

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 12556

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of Application of
SAN DIEGO ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY,
a corporation, for permission to
abandon service over, and to take
up its tracks from its Imperial
Avenue street railway line, from
34th Street and Imperial Avenue to
40th Street and Imperial Avenue,
in the City of San Diego, California.

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:
)Application No. 9094
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R. G. Dilworth for Applicant.

S. J. Higgins, City Attorney, by
Stanley T. Howe, Deputy, for the City of
San Diego.

BY THE COMMISSION,

O-P-I-N-I-O-N

San Diego Electric Railway Company, a corporation, herein petitions the Railroad Commission for an order authorizing the discontinuance of street railway service over the portion of its so-called Imperial Avenue Line from 34th Street to 40th Street in the City of San Diego and for the removal of its tracks therefrom.

A public hearing on the application was conducted by Examiner Handford at San Diego, the matter was duly submitted and is now ready for decision.

The line on Imperial Avenue, herein proposed to be abandoned, is located on an unpaved street and is in poor physical condition. The electors of the City of San Diego by an election held on March 20, 1923 have determined to pave Imperial Avenue and

if operation of street cars is to be continued the line will require to be reconstructed at an expense of approximately \$75,000.00. The line serves a sparsely settled community and it is alleged that the traffic offering is not sufficient to justify the expenditure for reconstruction which is necessary by reason of the anticipated paving.

The City of San Diego by Resolution No. 29172 of its Common Council adopted April 23, 1923 has determined that it is for the best interest of said city that a franchise be granted authorizing the construction of a street railway line from a connection with the present Woolman Avenue Line at 30th Street, thence along said Woolman Avenue to 39th Street, thence northerly along 39th Street to the intersection of 39th Street and Imperial Avenue. Applicant proposes to immediately construct the proposed line, upon the granting of the franchise therefor, and to operate same as an extension to its present so-called Woolman Avenue Line thereby adequately serving patrons now using the portion of the Imperial Avenue Line herein proposed to be abandoned, the proposed new routing caring for such patrons and also for communities located southerly from and along Woolman Avenue which are now not within a reasonable distance from street car service.

The original purpose of the construction of the Imperial Avenue Line from 32nd Street to its terminus at Imperial Avenue and 40th Street was to care for traffic to and from the cemeteries. This extension was constructed in 1909 and since that time conditions have changed and persons desiring to visit the cemeteries are using other methods of transportation. Such as desire street car service will be accommodated by the use of the proposed Woolman Avenue Line extension which will terminate at the intersection of 39th Street and Imperial Avenue, Imperial

Avenue being the southerly boundary of the cemeteries.

At the public hearing there was no protest against the granting of the application although due notice had been given all interested persons by advertisement and by posting notice of the hearing in the cars operated on the Imperial Avenue Line.

We are of the opinion that the granting of the application will enable applicant to more satisfactorily serve patrons and enable transportation service to be available for residents of developing territory now beyond reasonable access to the street car lines on Woolman or Imperial Avenues.

O-R-D-E-R

A public hearing having been held in the above entitled proceeding, the matter having been duly submitted and the Commission being now fully advised,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that applicant, San Diego Electric Railway Company, be and it hereby is authorized to suspend operation of the portion of its Imperial Avenue street car line from the intersection of 34th Street and Imperial Avenue, upon and along Imperial Avenue to the terminus at the intersection of Imperial Avenue and 40th Street, all in the City of San Diego, and to remove its tracks, wires and poles therefrom.

This order shall be effective when applicant will have placed in operation motor coach service on Imperial Avenue between 34th and 40th Streets, such motor coach service to be operated during the construction of the extension of the Woolman Avenue Line from the intersection of Woolman Avenue and 30th

Street, thence along and upon Woolman Avenue to its intersection with 39th Street, thence along and upon 39th Street to the terminus at the intersection of 39th Street and Imperial Avenue.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 29th day of August, 1923.

P. L. Seaver

Carlton Shore

J. T. Whitting
Commissioners