**DA 17-1197**

 **Released: December 12, 2017**

**FCC INFORMS PUBLIC OF OPTIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR OBSERVING**

**FCC OPEN MEETING ON DECEMBER 14, 2017**

The Federal Communications Commission will hold an Open Meeting on December 14, 2017, at which it will consider, among other items, an order in the *Restoring Internet Freedom* proceeding.[[1]](#footnote-2) Given the significant public interest in this item, this Public Notice highlights the ways in which the public can observe the open meeting and provides important information for members of the public who may wish to observe the meeting in person.

***In-person observation.*** The meeting will start at 10:30 a.m. in the Commission Meeting Room (CMR), Room TW-C305, at FCC headquarters on 445 12th Street S.W., Washington, D.C. **While the Open Meeting is open to the public, the FCC headquarters building is not open access, and all guests must check in with and be screened by FCC security at the main entrance on 12th Street.** The public should be aware of the following security procedures:

* Visitors must provide a state or federally issued photo ID in order to receive a visitor badge.
* Please allow additional time for security. On Open Meeting days, it is Commission policy to conduct a manual bag check of every visitor, in addition to standard visitor screening procedures, from the time the facility opens to the public until the open meeting concludes.
* Visitors to the Commission for the Open Meeting will be allowed entry to the CMR no earlier than 30 minutes prior to the 10:30 a.m. meeting start time (*i.e.*,10:00 a.m.).
* If the CMR reaches maximum capacity, remaining attendees will be seated, as long as space is available, in predesignated overflow room(s) with a video feed of the meeting.
* Because safety regulations require exit routes to be free and unobstructed, there will be no standing in the CMR except as necessary to conduct the meeting.
* To avoid disrupting the views of fellow meeting attendees, signs larger than 11 inches by 17 inches will not be permitted in the CMR or the overflow rooms. Signs that are 11 inches by 17 inches or smaller will be permitted as long as the holder keeps the sign in front of his or her body so as not to obstruct anyone else’s views.

***Observation via the Internet.*** All FCC Open Meetings are streamed live at www.fcc.gov/live and include closed captioning. The full webcast of the meeting will also be archived and viewable as soon as is feasible after the meeting, at <https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2017/12/december-2017-open-commission-meeting>. The Open Meeting can also be followed on social media with #OpenMtgFCC.

***Observation rights of the public.*** The FCC has long-standing rules that protect the public’s right to observe Commission meetings. Observation includes attending, listening, and taking notes but does not include participating in the meeting or addressing the Commission.[[2]](#footnote-3) Actions that purposely interfere or attempt to interfere with the commencement or conduct of the meeting, or inhibit the audience’s ability to observe or listen to the meeting, including attempts by audience members to address the Commission while the meeting is in progress, are not permitted. Any person(s) engaging in such behavior will be asked to leave the building, and anyone who refuses to leave voluntarily will be escorted from the building.[[3]](#footnote-4)

***News media.*** Members of the news media are welcome to attend the meeting and will be provided reserved seating and access to a mult box on a first-come, first-served basis.  Press may also direct questions to the Office of Media Relations (OMR) including questions about credentialing: MediaRelations@fcc.gov. Additional information can be found at <https://www.fcc.gov/media-relations>.

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1. *See FCC to Hold Open Commission Meeting Thursday, December 14, 2017,* Public Notice (rel. Dec. 7, 2017), *available at* <http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db1207/DOC-348134A1.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. *See* 47 CFR § 0.602(b). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. *Id. See also* 41 CFR §§ 102-74.385, 102-74.390 (regulations governing conduct on federal property). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)