May 2022 Volume 33 – Number 5

COMPREHENSIVE OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS & SHORT-RANGE TRANSIT PLAN CONTRACT AWARDED

Since adopting the last Short Range Transit Plan in 2015, Yuba-Sutter Transit has transitioned to a modern all low-floor, heavy-duty fixed route bus fleet; completed the conversion to an all tour-style commuter bus fleet; implemented an electronic fare card system; introduced a real-time bus tracking system; faced a global pandemic; and so much more. In addition, public transportation itself has experienced seismic shifts that started long before the pandemic with the introduction of new technology platforms and changing travel patterns that will now likely never return to pre-pandemic norms.

For these reasons and more, a routine update of the last transit plan was simply not going to be sufficient. As a result, the planning firm of Innovate Mobility, LLC has been selected to complete the Yuba-Sutter Transit Comprehensive Operational Analysis & Short-Range Transit Plan (COA). This plan, which will be conducted in close collaboration with community stakeholders and the public at large, is expected to shape the direction of the Yuba-Sutter Transit system for the next five to ten years through recovery from the pandemic; construction of a new transit maintenance, operations, and administration facility; and transition to the operation of zero-emission vehicles.

The new plan will include a top-to-bottom examination of the entire Yuba-Sutter Transit system (local, rural and commuter routes along with the Dial-A-Ride service) for the purpose of determining the best mix and scope of services for the world in which we now live. The result will be recommendations that could potentially include modifications to existing routes, new service areas, alternative service models, and modern technology-based transportation delivery tools.

The planning process will include a massive public outreach effort with frequent and on-going input opportunities. To stay up to date on plan developments, sign up for electronic service alerts and newsletters on our website at https://www.yubasuttertransit.com/stay-informed. For more information, please contact Adam Hansen at (530) 634-6880 or adam@yubasuttertransit.com.

REGULAR TRANSIT BOARD MEETING CANCELED FOR JUNE 16TH

The regular monthly meeting of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors has been canceled for June. Unless posted otherwise, regular Board meetings are held at 4:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the Yuba County Government Center at 915 Eighth Street, Marysville, CA. The next meetings are scheduled for May 19th and July 21st. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.



TACO FESTIVAL TO CLOSE D STREET IN DOWNTOWN MARYSVILLE ON MAY 14TH

The 3^{rd} Annual Yuba Sutter Taco Festival will be held in Historic Downtown Marysville from 1:00 – 8:00 pm on Saturday, May 14th. As a result, Yuba-Sutter Transit's bus stops at D & 2^{nd} and at F & 2^{nd} will not be served that day. All other stops will be in service.

Kick off the summer season this year with the Taco Festival where you will find tacos, a kid zone, a cornhole tournament, music, a taco-eating contest, a beer garden, a Chihuahua beauty contest, a car show, and more tacos.

For alternate bus stops and detour information, call (530) 742-2877.



MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

Yuba-Sutter Transit will not be in operation and the office will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2022, in observance of Memorial Day. Regular service except as modified for the COVID-19 pandemic will resume on Tuesday, May 31st. 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 BIKE MONTH

Individuals from across the Sacramento Region are signing up and showing their support for bicycling as part of the May is Bike Month Challenge. It's a regional campaign to encourage bicycling, foster friendly competition, and demonstrate the benefits of riding more frequently whether for recreation or regular transportation – and over \$2,000 worth of prizes can be won for riding your bike.

May is Bike Month is open to residents of the six-county Sacramento Region, or anyone who works in the area, and it is free to take part. Registration is still open at www.MayisBikeMonth.com. It does not matter if you ride every day or if you haven't been on a bike in years.

May is an ideal time to embrace all the benefits that riding a bike can bring, like supercharging your physical and mental health, reducing stress and anxiety, saving money on gas, and making a positive impact on our environment. The May is Bike Month Challenge is all about encouraging people to swap cars for handlebars so they can rediscover the joys and benefits of riding first-hand.

This year's challenge partnership is led by Sacramento Area Bike Advocates. SABA is a non-profit organization dedicated to making the Sacramento region a safer, healthier, and friendlier place for all people to ride a bike, whether for commuting, recreation, or exercise. 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. For more details, see the story below on our bike program.

YUBA-SUTTER TRANSIT 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 Bikes and Buses section on our website at www.yubasuttertransit.com/bikes-and-buses or contact Janet Frye at either (530) 634-6880 or janet@yubasuttertransit.com.



CONNECT CARD SALES OUTLETS

Connect Cards can 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. The Sutter County Library is open, but not yet processing Connect Card purchases.

- 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
 Weekdays, 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]

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Web Site: www.yubasuttertransit.com
Connect Card: www.connecttransitcard.com
General Comments/Questions: info@yubasuttertransit.com