

NETWORK ECONOMICS

# Paid Exits

## Building Sustainable Network Revenue

Privacy-preserving premium bandwidth, exit operator rewards, and \$ANYONE utility.



# Overview

Anyone Protocol is introducing a paid exits model designed to create sustainable revenue for network operators while keeping the network free and open by default. Payment does not gate access. Free users continue to use the network as they do today, while Premium users receive priority service, initially through priority bandwidth at exits and potentially later through multipath capabilities for higher throughput.

Paid usage creates a direct link between network demand, exit operator revenue, and \$ANYONE. Exit operators earn \$ANYONE based on usage, while scarce locations can receive stronger incentives. Crypto-native users can pay directly in \$ANYONE, and fiat subscription revenue can be used to purchase \$ANYONE, connecting real external revenue to token demand.

Privacy is preserved through blind-signed credentials that separate payment from subsequent network activity. The design draws on privacy architectures used by networks such as Nym and aims to combine Mullvad-style payment privacy with conventional subscription convenience. The same payment rail also supports machine-native demand, allowing AI agents and automated systems to purchase access programmatically in \$ANYONE. Wuzzy's crawler fleet is currently expected to be an early machine-scale user.

## 1. Free and Premium

Anyone Protocol uses a simple two-tier model: Free and Premium. Free access remains the default. Users can continue using the network without payment, an account, or a credential.

Premium does not unlock access to the network. Instead, it buys priority. Initially, Premium traffic receives higher priority in exit bandwidth scheduling. Over time, this can extend to capabilities such as Conflux multipath, where additional paths can provide genuinely higher throughput.

This avoids the supply problem created by fixed paid-exit quotas. Under a model where only the first set number of exits in a country can earn, additional operators have little incentive to join and can undermine the economics of existing exits. Priority pricing removes that cliff: new exits can continue entering the network, while pricing can respond to scarcity in specific countries.

For users, the distinction stays simple: Free works by default; Premium receives priority service.

## 2. Creating a Network Economy for Exits

Paid exits create an economic link between network use, exit operators, and \$ANYONE.

Premium users can pay through conventional subscriptions or directly with \$ANYONE. Fiat subscription revenue is designed to be used to purchase \$ANYONE, while exit operators are paid in \$ANYONE based on usage. This connects real external revenue to network demand rather than relying only on token emissions.

Exit rewards can also respond to supply conditions. Countries with limited exit capacity can carry higher pricing multipliers, directing more revenue toward locations where additional infrastructure is most valuable. Guard and middle relays remain on the existing reward model.

## 3. Payment Without Identity

Premium payments are designed so they cannot be linked to subsequent network activity. Purchases are converted into blind-signed credentials, separating the act of paying from the act of using the network.

The exit only learns that a valid credential is being presented, not who purchased it. Other relays do not need to know whether a user is Free or Premium. For crypto purchases, the credential issuer is reachable from inside the network, so the buyer's IP address does not reach the issuer.

This follows the same general privacy-preserving approach used by networks such as Nym, with the goal of combining Mullvad-style payment privacy with the convenience of App Store and Google Play subscriptions.

## 4. Free Access Remains the Default

Free access remains unchanged by design. Users do not need a credential, account, phone number, or payment to use the network. Premium is separated from Free through exit-side scheduling, not by restricting access for unpaid users.

If consumer-scale adoption eventually introduces abuse beyond what the open network sees today, Anyone already has a contingency available: proof-of-work metering for free access. The mechanism is based on the same approach Tor shipped in 2023, and the solver already exists in Anyone's forked client.

Importantly, this is not part of the launch model. It is a reserve mechanism that can be activated later if needed.

## 5. Built on Proven Network Architecture

Paid exits build on mechanisms already present in Anyone's Tor 0.4.8-based stack rather than introducing an entirely new networking model.

Premium priority can extend the existing EWMA/KIST scheduling system with a paid weighting. Tor's proof-of-work defense is already available in the fork as a contingency mechanism, while Conflux multipath provides a path toward genuinely higher Premium throughput in future.

Because Anyone operates its own directory authorities, pricing and priority parameters can also be adjusted as live network settings, allowing the economics of the service to evolve without requiring a new app release.

## 6. Machine-Native Demand

The same payment infrastructure also supports AI agents and automated systems. Unlike human users, machines do not need App Store subscriptions or account-based flows. They can use machine-payable, x402-style flows to pay programmatically in \$ANYONE, receive bearer credentials, and consume paid exit capacity directly.

This is well suited to workloads that need programmatic egress, geographic diversity, and payment without a human in the loop. Because machine demand can run 24/7, it can also make use of off-peak capacity, helping provide a steadier revenue base for exit operators.

Wuzzy's crawler fleet is currently expected to be an early machine-scale user of the paid exit system.

## 7. Implementation Architecture

The paid exits model depends on a small set of core components: a credential issuer, client and relay changes in Anyone's existing fork, and payment rails for purchases and operator payouts. Much of the underlying networking functionality already exists in the current stack.

TOON sits only at the financial edges of the system, handling purchases in and exit payouts out. It does not sit in the traffic path, keeping payment infrastructure separate from network traffic itself.

For fiat subscriptions, platform fees are an expected cost of reaching mainstream users, with the App Store cut estimated at approximately 15–30%. Crypto-native purchases can use the direct \$ANYONE payment rail.

## 8. Conclusion

Paid exits give Anyone Protocol a way to connect real network demand with sustainable operator revenue without compromising the open nature of the network. Free access remains available by default, while Premium creates a higher-value service layer for users who want better performance.

At the same time, the model creates direct utility for \$ANYONE through user payments, fiat subscription revenue flowing into \$ANYONE demand, and exit operator payouts. The same infrastructure can also serve automated and machine-scale customers, extending the opportunity beyond traditional VPN users.

The result is a model where privacy, operator incentives, and token demand reinforce each other, built on network mechanisms that already exist within Anyone's current architecture.