assets is a significant benefit for an ISP. The quid pro quo in this circumstance is that the ISP should not determine for me which content I can or cannot access.

As a practical matter, city franchising systems already limit the Internet user's options, effectively creating monopolies or oligopolies. To further restrict access by limiting net neutrality creates opportunities for concentrating power in a manner contrary to public interest.