

Decision No. 31367

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
PASADENA-OCEAN PARK STAGE LINE, INC.,
a corporation, for authority to
temporarily suspend its motor coach
operation between Hollywood on the one
hand and Santa Monica-Ocean Park on
the other.

Application No. 22104

Rodney F. Williams and Bart F. Wade,
for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION.

O P I N I O N

Pasadena-Ocean Park Stage Line, Inc., has requested that this Commission issue an order permitting applicant to suspend, for a period of two years, its passenger motor coach operations along that portion of its Pasadena-Ocean Park Motor Coach Line between Hollywood and Ocean Park.

A public hearing on this application was conducted by Examiner William H. Gorman, at Los Angeles, on September 21, 1938, at which time the matter was duly submitted.

The original certificate authorizing a passenger stage operation between Pasadena and Ocean Park was granted by this Commission's Decision No. 6962, dated December 19, 1919, in Application No. 4777. Pasadena-Ocean Park Stage Line, Inc., was authorized to purchase said certificate by this Commission's Decision No. 17544, dated October 29, 1926, in Application No. 13174. This certificate does not permit the transportation of passengers locally between Hollywood and Ocean Park.

The record shows that prior to 1929, applicant enjoyed a substantial amount of passenger business between Pasadena,

Eagle Rock and Glendale on the one hand and Santa Monica and Ocean Park on the other hand; that during the summer months prior to 1929, applicant maintained an hourly schedule between Pasadena and Ocean Park; that beginning in the latter part of 1929, applicant was required, due to the general unfavorable economic conditions, to substantially curtail service, and applicant has during the past five years operated only one round trip daily between Hollywood and Ocean Park.

When applicant reduced its service to one round trip daily between Hollywood and Ocean Park, it entered into a concurrence with Pacific Electric Railway Company whereby the traveling public was afforded the benefit of joint rates and a combination of bus service between Pasadena and Hollywood and a rail service between Hollywood and Ocean Park. The following statement shows the amount of traffic handled, revenues and operating expenses during the period, October, 1937, to May, 1938:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Passengers Eastbound</u>	<u>Passengers Westbound</u>	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Revenue Per Mile</u>	<u>Out of Pocket Oper. Exp.</u>	<u>Out of Pocket Op. Exp. Per Mile</u>
1937							
Oct.	48	52	837	\$12.90	.0154	\$104	\$.1247
Nov.	50	43	810	12.30	.0151	101	"
Dec.	32	51	837	16.70	.0199	104	"
1938							
Jan.	392	372	1173	62.25	.0530	146	"
Feb.	63	32	756	16.40	.0216	94	"
March	53	44	837	15.10	.0180	104	"
April	64	38	810	15.70	.0193	101	"
May	63	48	837	15.85	.0189	104	"

Applicant requests permission to suspend its operations rather than to abandon the service, because it is of the opinion that with the expenditure of large sums of Federal money, there is a fair likelihood that conditions will improve to an extent which would justify a resumption of service, and the further possibility that

applicant may request authority to serve locally between Hollywood and Ocean Park. Applicant's general manager testified that he has had requests from time to time for the establishment of local bus service between Hollywood and Ocean Park and that if business conditions improve and requests continue for such service, an application will be filed with the Commission for authority to provide such local service.

No one appeared at the hearing in protest to the granting of this application, however, the City of Santa Monica forwarded a copy of its Resolution No. 1894, dated August 10, 1938, to the Commission, requesting that the application be denied or that the certificate of public convenience and necessity be revoked. A similar request was also received from Santa Monica-Ocean Park Chamber of Commerce.

It appears that City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica-Ocean Park Chamber of Commerce are of the opinion that applicant should either improve its service between Hollywood and Ocean Park, or should abandon the operation permanently, so that another carrier may apply for authority to render such service should it so desire. The mere fact that an operation is under suspension would not preclude another carrier from applying to the Commission, or the Commission granting such carrier the right to perform such service.

The Board of Public Utilities and Transportation of the City of Los Angeles, under date of September 20, 1938, advised the Commission that it had no objection to the granting of this application.

Applicant requests authority to operate, during the suspension period, on the day each year on which the Tournament of Roses Parade and East-West Football Game are held at Pasadena.

It appears to us that applicant should be in a position to determine within one year whether or not improved business conditions will justify a resumption in service and whether or not applicant will propose any change in the service proposed to be suspended. The Commission does not look with favor on the suspension of operative rights for long periods of time.

After carefully reviewing the record in this proceeding, we are of the opinion that applicant should be permitted to suspend its motor coach operations between Hollywood and Ocean Park for a period of one year, with the understanding that the service be resumed within that period or that the certificate be automatically revoked upon the termination of such suspension period.

ORDER

The above entitled application having been filed, a public hearing having been held and the Commission being fully apprised of the facts,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pasadena-Ocean Park Stage Line, Inc., be, and it is, hereby authorized to suspend its motor coach operation on that portion of its Pasadena-Ocean Park Line between Hollywood and Ocean Park for a period of one year from the effective date of this order, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Applicant shall be permitted, during the period of suspension, to operate its motor busses between Ocean Park and Pasadena on the day on which the Tournament of Roses Parade and the East-West Football Game are held at Pasadena.
- (2) Applicant shall notify the public of the suspension authorized herein, for at least a period of ten (10) days prior to the effective day of such suspension, by the placing of notices in all motor coaches operating on its Pasadena-Ocean Park Line.

- (3) Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days after the effective date of the suspension, notify the Commission in writing as to the date of suspension of service.
- (4) If applicant has not resumed the service authorized to be suspended herein on or before one year from the effective date of this order, then the certificate of public convenience and necessity, in so far as it relates to transportation between Hollywood and Ocean Park, shall be considered revoked and of no further force and effect.

For all other purposes, the effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 17th day of October, 1938.

Raymond C. Johnson
Leon S. Caldwell
Frank W. Miller
Ray L. Rice

Commissioners.