

Decision No. 24859.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application
of SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for
authority to close its agency station
and establish jointly with the Pacific
Electric Railway Company an agency at
the station of the Pacific Electric
Railway Company at Monrovia, County of
Los Angeles, State of California.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 17947.

R. E. Wedekind for the Applicant and for
Pacific Electric Railway Company.

John B. McBratney for Monrovia Chamber of
Commerce.

N. S. Crandall for Monrovia Merchants
Association.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In the above entitled proceeding Southern Pacific
Company applied for authority to close its agency at Monrovia
Station on its Duarte Branch, Los Angeles Division, and to es-
tablish a joint agency with Pacific Electric Railway at Monrovia.

A public hearing was held at Monrovia on May 26, 1932
before Examiner Kennedy, at which time the matter was duly
submitted.

The Pacific Electric Railway Station is located on
Myrtle Avenue in Monrovia two blocks north of Southern Pacific
Station, a distance of some six hundred feet. The Pacific Electric
Station is the more centrally located with respect to the business
section of the city. The Southern Pacific Agency is now open be-
tween the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. If the proposed con-
solidation is effected it will result in extending the hours for

Southern Pacific service to that of the Pacific Electric Railway from 7:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., thereby giving Southern Pacific patrons nearly two hours additional service. Applicant does not propose to abandon any service now offered the public at Monrovia but merely to consolidate the two stations thereby saving the expense of maintaining this agency. Carload freight shipments will be received at and dispatched from the Southern Pacific Station as at present while L.C.L. shipments will be handled at the Pacific Electric Station.

Southern Pacific Company does not operate any passenger trains through Monrovia, therefore consolidation of the two stations will in no way affect passenger service except through the purchase of main line and Pullman tickets, which will be available at the Pacific Electric Station instead of Southern Pacific Station as has been the case in the past.

The following tabulation taken from applicant's Exhibit No. 2 shows the operating results over a two year period ending April 30, 1932:

COMPARISON OF BUSINESS HANDLED AT MONROVIA, CALIFORNIA
DURING 12 MONTHS ENDED APRIL 30, 1932 AND APRIL 30, 1931, RESPECTIVELY

STATION DATA	: YEAR ENDED :		: YEAR ENDED :		: AVERAGE PER MONTH :	
	: APR. 30, 1932 :	: PER MO. :	: APR. 30, 1931 :	: AVERAGE :	: COMPARISON :	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<u>FREIGHT FORWARDED & RECEIVED:</u>						
Carload - cars	290	24	400	33	-	9
Carload revenue	\$26,948	\$2,248	\$26,958	\$2,247	-	\$1
Less-than-carload (tons)	160	13	214	18	-	5
Less-than-carload (revenue)	\$3,706	\$309	\$5,022	\$419	-	\$110
<u>PASSENGERS AND REVENUE</u>						
Agency reports - passengers	660	55	752	63	-	8
Agency reports - revenue	\$7,951	\$663	\$10,063	\$839	-	\$176

STATION EXPENSES COMPARED WITH LESS-THAN-CARLOAD AND TICKET
REVENUE FOR YEAR ENDED APRIL 30th, 1932.

Total station expense	\$1,921
Average per month	\$160
Less-than-carload revenue	\$3,706
Average per month	\$309
Ticket revenue (agency reports)	\$7,951
Average per month	\$663

Applicant showed that the item of station expense for the system represents only 7.55% of the balance of Rail Operating Costs.

The Monrovia Chamber of Commerce appeared as a protestant to the granting of this application. This organization raised the question as to whether or not one agent could adequately take care of the business of both the Pacific Electric Railway Company and the Southern Pacific Company at Monrovia as proposed by the applicant, and also registered an objection to the boarding up of the Southern Pacific Station if the application was granted. With respect to one agent taking care of the business of both companies, the record justifies the conclusion that an agent located at the Pacific Electric Station, as proposed, could take care of the business of both companies. The work of the Southern Pacific agent is confined largely to transacting business incident to the operation of only one train a day, except during a short period of the year when extra trains are operated to take care of fruit shipments. With respect to meeting the protestant's opposition to the boarding up of the Southern Pacific Station, applicant's witness testified that it was not its intention to board up the windows unless acts of vandalism made such steps necessary as a means of protecting the company's property.

The Monrovia Merchants' Association appeared as an interested party and offered no protest.

Although notice of this hearing was sent to the City Council of Monrovia, it did not enter an appearance.

After carefully considering the record in this proceeding it is concluded that the application should be granted as the plan will permit of a considerable saving with little or no detriment to the service now maintained.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been had before Examiner Kennedy and the matter having been submitted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company is hereby authorized to close its agency at its Monrovia Station on its Duarte Branch, Los Angeles Division, and to establish jointly with Pacific Electric Railway Company an agency at Monrovia, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Applicant shall post notice of the consolidation in a conspicuous place in its station at Monrovia not less than five (5) days prior to the actual date of consolidation.
- (2) Applicant shall within thirty (30) days thereafter notify this Commission, in writing, of the discontinuance of the facilities authorized herein, and of its compliance with the conditions hereof.
- (3) The authorization herein granted shall lapse and become void, if not exercised within one (1) year from the date hereof, unless further time is granted by subsequent order.

The authority herein granted shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 13th day of June, 1932.

C. S. Avery
Leon Whitely
M. J. Carr
M. B. Lewis
Fred G. Stewart
 Commissioners.