

# Yuba-Sutter Transit Newsletter

April 2007

Volume 18 – Number 3

## **SPECIAL NIGHT MEETING SET FOR HEARING ON PROPOSED SACRAMENTO FARE INCREASE**

The Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors has set a public hearing to receive comments on a proposed increase in the Sacramento Commuter and Midday Express fare structure. The hearing will be held during a special night meeting to facilitate attendance by Sacramento commuters. The meeting and hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, 2007 in Conference Room #2 of the Yuba County Government Center at 915 Eighth Street in Marysville.

As proposed, the basic one-way cash fare would increase from \$3.00 to \$3.50 for both the Sacramento Commuter and Midday services. The discount cash fare, which is available only on the Sacramento Midday service, would increase from \$1.50 to \$1.75. The monthly commuter pass would increase from \$100 to \$112. As proposed, the fare change would take effect on July 1, 2007.

If approved, this would be the first Sacramento fare increase since August 2002 and would follow the recent purchase of seven new commuter buses to replace the four oldest buses and the August 2006 addition of new morning and afternoon schedules. The proposed fare increase is projected to add approximately \$50,000 in revenue in FY 2008 which will partially off-set the cost of up to two new morning and afternoon commuter schedules that are included with the proposed fare increase in the draft FY 2008 budget. The planning process for the new schedules is expected to begin in May (see related article).

Interested persons may submit testimony regarding the proposed fare increase either verbally or in writing, before or at the public hearing. Written testimony can be provided by mail to Yuba-Sutter Transit at 2100 B Street, Marysville, CA 95901; by FAX at (530) 634-6888; or, by e-mail to Keith Martin, Transit Manager at [keith\\_martin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:keith_martin@sbcglobal.net). Verbal testimony can also be provided in person at the hearing or by telephone prior to the hearing at (530) 634-6880. All communication must be received either at or prior to the hearing to be considered.

Contact Keith Martin or Dawna Dutra at (530) 634-6880 for more information.

## **SACRAMENTO SERVICE EXPANSION PROPOSAL NOW BEING CONSIDERED**

Yuba-Sutter Transit's draft operating budget for FY 2008 includes two proposals regarding our Sacramento Commuter and Midday Express services. The first is a proposed fare increase (see related article) and the second is a nearly 30 percent increase in peak-hour Sacramento schedules to be funded at least in part by the proposed fare increase.

Since the August 2006 addition of new morning and afternoon commuter schedules, weekday Sacramento ridership has increased each month by an average of ten percent compared to the same month in the previous year. While seats are still available on all runs, capacity is now a regular and growing concern on eleven of the fourteen peak-hour schedules.

To provide immediate capacity and position the service for still more growth, the draft budget includes a proposal to add up to two new morning and afternoon schedules. The process to establish and evaluate specific service expansion options should begin in May after action on the proposed fare increase. This process will include several opportunities for passenger input ultimately concluding with a special night public hearing on the final recommendation.

Any changes resulting from this process are expected to be implemented this summer along with the changes necessary to integrate the new McGowan Parkway and Highway 70 Park & Ride Lot into the system. Contact Keith Martin at (530) 634-6880 or [keith\\_martin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:keith_martin@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

## **SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP SET FOR MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>**

The Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors has set a special meeting for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> in Conference Room #2 of the Yuba County Government Center located at 915 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Marysville. The meeting will include a public hearing on a proposed Sacramento fare increase (see related article) and a detailed workshop on the draft operating and capital budget for FY 2007-2008.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

# Yuba-Sutter Transit Newsletter

## DIAL-A-RIDE INFORMATION & PROCEDURES UPDATED FOR IMPROVED ADA COMPLIANCE

Due to a recent federal review of Yuba-Sutter Transit for compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), several Dial-A-Ride informational and procedural changes have been made effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. None of these changes will affect the daily operation of Dial-A-Ride, but updated Dial-A-Ride brochures are now available on all buses.

Dial-A-Ride has long served as Yuba-Sutter Transit's required ADA complementary paratransit service. While Dial-A-Ride service far exceeds the minimum operational parameters for ADA complementary service, the federal reviewer found that certain public information and monitoring requirements were in need of improvement.

As a result, the Board of Directors approved a management plan in January that called for full implementation of all improvements by April. These improvements include an updated ADA paratransit eligibility application process; more specific ADA references in all passenger information materials; and, improved internal management controls and contract oversight procedures to monitor and maintain on-going compliance with all ADA service requirements.

The most significant change that Dial-A-Ride passengers will initially notice is that passenger names are now required for all Dial-A-Ride trip requests for ADA paratransit service monitoring and reporting purposes. Yuba-Sutter Transit has historically tracked Dial-A-Ride passenger trips only by pick-up addresses. Besides the obvious ADA compliance value, the provision of names will also reduce confusion when more than one passenger has requested a trip from one destination.

Yuba-Sutter Transit will also more prominently promote the local ADA paratransit eligibility application process. ADA eligible passengers must generally be unable to ride our local fixed route bus system because of circumstances related to a disability. (Age is not a factor when determining ADA eligibility.)

Long available to Yuba-Sutter Transit passengers, ADA certification was unnecessary since our Dial-A-Ride eligibility and service standards have always been very liberal. ADA eligibility can be critical in other communities where such service is often provided only to ADA paratransit eligible passengers. New and renewal applications for senior/disabled discount fare photo identification cards will be evaluated to determine if the higher level of ADA paratransit service eligibility should apply.

Contact Keith Martin at (530) 634-6880 for more information or to receive an ADA paratransit service eligibility application packet.

## NEW THREE POSITION BIKE RACKS & BIKE LOCKERS FOR "BIKE & RIDE" PROGRAM

New three position bike racks are now available on all commuter buses as the latest addition to our award winning "Bike & Ride" program. The same model will be installed on all fixed route buses when most of that fleet is replaced this winter. These racks double the capacity of the existing racks in response to the popularity of this value-added program.

If you prefer to leave your bike behind, reservations are now being taken for available bike locker locations at Sam's Club; the Yuba County Government Center; and, the North Beale Transit Center. Lockers are available for \$5 per month (three month minimum) or \$50 a year plus a \$25 refundable key/security deposit with specific use limitations.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

## BUS PASSES & TICKET BOOKS

Monthly passes and discount ticket books are sold at the following locations. Some outlets do not carry all types of fare media and monthly passes are available only from the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month until the 7<sup>th</sup> of the following month except at Yuba-Sutter Transit where all are available at any time. All passes and tickets are also available by mail. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

1. Bel Air Market Customer Service Counter – **Yuba City**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento  
Commuter Passes & Punch Cards
2. Yuba-Sutter Mall Service Counter – **Yuba City**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento  
Commuter Passes & Punch Cards
3. Walgreen's Drug – **Marysville**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento  
Commuter Passes & Punch Cards
4. Yuba College Cashier's Office – **Linda**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes
5. Yuba-Sutter Transit Office – **Marysville**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento  
Commuter Passes & Punch Cards / Single Ride Tickets  
for All Services

---

**Yuba-Sutter Transit**  
**2100 B Street**  
**Marysville, CA 95901**  
**Administration: (530) 634-6880**  
**FAX: (530) 634-6888**

**Service Information: (530) 742-2877 / TTY: 634-6889**  
**Toll-Free: 511**

**Web Site: [www.yubasuttertransit.com](http://www.yubasuttertransit.com)**