



TEMPORARY LOCAL & SACRAMENTO SERVICE REDUCTIONS EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, MAY 1ST

Yuba-Sutter Transit and our service contractor, Storer Transit Systems, have been closely tracking the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak. As an essential public service, we are committed to protecting the health and safety of our passengers and personnel while continuing to serve our community. This commitment has been demonstrated through targeted policy changes, an aggressive vehicle cleaning/disinfecting schedule and on-going public education efforts.

To encourage “Social Distancing” and minimize the exposure of both passengers and staff alike, Yuba-Sutter Transit initially eliminated the collection of fares on all but our Sacramento service (at least through June 30th); required rear door boarding on all fixed route buses except for passengers requiring a ramp; prohibited seating immediately behind the driver on Dial-A-Ride and Sacramento buses; and, closed our Administrative Office to the public except by appointment. Most recently, “sneeze shields” and removable aisle barrier straps have been installed on our local fixed route buses to further protect our drivers.

Reflecting an April 6th Health Department order declaring that transit was for essential travel and activities only and to further minimize exposure, on board capacity limits were established on the local fixed route and Dial-A-Ride buses. [No more than ten passengers on a fixed route bus and no more than two unrelated passengers plus attendants for a maximum of four on a Dial-A-Ride bus.] In addition, cloth face coverings are now strongly encouraged while on the bus.

Systemwide ridership is down by approximately 65 percent compared to a similar period in February, but about 1,200 passenger trips are still being provided each weekday (down from a pre-COVID average of 3,400 trips per weekday). While our Dial-A-Ride service hours have been cut by over half in response to a nearly 80 percent reduction in ridership, until now the only scheduled service cut was to suspend the Yuba College Sutter Center Shuttle when in-person classes ended at that campus on March 12th.

Because normal ridership levels are not expected any time soon and to further protect our operating staff, **the following temporary service reductions will become effective on Friday, May 1st:**

- **Weekday Route 2 Service Reduced to a Saturday Plus Schedule.** The Route 2 loop in Yuba City will be reduced from half-hour to hourly service in both directions (Clockwise and Counter-Clockwise). While this reduced frequency is the same as what is now offered by Route 2 on Saturdays, the weekday service will continue to operate a full-service day starting around 6:20 a.m. and ending around 6:20 p.m.
- **Sacramento Commuter Service Reduced by Three AM and Three PM Schedules.** The 3rd and 5th Highway 99 schedules in the morning; the 2nd and 5th Highway 99 schedules in the afternoon; and the 3rd morning and 3rd afternoon Highway 70 schedules will all be suspended.

The modified weekday Route 2 time table along with a modified Sacramento Commuter brochure reflecting these changes that will become effective on Friday, May 1st can be found under the COVID-19 tab on our website at www.yubasuttertransit.com.

Stay tuned for more updates as conditions are likely to change in response to public orders, further reductions in ridership and/or staff shortages. The best way to do that is by signing up for our email alerts under the “Stay Informed” tab on our website. For more information regarding our May 1st service changes or our COVID-19 related policies and procedures, please call our Administrative Office at (530) 634-6880 or email us at info@yubasuttertransit.com.

For current information on the pandemic, please visit www.cdc.gov or either www.bepreparedyuba.org or www.bepreparedsutter.org.



MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

Yuba-Sutter Transit will not be in operation and the office will be closed on Monday, May 25, 2020 in observance of Memorial Day. Regular service except as modified for the COVID-19 pandemic will resume on Tuesday, May 26th. Enjoy the holiday, but please take time to remember and honor those who gave their all in service to our country.

Call (530) 742-2877 for more information.



GET PEDALING FOR VIRTUAL BIKE MONTH

May is here and so is the Sacramento region's annual **May is Bike Month** campaign, but this year it comes with a little twist as it will be a completely **virtual** campaign! While it may be virtual, it will still celebrate the positive force that bicycling brings to our lives. Social distancing might keep you from in-person events, but it cannot stop you from getting out safely for solo rides.

Hopping on a bike is a great way to enjoy the spring weather, get some exercise, and feel mentally refreshed. Biking can be your daily dose of exercise, a way to get some sun and fresh air, or even your daily moment of me-time! Whether you bike occasionally for fun, need some activities to do with your kids, or are starting a new exercise routine, stay tuned to the social channels and www.MayisBikeMonth.com for ways to engage with the new online campaign.

Participants will be able to receive social media challenges, new virtual badges, and more prizes (that is right – more t-shirts and socks in the weekly drawings!). Try making a list of all the activities you can do on your bike while social distancing. Get creative, and challenge others to share their ideas or try yours – bonus points if you share photos on social media and tag @MayisBikeMonth! All types of bike trips count – so join up and log your solo recreation rides, sunshine rides, fresh air rides, family rides, or essential rides to the store.

Biking benefits your health while promoting healthy communities as a whole! Pedaling helps riders avoid traffic congestion, saves money on gas and helps reduce air pollution. It is also excellent for your heart and soul! Even a few short trips per week add up over time to make a big difference for both you and the environment. Of course, Yuba-Sutter Transit makes “May is Bike Month” even easier with bike racks on every bus and bike lockers at four of our local park and ride locations. [See below for more details on our bike program.]

May is Bike Month is coordinated by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) and the region's transportation management organizations. Visit www.MayisBikeMonth.com or call (916) 321-9000 for more information.

BIKE PROGRAM & BIKE POLICIES

All Yuba-Sutter Transit buses are equipped with two or three position bike racks for use on a first-come, first-served basis at no additional cost. No permit is required and there is no time or stop restrictions, but passengers are required to load, secure and unload their own bike. Mopeds, motorized bikes and bikes with non-standard wheel and frame sizes that do not fit securely on the rack are not permitted.

Bikes are not allowed inside local fixed route or commuter buses unless it is the last bus of the day or the bus has available underfloor storage space. This restriction does not apply to the rural route or Dial-A-Ride services where any extra bikes are allowed inside if space permits.

If you prefer to leave your bike behind, space is available in the Yuba-Sutter Transit bike lockers at three of our Park & Ride Lots though availability varies by location. Lockers are available with specific use limitations for \$5 per month (three months minimum) or \$50 a year plus a \$25 refundable key/security deposit.

For the occasional rider, an on-demand, two-position bicycle security and storage pod called a “BikeLid” is located at the Yuba County Government Center. It is available free of charge on a first come, first served basis using your own lock. It does not get much easier than that!

For more information, check out our new Bikes and Buses link at www.yubasuttertransit.com/bikes-and-buses or contact Amy White at (530) 634-6880 or at amy@yubasuttertransit.com.



COVID-19 CONNECT CARD NOTICE

To minimize exposure of passengers and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic, no fares are being collected on any local or rural service at least through June 30th so local monthly passes are not currently being sold. Fares are still being collected on all Sacramento schedules.

Please note that Connect Cards can **ONLY** be loaded on-line or at the Yuba College Bookstore as all other local outlets including the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office are temporarily closed to the public. If you plan to use the Yuba College Bookstore, call ahead to confirm their availability as business hours vary with the school schedule and may change without notice.

- **Yuba College Bookstore – Linda – (530) 741-6998**
[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 by appointment at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office in Marysville. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

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