

To whom it may concern:

As a long-time motorcyclist (35 years) that grew up in California (where lane filtering is legal), I understand the pros and cons of lane filtering.

I am actually in favor of limited lane filtering. I feel it should be legal in cities and towns with high-density populations, but feel it should not be allowed on freeways or interstates.

My reasons are as follows:

Pros:

- + In areas where the speed limit is at or below 35-40 miles per hour, it can greatly reduce congestion (especially in urban areas and cities)
- + Filtering provides additional safety to motorcyclists/scooterists who are waiting at intersections, with reduced risks of being rear ended by inattentive drivers.
- + Motorists (once they see the benefits of lane filtering) will be encouraged to transition to high-MPG/low carbon footprint scooters or motorcycles, further reducing traffic and emissions.

Cons:

- Motorcyclists/scooterists and automobile drivers will be in a closer proximity to each other and this may lead an increase of negative interactions
- Some motorcyclists/scooterists may abuse the privilege and act in a reckless manner (this is why I recommend starting with lower speed/higher density areas first). Most of the unsafe behavior I have witnessed occurred at higher rates of speed on freeways and highways.
- Traffic violations may be tougher to enforce because of the increased mobility of motorcyclists/scooterists

Overall, especially with continued growth of our urban areas, I think it's a positive thing. Over the years, increased safety measures have been given to bicyclists. It would be nice to extend those to scooterists/motorcyclists.