

NETWORK ECONOMICS

Paid Circuits

Building Sustainable Network Revenue

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



Overview

Anyone Protocol is introducing a paid circuits model designed to create sustainable revenue for network operators while keeping the network free and open by default. Free use of the network continues as it does today and payment does not gate access. Premium users receive priority service, initially through priority bandwidth at exits and 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 their share of tickets collected, so more efficient, higher-throughput exits closer to clearnet destinations earn more as demand concentrates around them. Regional multipliers can be applied when tickets are redeemed to strengthen incentives in selected locations without varying prices for end users. Users do not need to interact with crypto to access Premium. They can pay through familiar fiat subscriptions, while crypto-native users can pay directly in \$ANYONE. Fiat subscription revenue can then be used to purchase \$ANYONE, connecting conventional payments to token demand.

Privacy is preserved through blind-signed credentials that separate payment from subsequent network activity. Each purchase is converted into a credential that can later be presented to an exit without revealing who purchased it, while still offering the convenience of a standard subscription. The same payment rail also supports machine-native demand, allowing AI agents and automated systems to purchase access programmatically in \$ANYONE. An agentic use case, Arweave-backed Wuzzy search, is already a design partner for machine-scale usage.

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. In a future release, premium traffic will be able to use Conflux multipath circuits for higher throughput.

This model 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.

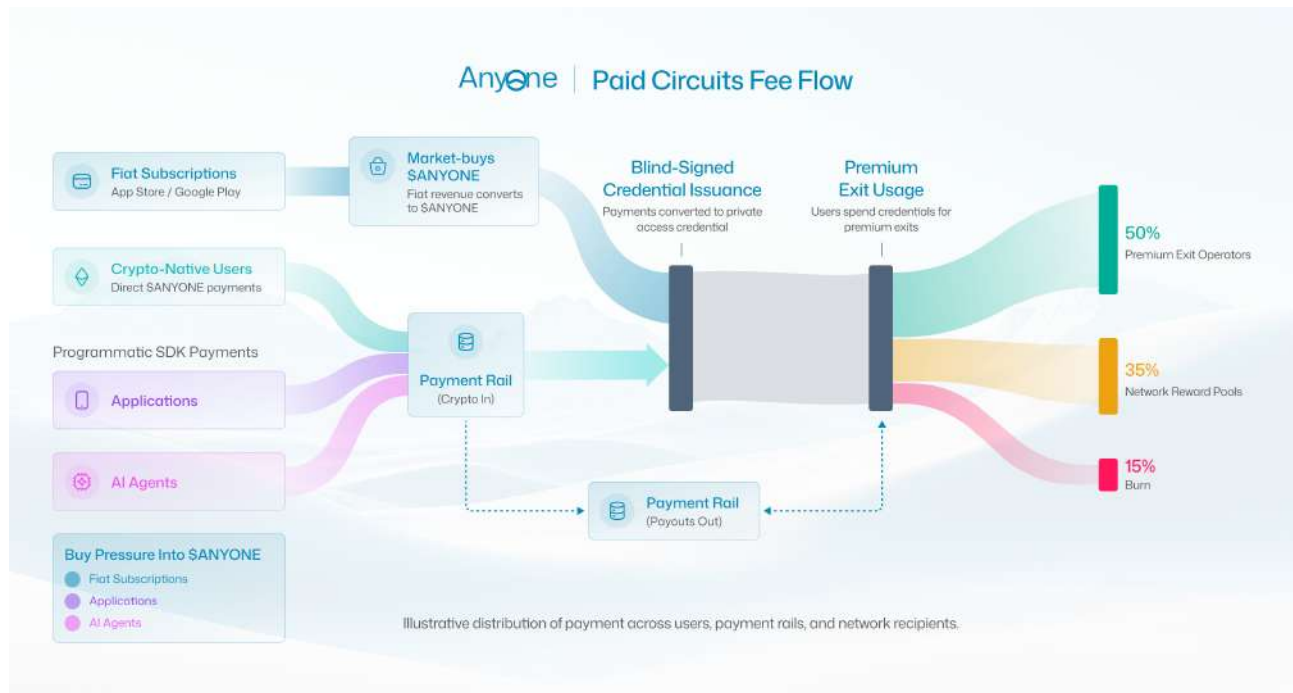


2. Creating a Network Economy for Exits

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

Premium payments converge on \$ANYONE before entering the network economy. Direct crypto payments arrive in \$ANYONE, while fiat subscription revenue is converted through market purchases. Premium exit usage then determines operator rewards, which are paid in \$ANYONE based on usage. This creates a direct economic path from paid network demand to operator compensation.

