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## PUBLIC INPUT BEING SOUGHT ON POSSIBLE SACRAMENTO SCHEDULE CHANGES

Yuba-Sutter Transit's Sacramento service was last adjusted in October 2015 with a number of minor schedule changes and the conversion of a supplemental schedule to a seventh daily afternoon Highway 99 schedule. Since that time, Sacramento ridership has dropped by 14 percent (FY 2015 through FY 2018) though it has trended up a bit since January 2018.

Due to the much larger replacement buses that went into service this summer, plenty of seats are available on 18 of 22 daily schedules so we are now considering opportunities to reduce operating costs as well as better position the service to attract new passengers. This could include the consolidation of some schedules and adjustments to others that may result in an increase in the number of schedules operated during the peak commute hours of 6:00-9:00 a.m. and 3:00-6:00 p.m.

To start the process, we are seeking input from anyone with an interest in this service on what schedule changes, if any, might be desired. To participate, simply submit your suggestions to info@yubasuttertransit.com. Be as specific as possible (e.g., "Adjust the 7th afternoon Highway 99 schedule to arrive downtown 15 minutes later" or "Advance the 1st Midday bus to arrive downtown at 8:30 a.m.") and if you use our Sacramento service even occasionally, please let us know how often you ride each week and what morning and afternoon schedules you typically use. Whether you now use our service or not, please let us know how your suggested changes might impact your future use.

Your input will help us develop alternative schedule scenarios and recommendations for more formal public feedback and possible implementation next year. For regular updates, make sure that you are registered on our website under "Stay Informed" to receive future Sacramento Service Alerts.

Please email info@yubasuttertransit.com or call (530) 634-6880 if you have any questions.

# DISCOUNT YOUTH, SENIOR & DISABLED MONTHLY PASS PROGRAM EXTENDED

The Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD) has approved a grant to extend Yuba-Sutter Transit's popular discount monthly bus pass program for area youth, seniors and persons with disabilities. The current program reduces the cost of each discount monthly pass (regularly priced at \$15 a month) to just \$5 and the new grant will make it possible to continue this \$10 monthly subsidy for another twelve months through at least March 2020.

This highly successful program has been in existence since 2005 when the monthly local fixed route youth pass (ages 5 – 18) was first offered. It has been expanded over time to include monthly senior passes (age 65 and over) in 2013 and monthly disabled passes in 2014. All three rural routes were added to the program for all discount fare categories in 2016. Yuba-Sutter Transit expects to sell 12,000 discount monthly passes and provide 300,000 passenger trips to discount monthly pass holders during this next program cycle.

For more information on the discount monthly bus pass program and how to get your discount photo Connect Card identification card which is required for all discount monthly passes, contact the Administrative Office at (530) 634-6880 or at info@yubasuttertransit.com.



# CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

All of us at Yuba-Sutter Transit wish you and yours a joyous Christmas and New Year's holiday season. Service will not be operated and the office will be closed on **Tuesday**, **December 25**<sup>th</sup> and **Tuesday**, **January 1**<sup>st</sup> in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day.

Service will operate as scheduled on all other dates around the holidays, but the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office will be closed on Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

#### NEW DIAL-A-RIDE & RURAL ROUTE BUSES NOW ON ORDER

At their October meeting, the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors authorized the replacement of ten 16 passenger 2009 model buses that have well exceeded their useful life. Like the buses being replaced, the new buses will be used primarily for our Dial-A-Ride and rural route services, but they will also be used to back up the local fixed route system as necessary.

Nearly identical to the six small buses that were purchased in 2014, the new Dial-A-Ride buses will be the first gasoline powered buses in Yuba-Sutter Transit's fleet in over 15 years as diesel is no longer an option on this class of vehicle. These new buses, which are now expected to be in service by April, should significantly improve the comfort and reliability of our specialized services.

#### **FARE, STOP & SECURITY TIPS**

CHECK YOUR CONNECT CARD CASH BALANCE WHEN YOU BOARD THE BUS — When you tap your Connect Card to pay your fare, make it a practice to check your remaining cash balance which is displayed on the tap device screen. If you run out of money on your card, you will be required to make up the difference in cash. Avoid this embarrassing situation by checking your cash balance each time you board.

#### **DOWNTOWN SACRAMENTO BUS STOP MOVE** -

Regional Transit's former bus stop on 15<sup>th</sup> Street between J and K Streets that was also used by Yuba-Sutter Transit's Sacramento schedules has moved about a half block south to the southwest corner of 15<sup>th</sup> & K Streets. We apologize for any confusion, but this change occurred the day before Thanksgiving without our knowledge.

PARK & RIDE SECURITY — We are aware of several recent vehicle break-ins at the Plumas Lake and McGowan Parkway Park & Ride Lot. While such vandalism can occur anytime and anywhere, here are a few tips to reduce your risk:

- Lock doors and roll up windows
- Remove ALL valuables from view (CD cases/garage door openers/portable GPS devices/charger cords/ etc.)
- Park in higher traffic areas of the lot, if possible
- Avoid parking next to large vehicles, if possible
- Remove personal information from the car
- Use a car alarm and alarm decals, if possible

Immediately report any incident or suspicious situations to the appropriate law enforcement agency and let us know as well so we can effectively communicate with those authorities. Upon request, we will also check our surveillance video systems at either of these lots (as well as at the Bogue Road lot) to determine if there is actionable evidence for further investigation, but their physical presence is the primary deterrent as coverage is limited and system reliability has been problematic.

### HUNDREDS OF PHOTO I.D. CARDS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31st

Are you using an old Yuba-Sutter Transit photo identification (ID) card as proof of eligibility for any discount fares? If it has an expiration date of December 31, 2018 or earlier, it needs to be replaced with a new Connect Card discount photo ID card.

Discount photo ID cards are issued to qualified seniors (age 65 and over), youth (ages 5-18) and persons with disabilities as proof of eligibility for discount fares and for Dial-A-Ride service as applicable. Issued on a Connect Card electronic fare card, the new cards are valid for up to five years and they are <u>FREE</u> when exchanged for an expiring card. Hundreds of these cards will expire on December  $31^{st}$  and will not be accepted as proof of eligibility after a one month grace period.

Photo ID cards are available only at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office at 2100 B Street in Marysville on weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

#### CONNECT CARD OUTLETS

Connect Cards can be loaded at the following local sales outlets and on the Connect Card website. Cards can hold up to \$360 in cash value and/or passes for up to three months. All sales outlets also sell sheets of twenty \$0.50 tickets for \$10 each. Check with each location for current business hours as they may change without notice.

- Sutter County Library Yuba City (530) 822-7137 [Cash or Check Only]
- Yuba County Library Marysville (530) 749-7380 [Cash, Credit or Debit Fee Applied for Credit/Debit]
- Yuba College Bookstore Linda (530) 741-6998 [Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]
- Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office Marysville [Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]
- Connect Card Website www.ConnectTransitCard.com [Credit or Debit / Auto-Load]

New full fare Connect Cards are available from any sales outlet, but discount photo ID Connect Cards are only available during normal weekday business hours at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office in Marysville. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

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