

## REGULAR COMMUTERS SAVE BIG BUCKS RIDING THE BUS

Trying to save for Christmas or maybe just to treat the family to a special trip during the holidays? One easy way to pile up the cash in a hurry is to ride the bus more often! Using conservative local factors in the Fuel Savings Calculator at [www.publictransportation.org](http://www.publictransportation.org), a typical Yuba-Sutter Transit commuter to downtown Sacramento saves about \$4,400 a year and this figure would increase to almost \$10,000 if they could somehow get by with one less vehicle as a result. How else can you add that kind of money to your budget – tax free, no less?

This example assumes weekday ridership on our Sacramento service using a monthly pass compared to the cost of operating a mid-size car on a 42-mile one-way trip between Marysville/ Yuba City and downtown Sacramento. This calculation also assumes an average fuel price of \$4.00 per gallon, vehicle efficiency of 25 MPG and parking costs of \$150 per month. Your figures will vary so enter your own estimates for each factor in the calculator to see just how much you can save!

Even if you don't ride every day, you can still save a bundle riding just once or twice a week since just the cost of parking in downtown Sacramento probably exceeds the roundtrip cash fare on our luxury commuter buses. Combine that with the fuel savings; reduced wear and tear on both you and your car; and, any transit subsidy that you may get from your employer and you will quickly see how you can save big – really big – by riding the bus and the more you ride, the more you save!



## SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>

The Annual Senior Resource Fair will be held from 9:00 a.m. to Noon on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> in the Yuba City Senior Center at 777 Ainsley Avenue in Yuba City. This free event will feature over 50 vendors representing housing, nutrition, legal services, financial services, health care and transportation for seniors along with flu shots, document shredding and much more.

Call the Senior Center at (530) 822-4608 for more information on this and the many other activities and programs that are being offered throughout the year.

## HUNDREDS OF PHOTO I.D. CARDS WILL EXPIRE DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>

Are you still using an old Yuba-Sutter Transit photo identification (ID) card as proof of eligibility for any discount fares? Does it have an expiration date of December 31, 2019 or earlier? If so, it is time to replace it with a Connect Card discount photo ID card.

Discount photo ID cards are issued to qualified seniors (age 65 and over), youth (ages 5 – 18) and persons with disabilities as proof of eligibility for discount fares and for Dial-A-Ride service as applicable. Issued on a Connect Card electronic fare card, the new cards are valid for up to five years and they are FREE when exchanged for an expiring card. Hundreds of these cards will expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> and will not be accepted as proof of eligibility after a one-month grace period.

Photo ID cards are available only at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office at 2100 B Street in Marysville. The office is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.



## NOVEMBER HOLIDAY SERVICE & OFFICE SCHEDULE

November is a busy holiday month so please take note of the following service and office schedule.

- Yuba-Sutter Transit will be closed and no service will be operated on Thanksgiving Day, **Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**.
- Sacramento routes will not be operated on **Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Veteran's Day or on the day after Thanksgiving, **Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**, but all other services will operate as scheduled on those days.
- The Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office will be closed on **November 11<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>**.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

## CONNECT CARD TIPS

Over 60 percent of our passengers now board the bus with a Connect Card so here are some useful tips from our staff to help maximize your use of the fare card system **AND** minimize your cost to ride the bus.

**REGISTER YOUR CARD** – If your card is lost or stolen, the remaining cash balance or any monthly passes on that card can be transferred to another card, but only if it has been registered. Discount photo ID Connect Cards are registered when they are issued, but general public cards must be registered to activate this cost-saving feature.

**DAILY CAP** – When you use a Connect Card to pay your cash fare on any local fixed route bus, you are automatically using the daily cap provision of the system. **The most you will pay each day is just two local fares because all taps thereafter are free of charge.** Please note that the daily cap is tracked only on the local fixed route system and only for the first fare paid each boarding. If you are traveling in a group, everyone needs their own Connect Card.

**LOADING YOUR CARD** – Allow 24 to 48 hours for any on-line Connect Card purchase to appear on your card. **Your paper receipt, screen shot or print-out will not be accepted as proof of payment.** If time is critical, in-person purchases made at any Connect Card outlet are loaded instantly, but only if the card is present.

**OUTLET PURCHASES** – When purchasing a pass at an outlet, be sure to use the correct language so your card is loaded properly. If you want a disabled monthly pass, ask for “a disabled monthly pass for the month of \_\_\_\_\_”. If you simply ask for \$5 on your card when you really want a discount monthly pass, the attendant may load \$5 in cash value instead. Even then, **check your receipt before you leave the outlet** to make sure that your card has been loaded properly.

**AUTO-LOAD** – To eliminate last-minute scrambles to load a new pass or add cash value, regular passengers should consider using the “Auto-Load” feature. If you aren’t comfortable with that for any reason, maintaining a small cash balance on your card for such occasions will make sure that the bus does not leave the stop without you.

**CHECK YOUR CASH BALANCE WHEN YOU BOARD** – When you tap your Connect Card to pay your fare, your remaining cash balance is displayed on the tap device screen. If you run out of money on your card, you will be required to make up the difference in cash. Avoid this situation by making it a practice to check your cash balance each time you board.

**TAKE CARE OF YOUR CARD** – Do not bend, twist, wash or punch holes in your card. If the electronics stop working, it can no longer be read by the card reader on the bus and you will have to pay your fare in cash until you get a replacement card. While replacement cards do cost \$5, the good news is that any remaining cash value or monthly passes can be transferred to your new card, **BUT only if it has been registered** (see “Register Your Card” tip above).

**MONTHLY PASSES VALID ON RURAL ROUTES** – All of our monthly passes are now accepted as fare payment on our three rural routes, but they are only available on a Connect Card.

Call (530) 634-6880 or email us at [info@yubasuttertransit.com](mailto:info@yubasuttertransit.com) if you have any questions.

## NEW LOCAL FIXED ROUTE BUSES ARE NOW BEING DELIVERED

Eleven new buses are now being delivered to replace the oldest of our local fixed route bus fleet. These new heavy-duty, 35’, 31 passenger, low-floor, clean-diesel powered buses are manufactured in Livermore, California by the Gillig Corporation. They will be replacing eleven 2008 model medium-duty, 30’ and 35’ buses that have reached their designed 10-year useful life and become increasingly unreliable.

Nearly identical to the 2013 model Gillig buses that now form the backbone of our 22-bus local fixed route fleet, the new buses will feature a much-improved wheelchair securement system and convertible front row seats for faster boarding times and improved passenger comfort. The \$5.8 million budget for this project is being financed with \$4.5 million in Federal transit funds and \$1.3 million in State transit funds. Watch for the new buses appearing soon at a bus stop near you!



## CONNECT CARD FARE OUTLETS

Connect Cards can be loaded at the following local sales outlets and on the Connect Card website. Cards can hold up to \$360 in cash value and/or passes for up to three months. Check with each location for current business hours as they may change without notice.

- **Bel Air Market – Yuba City – (530) 755-3991**  
[Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]
- **Sutter County Library – Yuba City – (530) 822-7137**  
[Cash or Check Only]
- **Yuba County Library – Marysville – (530) 749-7380**  
[Cash, Credit or Debit – Fee Applied for Credit/Debit]
- **Yuba College Bookstore – Linda – (530) 741-6998**  
[Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]
- **Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office – Marysville**  
[Cash, Check, Credit or Debit]
- **Connect Card Website – [www.ConnectTransitCard.com](http://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 during normal weekday business hours at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office in Marysville. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

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Connect Card: [www.connecttransitcard.com](http://www.connecttransitcard.com)

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