

February 2023 Volume 34 – Number 2



SECOND ROUND OF COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE EVENTS SET FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

The Yuba-Sutter NextGen Transit Plan is winding down to its final and most important steps, but we still need your help. We have long been asking anyone who may be interested to engage with us on how to improve public transportation in Yuba and Sutter Counties. Using this information, a series of service alternatives have been developed that, if fully implemented, would fundamentally reshape public transit in our communities for years to come. These service alternatives were presented last month to the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors and are now on the project website at www.yubasutternextgen.com.

To receive public input and feedback on the service alternatives, afternoon and evening open houses are being held on Thursday, February 16, 2023, from $2:00-4:00~\rm p.m.$ and from $5:00-6:30~\rm p.m.$ in the Yuba County Board of Supervisors Chambers at 915 Eighth Street, in Marysville. These identical events will be held in an informal format with project team members and Yuba-Sutter Transit staff available to chat with those in attendance throughout both timeframes.

Please stop by at any time to learn more about these exciting changes and share your feedback. Between the sessions, the regular monthly meeting of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors will be held in the same location at 4:00 p.m. at which time a more formal project update will be provided. All Board meetings are open to the public and an opportunity will be provided for public comment.

The most significant of the service alternatives to be featured at the open house events 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 and more passenger friendly transit vehicles. The combination of on-demand zones and faster 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.

Another major service alternative to be featured on February 16th will be a right-sizing and re-orienting of the existing Sacramento commuter and mid-day service to include a possible new route to connect the Yuba-Sutter area with other local and regional transit services in Roseville. Also being considered is the use of the same on-demand scheduling program on the three existing rural routes in conjunction with a volunteer driver program to expand the reach of these services in outlying communities. Of course, each of these concepts will need to ultimately 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.

For more information on the NextGen Transit Plan, follow our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/yubasuttertransit and visit the project website at www.yubasutternextgen.com. On the plan website, you can also register to receive updates and notifications of future public input opportunities as well as leave project suggestions or comments.



BOK KAI PARADE SET FOR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

The 143rd Bok Kai Festival, celebrating the Year of the Rabbit, will take place in downtown Marysville on Saturday and Sunday, February 25th and 26th. The Bok Kai Parade will be held on at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday with Bomb Day on Sunday.

As a result, Yuba-Sutter Transit's local fixed route bus service will be detoured in downtown Marysville all day on Saturday, February 25th for the Bok Kai Parade. The regular downtown bus stops on B, D and F Streets will not be served as Routes 1 and 4 will be detoured away from downtown Marysville due to numerous street closures.

The nearest alternative downtown stops will be at Third & F Streets for both the eastbound Route 1 and counterclockwise Route 4B buses and at the Adventist Health + Rideout Regional Medical Center stop on Third Street for both the westbound Route 1 and clockwise Route 4A buses.

Please call (530) 742-2877 for bus route and schedule information. For event information, please email bokkaiparade@gmail.com or call (530) 603-1880.



DEEPLY DISCOUNTED MONTHLY PASSES AVAILABLE FOR ALL LOCAL & RURAL ROUTE PASSENGERS

Basic general-public monthly bus passes, good for unlimited use on any Yuba-Sutter Transit local or rural route have been discounted since July 2020 from their 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) under a three-year demonstration program.

As a result, the price of a general-public monthly bus pass is now more comparable to a discount monthly pass for youth (ages 5 through 18), seniors (ages 65 and over) and eligible persons with disabilities which has long been reduced from \$15 to just \$5 each month. The \$10 subsidy for that discount program is funded by the Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD).

At these deeply discounted prices, the best value by far for most passengers is to purchase a full fare or discount monthly pass as applicable. No matter the fare category, a monthly pass will more than pay for itself in just a few days of travel compared to paying in cash.

Monthly passes are available only with a Connect Card electronic fare card. General public Connect Cards are available free of charge from any Connect Card sales outlet or at www.ConnectTransitCard.com. Discount photo I.D. Connect Cards for any available discount fares or passes for seniors, youth or persons with disabilities are only available with eligibility verification at the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office in Marysville.

Up to three monthly passes can be loaded at any one time on a Connect Card along with up to \$360 in cash value if so desired. You can even set up your Connect Card account to auto-load your monthly pass each month or to add cash value when your balance reaches a certain level.

For more information on the discounted bus pass program or how to get your discount photo Connect Card identification card, please contact the Administrative Office by email at info@yubasuttertransit.com or phone at (530) 634-6880.

REPLACE EXPIRING CONNECT CARDS

Discount photo-identification Connect Cards are typically issued for five years. Many are now beginning to expire and need to be replaced before they expire because expired cards will not work. Discount card holders (youth, seniors, and persons with disabilities) should regularly check the expiration date on their card to see if it is approaching. If so, bring your card to our Administrative Office during normal business hours where we will confirm your current information and issue you a new card (with a new picture) at no cost.

For Connect Card questions, please contact the Administrative Office at (530) 634-6880 or by email at info@yubasuttertransit.com.



HOLIDAY SERVICE NOTES

Yuba-Sutter Transit will not be in service, and the Administrative Office will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of President's Day. However, all service will operate as scheduled on Monday, February 13th when some may be observing Abraham Lincoln's Birthday.

And don't forget that **Valentine's Day** is just around the corner as well on **Tuesday**, **February 14**th. Wouldn't it be a great gift for your transit riding friends or loved ones to load a monthly pass or some cash value on their Connect Card? All you need is their card number! 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