



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

People serving people.

Robert Beaumont

DIRECTOR

July 30, 2013

Board of Supervisors  
Marin County Civic Center  
San Rafael, CA 94903

Administration

PO Box 4186

San Rafael, CA 94913-4186

415 473 6528 T

415 473 3799 F

415 473 3232 TTY

CRS Dial 711

[www.marincounty.org/pw](http://www.marincounty.org/pw)

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance prohibiting U-turns at the Miller Creek Road/Marinwood Avenue intersection and at adjacent intersections; Marinwood.

Dear Board Members:

**RECOMMENDATION:** Read ordinance by title only and schedule a merit hearing for August 6, 2013 at 10:30 AM.

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**SUMMARY:** California Vehicle Code section 22113 allows local authorities to prohibit turn movements at any intersection or between designated intersections. During the morning commute, many motorists often exit the southbound Miller Creek Road (Marinwood) off ramp to re-enter the southbound Miller Creek Road (Marinwood) on-ramp to bypass congestion on US 101. This behavior is often called freeway queue jumping and is discouraged by Caltrans because of the additional traffic conflicts of through traffic crossing Miller Creek Road, additional merging downstream onto the freeway increasing the bottleneck, and impacts to the local community. The influx of regional traffic on local roads and intersections has caused concerns regarding traffic operations, safety, and traffic flow for the local community. Concerns include the following motorists actions; 1) darting straight across Miller Creek Road in front of oncoming traffic, 2) making U-turns at the Miller Creek Road/Marinwood Avenue intersection often blocking the intersection, and 3) abruptly merging across Miller Creek Road from the southbound free right turn lane to get to the left turn pocket.

Staff coordinated with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to identify viable measures to address this issue. Turn restrictions during the morning hours (6:00am to 10:00am) were identified as the best short term means of reducing the freeway queue jumping. The following turn restrictions are proposed: 1) Left-turn only restriction at the southbound US 101 ramp intersection/Miller Creek Road intersection (by Caltrans), 2) U-turn prohibition at the westbound approach of the Miller Creek Road/Marinwood Avenue intersection, 3) U-turn prohibition at the northbound approach of the Marinwood Avenue/Blackstone Drive intersection and 4) U-turn prohibition on southbound Marinwood Avenue between Miller Creek Road and the northern most driveway of APN 164-471-64 (Marinwood Market). Caltrans will install a left turn only sign at the southbound US 101 ramp intersection/Miller Creek Road intersection. The other three locations are under Marin County's jurisdiction. The proposed turn restrictions were presented and discussed at a community meeting on April 24, 2013. The proposed restrictions were also posted on the County's website

and public comments taken until May 17. Several residents expressed that if the turn restrictions were implemented traffic would be diverted to Las Gallinas Avenue. To reduce this impact, the CHP has agreed to vigilantly enforce the portions of Las Gallinas Avenue that have been certified for 25 mph speed limits. CHP has also agreed to enforce the proposed turn restrictions.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** This action will result in the installation and ongoing maintenance of signs and markings. Existing funds are budgeted and available in Road Fund 20100. Cost Center 410061300, Commitment Item # 5220310. There is no impact to the General Fund by this action.

|                     |                          |                       |                                     |     |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----|
| <b>REVIEWED BY:</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Department of Finance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
|                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | County Counsel        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
|                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Human Resources       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Goralka  
Senior Civil Engineer, P.E, T.E.

c: Captain Shon L. Harris, Commander, CHP  
Sergeant Gilbert Osuna, CHP  
Undersheriff Mike Ridgeway  
Deputy Rich Johnson, Marin County Sheriff's Office  
Officer Nate Campbell, Marin CHP Radar Coordinator, California Highway Patrol

