



COMMUTER ADVISORY

Date: September 4, 2014

District: 4 - Oakland

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. 101 in Sonoma County Ramp Meters to go Green September 9, 2014 Watch For New Signals at On-Ramps

SONOMA COUNTY – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will activate ramp metering on U.S. 101 in Sonoma County beginning September 9, 2014.

What is Ramp Metering?

Ramp metering is a traffic management strategy using traffic signals and accompanying equipment and techniques to manage on-ramp flow on the freeway system. It is intended to improve the safety of vehicle merging and the flow of traffic on the highway.

Motorists at newly activated ramp locations may experience operational delays during the first few days of operation. Caltrans staff will monitor the metered locations and make adjustments, and then fine tune the metering operations.

Southbound Activation

In the first stage of ramp meter activation in Sonoma County, meters at 25 on-ramps will be activated on southbound U.S. 101 from Old Redwood Highway north of Arata Lane in Windsor to Pepper Road north of Petaluma.

- Beginning Tuesday, September 9, 2014, on-ramp meters will be set to solid green during commute times to alert drivers to the new driving condition.
- On Tuesday, September 16, on-ramp meters will cycle through red and green during morning commute hours, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. On-ramp meters will remain green during afternoon commute hours, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- On Tuesday, September 23, metering lights during the afternoon commute will also cycle through red and green. Metering lights on southbound U.S. 101 will continue to be operational Monday through Friday, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the morning, and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the afternoon.

Drivers entering U.S. 101 where on-ramp meters are activated should stop at red and wait until the metering light turns green to enter U.S. 101. Caltrans will monitor traffic





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conditions and operate ramp meters as appropriate.

Northbound Activation

In the next stage of ramp meter activation in Sonoma County, meters at 18 on-ramps will be activated on northbound U.S. 101 from Gravenstein Highway in Cotati to Shiloh Road in Windsor.

- Beginning Tuesday, October 7, 2014, on-ramp meters on northbound U.S. 101 will be set to solid green during commute times to alert drivers to the new driving condition.
- On Tuesday, October 14, 2014, on-ramp meters will cycle through red and green during the morning commute hours, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. On-ramp metering lights will remain green during afternoon commute hours from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- On Tuesday, October 21, 2014, on-ramp meters during the afternoon commute will also cycle through red and green. On-ramp metering lights on northbound U.S. 101 will continue to be operational Monday through Friday, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the morning, and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the afternoon.

Additional Information

Many of the on-ramps in Sonoma County have a carpool lane marked with a diamond. The carpool lane restriction for an on-ramp is 24-hours per day, seven days a week.

For more information, go to our new Caltrans U.S. 101 Sonoma County Ramp Metering webpage at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/101sonomametering/> .

The Ramp Metering Information Line is: 510-286-4531. Or follow us on Twitter at: <https://mobile.twitter.com/CaltransD4>

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