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DISCOUNT YOUTH, SENIOR & DISABLED PASS PROGRAM EXTENDED THROUGH 2017

Cost expected to decrease to \$5 a month beginning with January's passes

The Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD) recently approved a grant for \$140,000 to extend Yuba-Sutter Transit's enormously popular discount monthly bus pass program for area youth, seniors and persons with disabilities for another year. 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 through December 2017.

In addition to extending the program, based on the year-to-date sales figures for 2016, the new grant should be adequate to decrease the cost of each discount monthly pass (regularly priced at \$15 a month) from \$6 to \$5 a month for all of 2017. A staff recommendation to that effect will be presented to the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors for consideration at their December 15th meeting.

This program began in September 2005 when the monthly local fixed route youth pass (for ages 5 - 18) was offered for just \$5 using a FRAQMD grant to off-set the lost fare revenue. This program has been continued and expanded over time with a similarly discounted senior pass (now age 64 and over) was first offered in April 2013 and the monthly disabled pass was added to the program in January 2014. The rural routes were added to the program for all discount fare categories in 2016.

Based on the 2017 grant application, Yuba-Sutter Transit expects to sell at least 14,000 discount monthly passes and provide a projected 350,000 passenger trips to discount monthly pass holders next year. These figures are similar to the projected year-end figures for 2016.

Regular and discount passes are available at any Yuba-Sutter Transit pass sales outlet (see next page) from the 24th of each month through the 7th of the following month. Passes are also available by mail or at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office all month long. Due to the pending price change, <u>please note that January's discount passes will not be sold in the office until December 16th.</u>

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

Google "Google transit" includes yuba-sutter transit

Did you know that Yuba-Sutter Transit's local and Sacramento route and schedule information is included in Google Transit? In fact, a Google Trip Planner is available right from the home page of our website for transit trips anywhere in the local urban area; to and from downtown Sacramento; and, even beyond.

You can find the Google Trip Planner at the bottom of our home page at www.yubasuttertransit.com. Just enter your trip origin, destination and travel time information by either street address, cross streets or major landmarks either for same day service or many weeks in advance and Google does the rest!

You will be given several options from which to choose and each will include walking directions to and from the nearest bus stop along with applicable route numbers, transfer information, fare and total travel time. Give it a try and let us know what you think.



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. Please pay special attention to the following holiday service and office schedule.

- Service will not be operated and the office will be closed on Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 2nd in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day.
- The Administrative Office will also be closed on **Friday**, **December 23rd** so please plan your purchase of passes and tickets accordingly.
- Except as noted above, service will operate as scheduled on all other dates around the holidays including the Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve Saturdays of December 24th and January 31st.



PLUMAS STREET CLOSURE FOR CHRISTMAS STROLL ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

The annual "Christmas Stroll" will be on Saturday, December 10^{th} from 2:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Plumas Street in Yuba City. The event features live entertainment, horse drawn wagon rides, carolers and lots of fun for the kids. You can even join Santa, his elves and the Yuba City Mayor as they parade down Plumas Street to light the Christmas tree!

Yuba-Sutter Transit service will be re-routed from Plumas Street beginning at 10:00 a.m. to accommodate the festivities. Route 1 buses will operate on Olive Street between Colusa Avenue and Forbes Street and Route 2 will operate on Shasta Street between Colusa Avenue and Bridge Street. The Plumas Street bus stops at Church Street and Bridge Street will not be in service during this time.

Call (530) 742-2877 for more route and schedule information.

EXPIRING DISCOUNT PHOTO ID CARDS EXTENDED ONE YEAR TO DECEMBER 31, 2017

Do you have a discount photo identification (ID) card with an expiration date of December 31, 2016? If so, please note that your card will continue to be accepted by Yuba-Sutter Transit through December 2017. A letter with this same information was recently mailed to the last known address of those who were issued these 2016 cards.

This one time extension is due to the expected conversion to the new Connect Card electronic fare card system early next year. When the Connect Card system is fully implemented, all discount ID card holders will be invited to exchange their current cards for a new discount Connect Card photo ID card. For now, all 2016 cards will continue to be accepted as usual by Yuba-Sutter Transit through 2017.

Discount photo ID cards are issued for \$5 to seniors (age 64 and over) and qualified persons with disabilities as proof of eligibility for Dial-A-Ride service and any applicable discount fares. They are available only at the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office at 2100 B Street in Marysville.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.



– CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE – BUS PASSES & TICKET BOOKS

For a truly practical and useful gift idea, try buying your bus riding friends and loved ones a monthly pass or discount ticket books this year – give a gift that keeps on giving!

Monthly passes, discount ticket books and Sacramento punch cards are available throughout the month during normal business hours and by mail in the Yuba-Sutter Transit office at 2100 B Street in Marysville.

• Yuba-Sutter Transit Office – Marysville

Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento Commuter Passes & Punch Cards / Single Ride Tickets for All Services [Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]

Specific fare products are also available in limited quantities at the following locations. Monthly passes are available in these outlets from the 24th of the month until the 7th of the following month. Ticket books and punch cards are available all month while supplies last.

- Bel Air Market Customer Service Center Yuba City Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento Commuter Passes & Punch Cards [Cash or Check Only]
- Yuba College Bookstore Linda Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento Commuter Passes & Punch Cards [Cash, Check, Credit or <u>Debit</u>]. [Please note that the bookstore will be closed for the holidays from 12/23 through 1/2]

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