

November 2020 Volume 31 – Number 9



SACRAMENTO COMMUTER SURVEY BEING TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON COMMUTE PATTERNS

Yuba-Sutter Transit is now conducting a survey of past and current Sacramento Commuter and Midday Express passengers to better understand how changing work patterns during the COVID-19 pandemic have affected their commute. The survey is looking for passenger feedback on their past and current commute practices as well as how they may change in the future.

A direct link to the on-line survey was sent to the more than 500 email addresses that have been registered to receive Sacramento Service Alerts, but the survey can also be accessed from our website at www.yubasuttertransit.com. The survey will be available only through November 20th so respond now to make sure that your voice is heard.

If you are or have been a passenger on our Sacramento service and did not receive the survey link, then you are probably not on our list. If you want to stay up to date, register your preferred email addresses under the "Stay Informed" tab on our website home page.

COMMENTS STILL BEING ACCEPTED ON THE SITE SELECTION STUDY FOR A REPLACEMENT TRANSIT FACILITY

Yuba-Sutter Transit's maintenance, operations and administration facility is now located on a 3.2-acre site at 2100 B Street in Marysville. Constructed as a Seven-Up bottling plant in 1960, it was converted to a transit facility in 1996 and expanded in 2011. It now houses 51 buses and a staff of about 100 agency and contractor employees. A state mandate to purchase zero-emission buses and a Highway 70 (B Street) expansion project now requires its replacement.

Since late last year, Yuba-Sutter Transit has been working on the Next Generation Transit Facility Plan to replace the current facility. This plan will be a guide to follow from project scope to property acquisition to facility construction which will include a detailed funding plan to complete the process.

The first pieces of the plan were presented to the public during the October 15th meeting of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors during a month-long public comment period focusing on the site selection process. This period began October 9th when the facility design criteria, site selection report and an informational video were all posted on the Yuba-Sutter Transit website. All comments received will be considered in the development of the final plan which is expected to be presented to the Board of Directors in the spring of 2021.

Based on the proposed design criteria, the ideal site for the new facility would be at least nine acres in size; be well located within the service area to maximize public access and minimize operating costs; have good access to power and utilities; offer increased environmental and operational resiliency; and, refrain from negatively impacting disadvantaged communities. A list of 16 candidate sites across both counties were reduced to 10 for more detailed comparison before arriving at three priority sites for further review and consideration.

For more information or to submit comments on this exciting project, please contact the Project Manager Adam Hansen at (530) 634-6880 or at adam@yubasuttertransit.com.



NOVEMBER HOLIDAY SERVICE & OFFICE SCHEDULE

November is a busy holiday month so please take note of the following service and office schedule.

- Yuba-Sutter Transit will be closed and no service will be operated on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th.
- Sacramento routes will not be operated on Wednesday, November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day or on the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 27th, but all other services will operate as scheduled on those days.
- The Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office will be closed on November 11th, 26th and 27th.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.



SUSPENDED YUBA COLLEGE SUTTER COUNTY CENTER STUDENT SHUTTLE NOW PERMANENTLY CANCELED

The free student shuttle service to the Sutter County Center (SCC) campus that has been suspended since March 16th due to the COVID-19 pandemic has been permanently canceled. This demonstration service, which was funded exclusively with State Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) revenues, operated for just eight weeks at the start of the Spring 2020 semester before in-person classes were suspended at the SCC campus.

After the recent notice that few in-person classes will be held at the SCC campus at least through the Spring 2021 semester, it became obvious that much of the grant funds being used for the shuttle would expire and be lost to the community before they can be used. As a result, the difficult decision was made to cancel the shuttle and redirect the remaining funds for other eligible projects while such an action can still be taken. This decision was made without prejudice as this or a similar service concept can certainly be considered again in the future when conditions are more favorable.

Please call (530) 634-6880 or email info@yubasuttertransit.com for more information.



CONNECT CARD SALES OUTLET TO CLOSE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

The customer service counter in the Bel Air Market in Yuba City will no longer be a Connect Card sales outlet after Saturday, November 7th. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, both the Sutter County Library in Yuba City and the Yuba County Library in Marysville remain closed to the public so the only local Connect Card sales outlets after November 7th will be the Yuba College Bookstore in Linda and the Yuba-Sutter Transit administrative office in Marysville. Connect Cards can also be loaded online at www.ConnectTransitCard.com.

New full fare Connect Cards are available online or from any sales outlet free of charge when loading at least \$5 in fare media (pass or cash), but new discount fare photo ID Connect Cards for seniors, youth and persons with disabilities are only available at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office to verify discount fare eligibility and take a photo for identity purposes.

Call (530) 634-6880, email info@yubasuttertransit.com or check online at www.yubasuttertransit.com for more information including specific eligibility criteria and registration forms for discount fares.

BASIC MONTHLY LOCAL & RURAL ROUTE BUS PASSES NOW JUST \$10 – DISCOUNT PASSES JUST \$5

Yuba-Sutter Transit's basic monthly bus pass has been reduced from the regular price of \$30 to just \$10 each month. The \$20 subsidy on the cost of each pass is being funded through the State Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) as a multi-year demonstration program.

Discount monthly passes for youth (ages 5 – 18), seniors (age 65 and up) and eligible persons with disabilities have long been reduced from the regular price of \$15 to just \$5 each month. The \$10 subsidy on this pass has been funded by grants from the Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD) at least through September 2021.

These monthly passes are valid on Yuba-Sutter Transit's six local and three rural fixed routes. Rather than paying a cash fare each time you board, most will find that the best value by far is to purchase a monthly pass which is only available on a Connect Card electronic fare card.

For more information, please call the Administration Office at (530) 634-6880 or email us at info@yubasuttertransit.com.

CONNECT CARD SALES OUTLETS

Connect Cards can be loaded on-line or at the following local sales outlets or on the Connect Card website. Please note that the Sutter and Yuba County Libraries are currently closed to the public due to COVID-19 and that the Bel Air Market outlet will be closing November 7th. Cards can hold up to \$360 in cash value and/or passes for up to three months. Check with each location for current business hours as they may change without notice.

- Bel Air Market Yuba City (530) 755-3991
 [Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]

 NOTE: THIS SALES OUTLET IS CLOSING NOVEMBER 7TH
- 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 new and replacement 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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