

Decision No. 35844

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
 PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY, a)
 corporation, to discontinue rail) Application No. 25144
 passenger service on its General)
 Hospital (shuttle) line.)

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORIGINAL

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding Pacific Electric Railway Company seeks authority to abandon its shuttle rail passenger service now conducted between Echandia Junction and Mission Road (General Hospital), a distance of approximately 0.388 miles. At Echandia Junction passengers of the General Hospital shuttle line, travelling to and from the central business district and other points, transfer to applicant's Watts-Sierra Vista line. This shuttle service was established March 20, 1938 as part of a plan to consolidate certain operations which had been conducted by applicant. Previously the General Hospital was served by another line.

From the application it appears that this operation has not yielded sufficient revenue to meet the out-of-pocket operating (1) costs. A traffic check discloses that during a representative

(1) A statement accompanying the application indicating the financial results of operating the General Hospital line, during the period January to May, 1942, inclusive, discloses the following:

Passenger revenue	\$1532.00
Out-of-pocket costs	<u>3547.00</u>
Out-of-pocket loss	\$2015.00
Car miles operated	7237
Passenger revenue per car mile	21.16 cents
Out-of-pocket cost per car mile	49.01 cents

period of one week the average number of revenue passengers handled per day from Echandia Junction was 158.4 and from General Hospital, the daily average was 148.5 passengers. The average number of revenue passengers per schedule, outbound from Echandia Junction was 2.19, and inbound, ⁽²⁾ 2.05.

The equipment now used to provide this service, comprising one 100-class car with a seating capacity of 40 passengers, could be used elsewhere upon applicant's system to greater public advantage than in the present shuttle operation. As part of a general plan to conserve equipment, applicant

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- (2) The traffic check mentioned, which covered a period of one week, from June 22 to June 28, 1942, inclusive, discloses the following information:

Outbound from Echandia Junction

Total revenue passengers, Monday, June 22, to Saturday, June 27, incl.	977
Total revenue passengers, Sunday, June 28,	<u>132</u>
Total during week	1109

No. of schedules per day (Monday to Saturday, incl.)	76
No. of schedules, Sunday	51

Average passengers per schedule:

During Monday to Saturday	2.14
Sunday	2.59
Week days and Sunday	2.19

Inbound from General Hospital

Total revenue passengers, Monday, June 22, to Saturday, June 27, incl.	937
Total revenue passengers Sunday, June 28	<u>103</u>
Total during week	1040

No. of schedules per day (Monday to Saturday, incl.)	76
No. of schedules, Sunday	51

Average passengers per schedule:

During Monday to Saturday	2.03
Sunday	1.98
Week days and Sunday	2.05

proposes to use this car along with others of the same type on its Echo Park Line. Under existing war conditions it is essential that equipment be used to its maximum capacity, and that wherever possible it be devoted to service on those lines where the greatest volume of traffic moves.

Though the public may suffer some inconvenience from the withdrawal of the service, this is out-weighed by the need, here shown to exist, for more efficient use of this equipment. The General Hospital area is also served by two motor coach lines of Los Angeles Railway Corporation which provide connections at transfer points with other lines of that carrier, both rail and bus. Passengers using applicant's Watts-Sierra Vista line would still be within walking distance of the hospital. Under the circumstances, therefore, the public would still receive an adequate transportation service.

In our judgement, the abandonment of this line is justified, and accordingly, our order will so provide. No public hearing appears to be necessary.

O R D E R

Application having been made as above entitled, and the Commission now being fully advised,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Pacific Electric Railway Company be and it hereby is authorized to discontinue and abandon the operation of the street railroad passenger service, as defined by section 2(g), Public Utilities Act, heretofore and now conducted over its General Hospital shuttle line between Echandia Junction and Mission

Road, a distance of approximately 0.338 miles:

Such authority is granted subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Applicant shall give the public at least ten (10) days' notice of the abandonment authorized herein by posting notices on all coaches operating on the line involved and at all stations affected.
- (b) Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days after the expiration of the ten day period hereinabove referred to, advise the Commission in writing of the abandonment herein authorized and of compliance with the conditions thereof.

2. That Pacific Electric Railway Company be and it hereby is authorized to cancel, upon not less than ten (10) days' notice to the Commission and the public in conformity with the Commission's rules, any and all passenger fares, rules and regulations contained in its tariffs currently on file, and any and all time schedules, relating to said street railroad service over said General Hospital shuttle line.

The effective date of this order shall be the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 6th day of October, 1942.

Justus J. Grauer

[Signature]

Francis X. Stevens

[Signature]

COMMISSIONERS