Carrying Neighbor Discovery
Information over DHCP

draft-krishnan-dhc-ndc-option-00

Suresh Krishnan
dhcwg@IETF70
Background

- IPv6 Neighbor discovery options, in addition to being used for Neighbor Discovery, are used to convey some forms of network configuration information to hosts.
- Centrally managed networks may not wish to configure their routers to advertise these pieces of information and might use a DHCP server instead to distribute these parameters.
- Traditionally, these parameters have been independently developed and standardized for DHCP and for IPv6 ND.
Why?

- Eliminate duplicate standardization efforts
  - Since the same parameters need to be distributed using DHCP and IPv6 ND, duplicate standardization efforts in IETF result e.g. Prefix Information

- Reduce implementation complexity on hosts
  - Since the DHCP and ND options for the same parameter can be of varying formats, two sets of code need to be written to process them on the hosts.
How?

- A DHCP option called NDC that can be used to directly carry any neighbor discovery option.
- Can carry multiple ND options in a single NDC option.
- Client processes the ND options as if it had received them through a Router Advertisement.
- Highly likely that the code for processing these options is shared between the RA based delivery and DHCP based delivery of these options.
Format of the option

```
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-
| OPTION_NDC | Option Length |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-
| OPT1_Type   | OPT1_Length  |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-
| .         | .           |
| .         | .           |
| .         | .           |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-
| OPTn_Type   | OPTn_Length  |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-
| .         | .           |
| .         | .           |
| .         | .           |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-
```
Applicability

- Theoretically, it is possible to carry any neighbor discovery option using the NDC option.
- This does not always make sense since there are neighbor discovery options that are not related to configuration.
- The NDC option SHOULD NOT be used to carry neighbor discovery options that are not related to configuration.
Conclusion

- More ND options being defined that may require DHCP based delivery as well
  - draft-woodyatt-ald-01
  - draft-soliman-firewall-control-00s
- Questions?
- Adoption as wg item?