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.



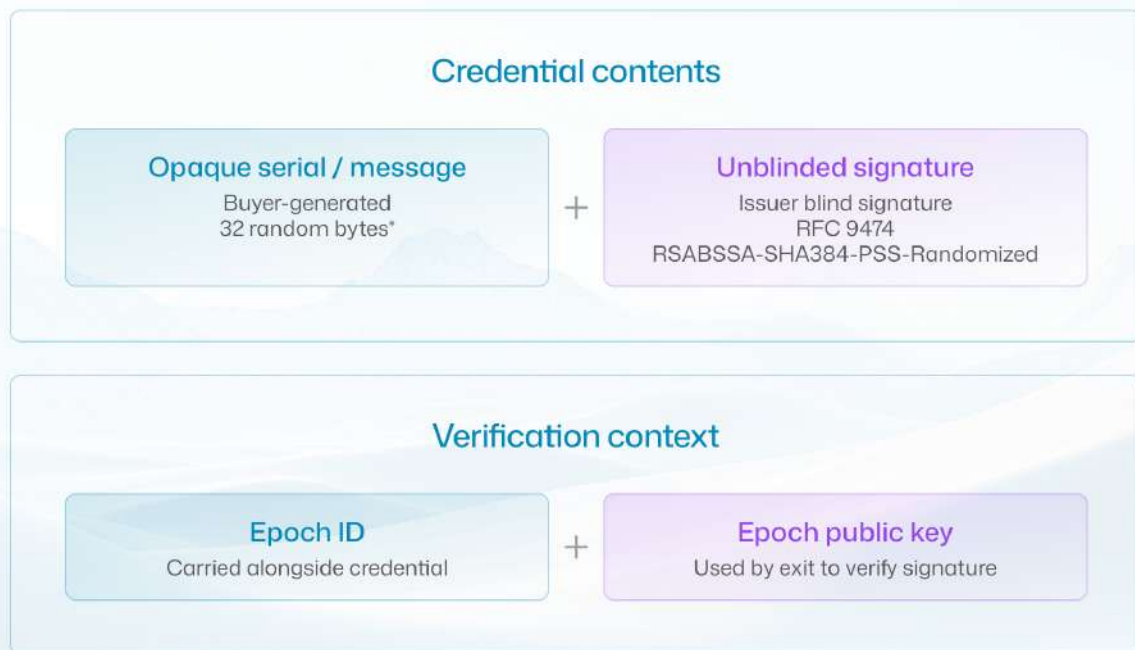
3. Payment Without Identity

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.

Anyone | Blind-Signed Credential Structure



Issuer sees only the blinded serial during issuance;
the exit verifies the finished credential without learning who purchased it.

