

January 2018

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REGULAR COMMUTERS SAVE BIG BUCKS RIDING THE BUS

Did you overspend for Christmas? Not looking forward to opening your mail this month? Maybe you should ride the bus more often this year! Using conservative local factors in the Fuel Savings Calculator at www.publictransportation.org, a typical Yuba-Sutter Transit commuter to downtown Sacramento will save about \$4,500 annually and this figure would increase to more than \$10,000 if they could somehow get by with one less vehicle as a result. How else can you add that kind of money to your budget – tax free, no less?

This savings estimate assumes daily ridership of our service by a state employee using a monthly pass compared to the cost of operating a mid-sized car on the 42 mile one-way trip between Marysville/Yuba City and downtown Sacramento. This calculation also assumes an average fuel price of \$3.00 per gallon, vehicle efficiency of 25 MPG and parking costs of \$150 per month. Because your figures will vary, enter your own estimates for each factor in the calculator to see just how much you can save!

If this kind of savings sounds unreasonable to you, consider that just the cost of parking in downtown Sacramento is likely to exceed the cost of Yuba-Sutter Transit's \$128 monthly commuter bus pass. Combine that with the fuel savings; reduced wear and tear on both you and your car; and, any transit subsidy that you may get from your employer and you will see how you save big – really big – by riding the bus.

One thing is certain – the more you ride, the more you save!



HOLIDAY SERVICE NOTE

Yuba-Sutter Transit will not be in service and the Administrative Office will be closed on **Monday**, **January 15**th in observance of **Martin Luther King**, **Jr. Day**.



DISCOUNT YOUTH, SENIOR & DISABLED MONTHLY PASS PROGRAM EXTENDED

The Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD) recently approved a grant to extend Yuba-Sutter Transit's popular discount monthly bus pass program for area youth, seniors and persons with disabilities. As a result, these deeply discounted passes will continue to be accepted as valid fare payment on all of Yuba-Sutter Transit's six local and three rural routes at least through March 2019.

While this annual program has in the past expired at the end of each calendar year, the new grant is sufficient to extend the program through the first quarter of 2019 to coincide with the advance programming requirements of the new Connect Card electronic fare card system. The new grant will also allow the cost of each discount monthly pass (regularly priced at \$15 a month) to remain at \$5 a month for this same period.

This successful program has been in existence since 2005 when the monthly local fixed route youth pass for those ages 5-18 was first offered for just \$5 using FRAQMD funding to pay the \$10 price difference. It has been expanded over time to add the monthly senior pass for those ages 65 and over in 2013; the monthly disabled pass in 2014; and, the rural routes were added to the program for all discount fare categories in 2016. Yuba-Sutter Transit expects to sell 15,000 discount monthly passes and provide 375,000 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 will soon be required for all discount monthly passes, contact the Administrative Office at (530) 634-6880 or at info@yubasuttertransit.com.

FINAL REMINDER ALL 2016 & 2017 PHOTO ID CARDS HAVE EXPIRED

If you have a discount photo identification (ID) card with an expiration date of either "12/31/2016" or "12/31/2017", it has expired and must now be replaced. Hundreds of expired cards have yet to be replaced so check yours today! After a one month grace period that will end on January 31st, these expired cards will not be accepted as proof of age or disability on any Yuba-Sutter Transit bus.

Discount photo ID cards are available to qualified seniors (age 65 and over), youth (ages 5-18) and persons with disabilities as proof of eligibility for discount fares and Dial-A-Ride service (if applicable). Now issued as Connect Card discount photo ID cards, these electronic cards are valid for up to five years and can be loaded with cash value or monthly passes at any sales outlet or on-line to pay your bus fare.

Discount photo ID cards are available only at the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office at 2100 B Street in Marysville from 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. each weekday. Proof of age or disability is required to receive a new Connect Card discount photo ID card.

Check www.yubasuttertransit.com or call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

CONNECT CARD UPDATES

CONNECT CARDS WILL SOON BE REQUIRED FOR ALL MONTHLY PASSES – When paper passes are phased out this year, monthly passes will only be available on a Connect Card. Because every discount fare passenger will need their picture taken for a discount photo ID Connect Card, area seniors (age 65 and over), disabled, and youth (ages 5 – 18) should now be making plans to visit the Yuba-Sutter Transit office for their discount photo ID Connect Card while they are still free of charge during this transition period.

YOUTH PHOTO ID CONNECT CARDS – For a discount photo ID Connect Card, youth must come to the Yuba-Sutter Transit office with some official proof of age and photo identification or with a parent or guardian. In addition to loading monthly youth passes, a youth photo ID Connect Card or other suitable proof of age will ultimately be required for cash fares as well. The process takes less than 10 minutes and future monthly passes or cash value can be loaded online or at any sales outlet.

ELECTRONIC DAILY PASS – For cash fare passengers, only the Connect Card offers a no-risk electronic daily pass or daily cap equal to three cash fares in a service day on the local fixed route system – \$3 for full fare passengers and \$1.50 for discount passengers. Each cash fare transaction is tracked until the three fare limit is reached after which no additional fare is deducted for the rest of that day. Because of the daily pass feature, transfers are not issued to those boarding using a Connect Card.

PAPER MONTHLY PASSES NOW AVAILABLE ONLY FROM THE YUBA-SUTTER TRANSIT OFFICE – As

part of our transition to an all-electronic monthly pass system, Yuba-Sutter Transit's outside sales outlets no longer carry our paper monthly passes. While they are scheduled for elimination later this year, they are still available from our Administrative Office at 2100 B Street in Marysville. Ticket sheets are still available in all outlets.

MORE INFORMATION – For answers to frequently asked questions, visit www.ConnectTransitCard.com or call the Connect Card Customer Service line at (916) 321-2877, Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For all local fare questions or more information on how to get a Yuba-Sutter Transit discount photo ID Connect Card, please call (530) 634-6880 or email info@yubasuttertransit.com.



CONNECT CARD FARE OUTLETS

Connect Cards can be loaded at the following local sales outlets or on the Connect Card website with up to \$360 in cash value or up to three months of monthly passes. While \$10 ticket sheets are still available at all local sales outlets, paper monthly passes are now only available from the Yuba-Sutter Transit office. 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, Check, 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, Debit or Electronic Fund Transfer/Auto-Load]

Discount photo ID Connect Cards are only available during normal business hours at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office in Marysville. Paper passes and ticket sheets are also available from the same office in person or by mail.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

Yuba-Sutter Transit 2100 B Street Marysville, CA 95901 Administration: (530) 634-6880 FAX: (530) 634-6888

Service Information: (530) 742-2877 / TTY 634-6889 Web Site: www.yubasuttertransit.com

Connect Card: www.connecttransitcard.com General Information: info@yubasuttertransit.com