

I have been a motorcycle rider and regular motorcycle commuter for years, living in Washington, California, and now Oregon. As I am sure you know, California is the only state in America that allows for lane filtering and the difference in my safety between Washington and California was remarkable. Being able to lane filter is not only about convenience, it is also something that adds to overall safety of motorcyclists. We are always at risk of someone not noticing our presence, especially with people changing lanes at the last minute before a light or ramming us from behind when stopped. Lane filtering allows the motorcyclist to be out of the direct zone of danger. Lesser to the safety concerns, there is a strong convenience for motorcyclists and cars in having lane filtering. Motorcycles by and large have quicker acceleration than cars meaning the filtering does not slow down car traffic and allows motorcycles to move through congestion faster.

Traffic in and around Portland is only going to get worse with the ever-growing population in the city. Anything that allows traffic to flow more freely should be incentivized. Lane splitting and lane filtering will improve congestion throughout the population centers and make life easier for everyone involved.