March 2023 Volume 34 – Number 3

TRANSIT DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY IS SATURDAY, MARCH 18TH

March is recognized as Transit Driver Appreciation Month and March 18th as Transit Driver Appreciation Day which commemorates the first "Five Penny Coaches" local fixed route bus line that was established in Paris on March 18, 1662. On this same day each year, we celebrate public transit vehicle operators around the world and recognize the essential service they provide.

Those who operate Yuba-Sutter Transit's buses do it all – pre-trip safety inspections, board passengers, collect fares, answer trip planning questions, return lost items, and so much more – all while safely maneuvering a large and heavy vehicle through traffic, tight corners, and road detours during all sorts of weather.

Our drivers are dedicated to what they do, and they deserve our heartfelt thanks, so we invite you to join us in celebrating these essential workers this month in recognition for their dedicated service to our community throughout the year. Here are several ways to express your gratitude and support:

- Hand your bus operator a card or personal note of thanks.
- Say "Good Morning!" or "Good Afternoon!" when you get on the bus, and a hearty "Thank you!" when you get off the bus.

Please thank your bus operator on March 18th and every day this year!



PLAN MOVES INTO FINAL PHASES AFTER 2ND OPEN HOUSE EVENT

On Thursday, February 16th, Yuba-Sutter Transit staff and the NextGen Transit Plan project team held open houses to receive public comments on the preliminary service alternatives that had been developed as part of the plan. Between the afternoon open house and the evening open house, the project team presented the preliminary deployment schedule and related financial implications of the plan to the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors during their regular monthly meeting.

The afternoon open house was excellent with 15 members of the public in attendance. Information about how and when to attend was shared during the weeks prior to the events via social media, the project website, direct emails, press releases, and posters on Yuba-Sutter Transit's buses.



At the meeting, staff and the project team shared the proposed service concepts, the most significant of which would be the replacement of Routes 2, 4, 5, and 6 with four Community on-demand zones in Yuba City, Marysville, Linda, and Olivehurst. This concept also includes modifications to the existing Routes 1 and 3 to speed travel for better connections to regional destinations. Another concept would result in further consolidation of the existing service to downtown Sacramento with some of those resources shifting to a new service to Roseville.

The response to these proposed service changes were positive with most members of the public wanting to hear more. One of the features of the new on-demand service concept that was especially well received was the inclusion of the Yuba College Sutter Center campus in the Yuba City zone. Over the next few weeks, the project team will be working on the final draft of the plan including how it can be cost effectively deployed to provide the best possible experience for both current and future riders. For more information, the proposed service alternatives have been posted on the project website for public review and comment at www.yubasutternextgen.com.

The next phase of the project will be the presentation of the marketing plan, staffing plan, fare options, and financial plan at the March 16th meeting of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors. Assuming continued positive direction, the Board is scheduled to consider adoption of the plan at their April 20th meeting. Public comment continues to be invited and welcome throughout this process, but additional public outreach and formal public hearings will be conducted prior to each phase of implementation.

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



"WHERE'S MY BUS?" DOWNLOAD & USE OUR BUS TRACKING MOBILE APP TODAY

Every transit rider asks this question (often more than once) while waiting at the bus stop. Now you can follow any of our local, rural and commuter buses in real time as they make their way along their route to your stop. Yuba-Sutter Transit's **DoubleMap** bus tracker mobile app also provides predictive arrival times for when your bus is expected to arrive at your stop to take the worry out of your wait.

To get started, just download the free **DoubleMap** application from your Google or Apple store to your smart phone or tablet and select "Yuba-Sutter Transit" as your system. From the menu bar at the top left of your screen, select any route or just monitor the entire system. Then zoom in on the route map and click on any bus stop for the estimated arrival time of the next two buses for the routes that serve that stop.



From this same "Arrival" screen, you can set that stop as a "Favorite" for future reference or set up custom "Alerts" to be notified when your bus is approaching that stop. Desktop and laptop users can also access the system by copying or typing "yubasuttertransit.doublemap.com" into their browser, though some of the mobile features will not be available.

In addition to day-to-day bus location and arrival information, the **DoubleMap** system is where passengers should turn during a crisis such as a natural disaster, major traffic accident or other event that may significantly disrupt our service. Important announcements in such situations will be released and updated as necessary by our operating staff in real-time through the app. From the **DoubleMap** home screen, just tap the three stripes at the top left and then click on "Announcements" in the drop-down menu to see if we have posted information that you need to know and check back regularly during such events as conditions can change quickly.

Comments or suggestions on the **DoubleMap** system should be emailed with as many details as possible (date, time, route, location, etc.) to info@yubasuttertransit.com. More user tips are available on our website or call us at (530) 634-6880 and we will be happy to walk you through the process.



Yuba-Sutter Transit will not operate any Sacramento service on Cesar Chavez Day, which will be observed on Friday, March 31st. All other services will operate as scheduled and the Administrative Office will be open that day.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.



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