4. Free Access Remains the Default

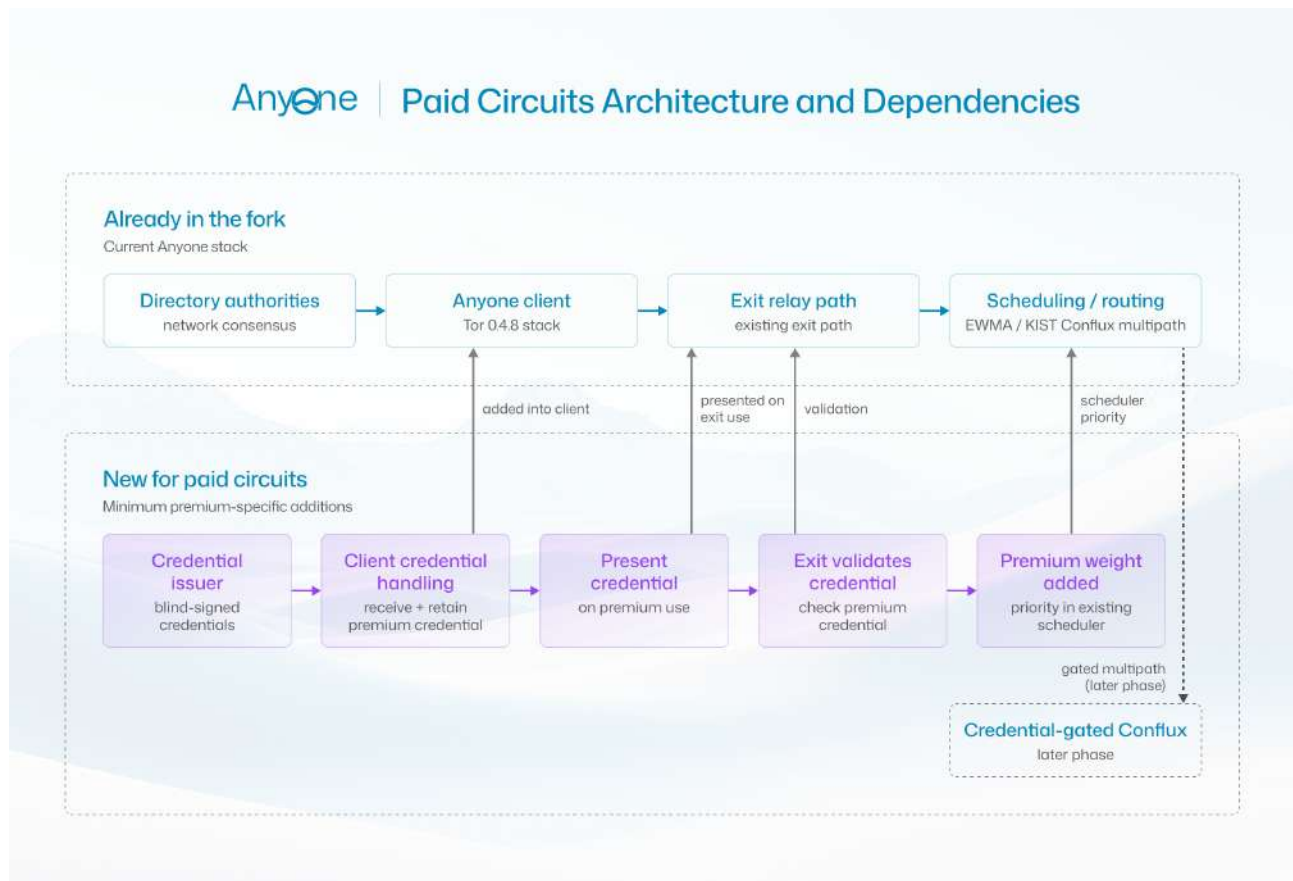
Free access remains unchanged by design. Users do not need a credential, account, phone number, or payment to use the network. Premium is separated from Free through exit-side scheduling, not by restricting access for unpaid users.

5. Built on Proven Network Architecture

Paid circuits 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. 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 credentials, and consume paid circuit 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. It also strengthens network security because privacy relies on hiding in the crowd, both when using the network and when paying for it. More traffic and more payments make individual user harder to single out.

Wuzzy, a decentralized search system built on Arweave and AO, uses autonomous crawlers to index content across the web and Arweave Permaweb. Its existing crawler fleet will act as an early design partner for machine-scale Paid circuit usage.

7. Implementation Architecture

The paid circuits model depends on a small set of core components: a credential issuer, updated to the anon client, and payment rails for purchases and operator payouts. Much of the underlying networking functionality already exists in the current stack.

TOON Protocol nodes sit at the financial edges of the system as hidden services, handling purchases in and exit payouts out. It does not gate the user's traffic, 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. Roadmap

Paid circuits implementation is expected to span Q4 2026 and Q1 2027. Roughly half the required implementation and integration work is expected to ship in Q4, with the remainder completing in Q1 ahead of a full public launch.

9. Conclusion

Paid circuits 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.