



Caltrans State of California • Department of Transportation

Traffic Advisory

Date: August 17, 2023

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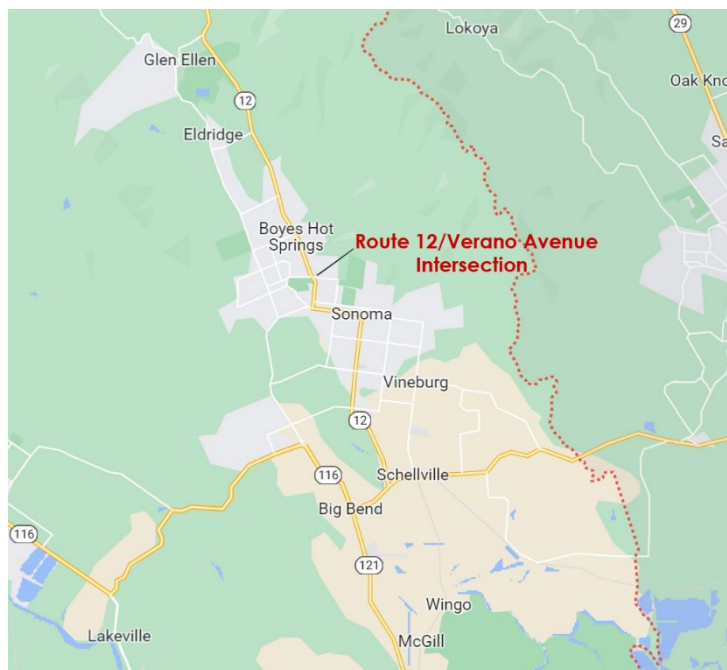
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caltrans to Change Signalization at Route 12/Verano Avenue Intersection in the "Springs" Area of Sonoma County

Signalization update on Wednesday, August 23, will halt all motorized traffic when pedestrians press crosswalk button

SONOMA COUNTY – Caltrans will change traffic light signalization at State Route 12 (SR-12) and Verano Avenue intersection on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, in the Springs area of Sonoma County, implementing what traffic engineers call an "all phase" pedestrian timing pattern where all motorized traffic will be halted by red lights when a pedestrian activates the pedestrian signal. In addition to the typical signals, Caltrans will install electronic "No Right on Red" signs to prohibit right turns after the pedestrian signal is activated.

Several pedestrian versus vehicle collisions in recent years prompted concern about pedestrian safety at the intersection. In response, Caltrans and the County of Sonoma made several modifications to enhance safety at the crossing. Still, the most significant changes will come when the signal timing is changed next week, and when a left-turn lane is installed on eastbound Verano Avenue in a separate project two years later.



Caltrans held a public meeting in June 2023 to obtain public comment on two signalization options. Also, the public could voice their opinion through the Caltrans project webpage.



The split-phase option would implement exclusive phases for motorists and pedestrians on westbound and eastbound Verano, eliminating the conflict between left-turning traffic and pedestrians.

The other option, called the "all phase," is a more restrictive option for motorists but safer for pedestrians. After analyzing comments made online and at the public meeting and conferring with local government, Caltrans decided to implement the "all phase" option.

This week, Caltrans will install the electronic "No Right on Red" signs and roll out portable electronic message signs to inform the public of the upcoming signalization change.

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