

October 2016 Volume 27 – Number 8



# OCTOBER IS "TRY TRANSIT MONTH" SO LET TRANSIT TAKE YOU!

Let transit take you this October during the Sacramento region's **Try Transit** campaign. Volunteers, businesses, public agencies and transit enthusiasts are partnering this year to promote transit for all types of trips. In addition to the environmental benefits, you can also avoid traffic congestion, save time and money and decrease stress. Transit can connect you to work, events, errands and much, much more while you relax and enjoy the trip.

You can participate in **Try Transit** month by pledging to ride transit at SacRegionCommuterClub.org; then take transit for any reason and log those trips on the website for a chance to win prizes. Challenge your friends to a contest on Facebook or by email or just challenge yourself to ditch your car and take transit as much as possible.

All month long, there will be weekly prize drawings; individual and employer challenges; awards; and, travel trainings. If you are in Sacramento, special events will be held during the month at selected light rail park and ride lots to encourage the use of transit to events at the new Golden 1 Center. These special events will include food, music, games and other interactive activities for families.

Visit SacRegionCommuterClub.org for information; to plan trips; and, to calculate your commute costs or just "like" Commuter Club on Facebook at facebook.com/commuterclub to find out more about **Try Transit** events, post photos and receive transit-related updates.

The **Try Transit** campaign is coordinated by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and area public transportation agencies. Visit www.sacregioncommuterclub.org or call (916) 321-9000 for more information.



# ANNUAL LOCAL UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS HEARING SET FOR OCTOBER 28<sup>TH</sup>

A series of public hearings are held each year by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to determine if there are unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in the region. SACOG is the regional transportation planning agency for all of Sacramento, Sutter, Yuba and Yolo Counties. The input from these hearings is used to make decisions regarding the allocation of funding for public transportation purposes in each local jurisdiction.

This year's hearing for all of Yuba and Sutter Counties has been set for 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> in the Yuba County Government Center at 915 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Marysville. The comments received will be evaluated to determine if there are any unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017.

You do not have to attend the hearing to comment, but written or verbal comments must be submitted by November 11<sup>th</sup> to be considered. Comments can be sent by mail to SACOG, 1415 L Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, California 95814; by phone to (916) 340-6275; by TDD to (916) 321-9550; by FAX to (916) 321-9551; by e-mail to transit\_needs@sacog.org; or, through an on-line comment form at www.sacog.org.



### **COLUMBUS DAY NOTICE**

Yuba-Sutter Transit will be in full operation on Columbus Day, Monday, October 10, 2016. All service will operate as scheduled on this date. Call (530) 634-6880 for information.



## STILL LOOKING FOR SOFT LAUNCH VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are still needed to test the new Connect Transit Card when the Sacramento region begins to transition to the new smart card fare payment system. This process will start with a "soft launch" of the new system first in Sacramento followed shortly thereafter by the remaining eight systems including Yuba-Sutter Transit.

This is where our passengers come in as we are now recruiting volunteers to test the Connect Card system during the soft launch period. Are you willing to help make the Connect Card the best it can be? We need feedback from regular transit riders just like you, but soft launch participants must be willing to:

- 1. Take a short survey by using or clicking on this link: connecttransitcard.com/softlaunch
- 2. Receive and load your new Connect Card
- 3. Tap and go!
- 4. Provide feedback

If you would like to apply to participate in the soft launch, simply visit or click on connecttransitcard.com/softlaunch and complete a brief survey or call the Regional Transit Customer Service Center at (916) 321-2877 to request information by mail. As a thank you, all Connect Card soft launch participants will be entered to win one of many \$20 Amazon gift cards.

Whether you participate in the soft launch or not, watch this newsletter for future Connect Card updates or contact Matt Mauk at <a href="matt@yubasuttertransit.com">matt@yubasuttertransit.com</a> or (530) 634-6880 for more information.

The Connect Card is coming!

# NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGE

The regular November meeting of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors has been cancelled due to a staff schedule conflict. A special meeting has instead been set for 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> in the Yuba County Board of Supervisors Chambers of the Yuba County Government Center at 815 Eighth Street in Marysville.

Unless otherwise noticed, regular monthly meetings of the Board are scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the Yuba County Government Center. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

# MINIMUM AGE FOR SENIOR FARE & DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICE IS NOW 64 YEARS OLD

The minimum age for senior eligibility for any discount fare and Dial-A-Ride service increased from 63 to 64 on September 1<sup>st</sup>. This change was approved in 2015 as part of a multi-year increase in the minimum age eligibility to match the Federal maximum age of 65 for any half-fare discounts so it will increase once more on September 1, 2017.

To reduce the impact on existing riders, anyone who has a currently valid Yuba-Sutter Transit senior eligibility photo identification card will remain eligible whether they have reached age 64 or not as long as it is renewed on time. Discount photo ID cards are available only at the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office in Marysville.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.



### **BUS PASSES & TICKET BOOKS**

Monthly passes, discount ticket books and Sacramento punch cards are available throughout the month during normal business hours and by mail in the Yuba-Sutter Transit office at 2100 B Street in Marysville.

#### • Yuba-Sutter Transit Office - Marysville

Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento Commuter Passes & Punch Cards / Single Ride Tickets for All Services [Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]

Fare products are also available in limited quantities at the following locations. Monthly passes are available in these outlets from the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month until the 7<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Ticket books and punch cards are available all month while supplies last.

- Bel Air Market Customer Service Center Yuba City
  Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento
  Commuter Passes & Punch Cards [Cash or Check Only]
- Yuba College Bookstore Linda
   Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento
   Commuter Passes & Punch Cards [Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]

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