

Gautho, Julia

From: Ron Burke <rburke477@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 10:36 PM
To: City Council
Subject: 26 Feb 2026 Agenda item 8B

Hello, Council members,

Thank you for considering removing the no right turn on red light sign on Capitola Road westbound at 41st Avenue.

Placement of this sign is understandable, with the addition of the 'green zone' for bicyclists, which pushes back the limit line for vehicles westbound, preventing a clear sight line to the left. But the downsides to this green zone far out-weigh its benefits.

1. Bicyclists do not use the green zone. Only once have I seen a cyclist at the intersection in the green zone. As a cyclist, I would not feel safe with vehicles lined up behind me rushing out when the light turns green. That's why we have bike lanes. It's far too dangerous to mix motor vehicles with cyclists in the same lane of traffic, especially on an arterial street.
2. The queue to wait for a green light to turn right may require 2-3 light cycles before a right turn is permitted. It takes just one person walking across 41st Ave to hold up most of the green light time, waiting for the pedestrian to safely cross. I have witnessed a queue backing up to 42nd Ave, the first street back, in a line of approximately 10-12 vehicles.
3. Astute drivers on approach often see the red light, so they turn right northbound on 42nd Avenue - a residential street - speeding through the neighborhood. Alternately, drivers will turn into the Wells Fargo / Whole Foods parking lot seeking to bypass the wait time at unsafe speeds for a parking lot where pedestrians cross to the bank ATM machines.
4. Air pollutants are unnecessarily emitted from tail pipes from a line of awaiting vehicles - with nearly every light change cycle.

Prudence dictates that the no right turn on red sign be removed and commensurately the green zone for bicyclists is removed. Cyclists do not need their own zone to safely cross 41st Ave.

As a suggestion to prevent such further lapses in judgement, I suggest a citizen group provide feedback to any future improvements before they are approved and constructed, saving us all both time and funds.

Ron Burke