

Decision No. 16137

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of The Harbor Tug and Barge Company)
for Certificate of Public Convenience)
and Necessity to operate vessels for)
the transportation of persons for)
compensation between points upon the)
inland waters of the State of Calif-)
ornia.)

APPLICATION No. 12560

Brobeck, Phleger and Harrison, by G.A. Harrison
for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

This is an application of the Harbor Tug and Barge Company, a California corporation, under the provisions of paragraph (d), section 50, of the Public Utilities Act, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate vessels for the transportation of persons between Oakland and Alameda.

The petition sets forth that the proposed service is to meet an emergency situation brought about by the recent destruction of the Webster Street Bridge spanning the Oakland estuary and connecting the cities of Alameda and Oakland. It is alleged there is now no means of direct transportation at

Webster Street between the cities and until the bridge is repaired transportation must be over circuitous and inconvenient routes.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Geary at San Francisco March 8, 1926 and the application having been duly submitted is now ready for an opinion and order.

The fare will be 5 cents and the distance between Oakland and Alameda via the route to be traveled is approximately one-fourth of a mile. Applicant has arranged for the use of city wharves in Oakland and wharves owned by the Associated Oil Company in Alameda. The time schedule will be every fifteen minutes between the hours of 6 A.M. and 8 P.M., and the vessels employed will have a carrying capacity of approximately 80 passengers; as many boats will be furnished as the traffic requires. Applicant estimates at the commencement of operations a total of 1000 passengers per day, employing one boat at an expense of \$40.00 per day. At the present time the Associated Oil Company is performing a service for the transportation of its own employees with boats chartered from this applicant and handles about 400 persons per day in each direction; this special service will be discontinued when applicant begins to operate, which will be immediately following authority of this Commission and the securing of a franchise from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. Arrangements will be made with the Key System Transit Company for connecting street cars at both ends of the route.

The bridge destroyed January 7, 1926 is now being repaired and it is expected will be ready for service about August 31, 1926, when this applicant will apply for authority to

discontinue its service.

Under date January 20, 1926 by Decision No. 15886, in Application No. 12446, Harry E. Speas was given a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate vessels for the transportation of passengers and automobiles between the same points as involved in the instant proceeding. Mr. Speas will not use the authority granted and has notified the Commission to cancel the certificate of public convenience and necessity. An order will issue today making such cancellation.

We are of the opinion and find as a fact that public convenience and necessity require the establishment of a passenger service by vessel between the city of Oakland and the city of Alameda via the Oakland estuary from wharves located in Alameda in the vicinity of Webster Street Bridge, and in Oakland also in the vicinity of Webster Street Bridge, as set forth in applicant's petition, and that a certificate should be granted authorizing passenger service at rate of 5 cents per passenger, as set forth in the application hereinbefore referred to.

ORDER

A public hearing having been held in the above entitled proceeding, the same having been duly submitted and now being ready for a decision,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require the operation by the Harbor Tug and Barge Company, a California corporation, of vessels for the transportation of persons, for compensation, across the Oakland estuary, between Oakland and Alameda, at points located near Webster Street on the Oakland side, and near Webster Street, on the Alameda side, as set forth in the application.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and the same is hereby granted, subject to the following conditions:

Applicant, before beginning operations, shall secure a franchise from the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County, as required by law.

Applicant shall file written acceptance of the certificate herein granted within a period not to exceed ten (10) days from the date hereof, and shall file tariff, according to the rules of this Commission, setting forth the rate, rules and regulations governing the transportation furnished, which rate shall be .05 cents, as set forth in the application and referred to in the foregoing opinion.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 11th day of March, 1926.

H. B. ...
C. ...
...

Commissioners.