

January 2023 Volume 34 – Number 1



# SPECIAL BOARD MEETING SET FOR JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> WORKSHOP ON TRANSIT PLAN ALTERNATIVES

The Yuba-Sutter NextGen Transit Plan has reached the phase where the data and feedback collected has been combined with advanced analytics into a series of alternative service recommendations for early review and discussion by the Board of Directors. If fully implemented, these preliminary concepts would result in the most significant reinvention and modernization of the local public transit system since the existing local fixed route system was introduced in January 1993.

To provide adequate time for these concepts to be discussed and considered for initial policy and public feedback, a special meeting of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors has been set for 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 12, 2023, in the Yuba County Board of Supervisors Chambers at 915 Eighth Street in Marysville.

The most significant of these concepts is the possible replacement of four of the six local fixed routes with community on-demand transit zones made possible by new advanced trip request, scheduling, and tracking software. For comparison, imagine an Uber Pool level of service integrated with our existing Dial-A-Ride operation using smaller scale, accessible transit vehicles. The combination of ondemand zones and trunk routes for cross-zone connections would mean much greater access to public transportation for all residents of an expanded service area; significantly reduced transit wait and travel times; and enhanced personal control, freedom, and safety.

Other concepts to be discussed at the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting include incorporating the same on-demand scheduling program into Yuba-Sutter Transit's three existing rural routes; right-sizing and re-orienting the existing Sacramento commuter and mid-day services; and a possible new route to connect the Yuba-Sutter area with other local and regional transit services in Roseville. Of course, these concepts will ultimately need to be coordinated with the development of the NextGen Transit Facility that will be necessary to operate and maintain the next generation fleet of zero-emission vehicles.

Based on the results of the January 12<sup>th</sup> workshop, specific service recommendations will be prepared for presentation and additional feedback at a public open house event that is scheduled for Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. The February 16<sup>th</sup> event will be sandwiched around a regular meeting of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors which will include a formal presentation by the plan consultant.

Follow our Facebook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/yubasuttertransit">www.facebook.com/yubasuttertransit</a> (see related story below) as we will be using it and the project website at <a href="https://www.yubasutternextgen.com">www.yubasutternextgen.com</a> especially through the end of February to provide more plan information and seek additional public feedback. For more on the NextGen Transit Plan, please visit the project website where you can learn more about the project, register for regular updates including notifications on public input opportunities, and leave project suggestions or comments. We want to hear from you so please sign up today!

For more information, please contact Adam Hansen at (530) 634-6880 or at adam@yubasuttertransit.com.



# YUBA-SUTTER TRANSIT AUTHORITY FACEBOOK PAGE

There are imposters, but just one official Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority Facebook page and it is at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/yubasuttertransit">www.facebook.com/yubasuttertransit</a>. Facebook users should start following this page for accurate and upto-date information on what is going on at your local public transit agency. Staff monitors this page for comments/questions and regularly posts service alerts, public hearing notices, holiday closures, etc. here for your convenience. We look forward to connecting with you there!



### **HOLIDAY SERVICE NOTICE**

Yuba-Sutter Transit will not be in operation and the Administrative Office will be closed on **Monday**, **January 16**<sup>th</sup> in observance of **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**.



### REGULAR COMMUTERS SAVE BIG BUCKS BY RIDING THE BUS

## AND SOME STATE EMPLOYEES CAN NOW SAVE EVEN MORE

Did you overspend for Christmas? Are you dreading those credit card statements this month? Or are you just looking to save more money in 2023? Maybe you should ride the bus more often this year! One easy way to pile up cash in a hurry is to ride the bus more often! While riding any of our buses will save you money, it really adds up for those who regularly commute to downtown Sacramento.

Using conservative local factors in the Fuel Savings Calculator that can be found at <a href="https://www.publictransportation.org">www.publictransportation.org</a>, a typical daily Yuba-Sutter Transit commuter to downtown Sacramento would currently save about \$6,100 a year – and state employees will save at least another \$1,200 annually with the \$100 per month transit subsidy on each monthly pass.

#### **BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!**

As of October 1, 2022, state employees in at least 24 different bargaining units are now eligible for 100% reimbursement for transit/vanpool commuter expenses (not to exceed \$280 per month). If you are in any of these growing number of bargaining units, add another \$420 to your potential annual savings!

How else can you add that kind of money to your budget – tax free, no less? Even if you do not ride every day, you can still save a bundle riding just once or twice a week since just the cost of daily parking in downtown Sacramento probably exceeds the \$9.00 roundtrip cash fare on our luxurious commuter buses. 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 quickly see how you can save big – **REALLY BIG** – by riding the bus and the more you ride, the more you save!

The above example assumes weekday ridership on our Sacramento service using a monthly pass compared to the cost of operating a small sedan on a 42-mile one-way trip between Marysville/Yuba City and downtown Sacramento. This also assumes an average fuel price of \$4.00 per gallon; a combined 15.67 cents per mile for vehicle maintenance and tires; vehicle efficiency of 30 MPG; and parking costs of \$10 per day. Of course, your figures will vary so run the numbers to see just how much you can save!

For route and schedule information, visit www.yubasuttertransit.com or call (530) 742-2877.

## YOUTH, SENIOR & DISABLED MONTHLY PASS DISCOUNT PROGRAM EXTENDED

The Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD) recently approved a grant to extend Yuba-Sutter Transit's popular \$5 discount monthly bus pass program through March 2024. Under this program, these regularly priced \$15 discount passes are available for just \$5 to area seniors (ages 65 and over), youth (ages 5 through 18) and those with qualifying disabilities for unlimited use on Yuba-Sutter Transit's local and rural routes each month. FRAQMD grant funds are used to pay the \$10 price difference.

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.

#### CONNECT CARD SALES OUTLETS

Connect Cards may be loaded at any of the sales outlets below or on the Connect Card website. New full fare Connect Cards are available from any sales outlet, but new and replacement discount photo ID Connect Cards are only available during normal weekday business hours at the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office in Marysville. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

Please check with locations for current business hours as they may change without notice.

- Sutter County Library Yuba City (530) 822-7137 Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm Friday & Saturday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm [Cash or Check Only]
- Yuba County Library Marysville (530) 749-7380
   Tuesday Friday, 12:00 6:00 pm & Saturdays 9:00 am 1:00 pm
   [Cash, Credit or Debit Fee Applied for Credit/Debit]
- Yuba College Bookstore Linda (530) 741-6998
   Monday Friday, 9:00 am 3:00 pm
   [Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]
- Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office Marysville Weekdays, 8:00 am – Noon & 1:00 – 5:00 pm [Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]
- Connect Card Website www.ConnectTransitCard.com [Credit or Debit / Auto-Load]

Yuba-Sutter Transit 2100 B Street Marysville, CA 95901 Administration: (530) 634-6880 Service Information: (530) 742-2877

Web Site: www.yubasuttertransit.com
Connect Card: www.connecttransitcard.com
General Comments/Questions: info@yubasuttertransit.com