

AGENDA ITEM IV – A

**YUBA-SUTTER TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2025**

I. Call to Order & Roll Call (4:00 p.m.)

Present: Bains (Vice-Chair), Buttacavoli, Cole, Flores, House, Hudson, Kirchner (Chair) and Vasquez

Absent: Bradford, Flores and Hudson

II. Public Business from the Floor

None.

III. Consent Calendar

Director Vasquez made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Buttacavoli seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

IV. Reports

A. Assignment Agreement for Receipt of Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Grant Funds.

Executive Director Matthew Mauk stated that Yuba-Sutter Transit entered into a cooperative agreement in 2021 with the developer of the planned Richland Housing Project in Yuba City, to partner on a grant application to the state's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program. The partnership strengthened the grant application through inclusion of funding for sustainable transportation infrastructure and transportation related amenities, which resulted in an award of \$8.5 million for the Next-Gen Transit Facility project in FY 2022.

The next step is to authorize staff to execute the assignment agreement with the developer (Sutter Community Affordable Housing) necessary for distribution of the grant funds to Yuba-Sutter Transit. The funds will deliver elements of the NextGen Transit Facility project including solar infrastructure, electric vehicle charging, bus stop amenities and active transportation components.

Mauk stated that the execution of today's requested action is considered pending until we have received and mutually agree on the final distribution timelines. Legal counsel has reviewed the agreement.

Director Vasquez made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to execute an Assignment Agreement with Sutter Community Affordable Housing to accept \$8.5 in grant funding for the NextGen Transit Facility awarded pursuant to the Affordable Housing and sustainable Communities (AHSC) program and authorize the Executive Director to certify and execute any

additional documents necessary for disbursement of the AHSC grant funding as proposed. Director Cole seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

B. Feather River Air Quality Management District Blue Sky Grant Application for 2026.

Mauk stated that the Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD) is now accepting proposals for the current round of Blue Sky Grants. Approximately \$110,000 is available this year, which is slightly less than what was available last year. Yuba-Sutter Transit has long submitted grant applications to this program and most recently received funds to support the very successful Discount Monthly Pass Program for youth, seniors, and persons with disabilities. Under this program, regular \$20 discount monthly passes are sold for \$10 using FRAQMD funds to cover the lost fare on each pass. Based on current discount pass sales and allowing for continued growth in the future, staff is currently projecting the sale of 10,300 passes over a proposed continuation period through calendar year 2026. With approval, the grant request will be for \$103,000 for the calendar year 2026.

Director Bains arrived at 4:06 p.m.

Director House asked if we could ask for more funding to help increase transit usage and help to pay for transit fares when they can't pay for themselves. Mauk stated we have allocated funding from previous Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) for pass discount programs and these funds have been used in the past to supplement the FRAQMD program.

Director House made a motion to authorize submittal of a FRAQMD Blue Sky grant application for \$103,000 to continue the Discount Monthly Bus Pass Program for area youth, seniors, and eligible persons with disabilities, through the end of the calendar year 2026, as proposed. Director Vazquez seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

C. Reimbursement Agreement with the Sacramento Area Council of Governments for Provision of Financial Audits.

Mauk stated that annual financial audits are a requirement of receiving state Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding. As the TDA administrator, the Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG) has historically financed and contracted for these financial audits on behalf of the transit providers in its region. Starting this year, SACOG is now requiring the operators to pay for their own financial audits. SACOG is contracted with a qualified CPA, Richardson & Company, to conduct the FY 25 through FY 27 audits. Under the proposed reimbursement agreement, Yuba-Sutter Transit will reimburse SACOG up to \$100,620 for three years' financial audits.

Director House asked if this is a new requirement and how long have we been doing SACOG financial audits? Mauk stated that this has always been a requirement of the TDA and what's new is that SACOG is now requiring operators to pay for them.

Director Vasquez made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement to reimburse the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) a total amount not to exceed \$100,620.00 for costs associated with the performance of required annual independent financial

audits of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority for fiscal years 2025 through 2027, as proposed. Director Bains seconded the motion, and it carried with five aye votes and one nay vote.

D. Project and Program Updates.

1. Lincoln/Roseville Service Planning

Mauk reported that staff is continuing to coordinate with Placer County staff on the design and roll out timeline for our planned Roseville/Lincoln connector service, which is now planned as a hybrid intercity express/demand-response service model. Staff has been meeting with Wheatland City staff and Mercy Housing Management to work on a potential funding agreement to offset some of the costs to the new service, on the basis the new service will replace the existing Wheatland service.

2. Cap-and-Trade and SB 125 Funding Agreement

Mauk reported that the governor had introduced a proposal in the “May Revise” to eliminate Cap-and-Trade funding for several grant programs Yuba-Sutter Transit is depending on to deliver the NextGen Facility project. At that time, the programs on the chopping block included the Affordable Housing and State Communities Grant, the Transit Intercity Rail Capital Program (which was also the mechanism for the SB 125 one-time funds received), and the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program. On September 13, 2025, the legislature passed multiple bills to extend the Cap-and-Trade Program and how its proceeds are spent. Specifically, AB 1207 changes the name of the program to Cap-and-Invest and extends the greenhouse gas reduction through January 1, 2046, it also recasts funds to high-speed rail and CalFire as well as other legislature priorities as determined annually.

Mauk stated that if the governor signs the legislation, approx. \$30 million for the NextGen Facility that was in question would appear to be safe.

3. TDA Triennial Performance Audit

Mauk reported that we are now undergoing the Triennial TDA Performance Audit for FY 2022 – 2024, and we will be reporting on any audit findings early next year.

4. 50th Anniversary Event

Mauk stated that the date for our 50th anniversary open house will be Saturday October 18th. We will be sending more details soon.

V. Correspondence / Information

None

VI. Other Business

Director House mentioned the 40-year employee anniversary party for Art Leonard will be held at Yuba-Sutter Transit on Friday, September 26th.

VII. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Yuba County Board of Supervisors Chambers, unless otherwise noticed.

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