

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 36253

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
ASBURY RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM, a cor-)
poration, for authority to suspend)
for the duration of the present war)
emergency the operation of its pres-)
ently authorized service for the)
transportation of passengers, baggage,)
express, and freight between Los)
Angeles and Pasadena, on the one hand,)
and Mount Wilson on the other hand.)

Application No. 25531

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Asbury Rapid Transit System, a corporation, has made application for an order authorizing suspension of its Los Angeles - Mount Wilson Line for the duration of the present war emergency.

Applicant, pursuant to authority heretofore granted by the Commission, is engaged in the operation of a motor coach service for the transportation of passengers, baggage, express and freight, as a common carrier, between various points in Los Angeles County.

One of these authorized services presently conducted is between Los Angeles and Pasadena, on the one hand, and Mount Wilson, on the other hand, on what is designated as applicant's Los Angeles - Pasadena - Mount Wilson Division. (1) The operation commenced at

(1) This was a prior right originally possessed by Webb and Hendricks, and subsequently acquired from them by T. C. Gillespie in Decision No. 16455, dated April 9, 1926.

Sixth and Main Streets, Los Angeles, thence over designated streets to Pasadena, thence to Mount Wilson. The returning route was identical to Pasadena, where a deviation was authorized to the Sixth and Main Station.

The application sets forth that the mileage operated on this route is 72 miles per day except Fridays and Saturdays, on which days the mileage is 144 miles per day. The total mileage now operated by applicant on this division is 20,708 bus miles per year.

The two points of interest at Mount Wilson are the Observatory and Mount Wilson Hotel. There is a heavy movement of sight-seeing passengers to both these points. On February 14, 1943, said Observatory was closed to the public for the duration of the war emergency. This was to discourage the use of private automobiles and thus to aid in the conservation of rubber. The passengers carried to Mount Wilson were destined to that point only for vacation or pleasure purposes. They were not connected in any way with the war effort, and do not contribute to any of the war industries. There are no houses or residences served by this division.

In view of the closing of Mount Wilson Observatory and the consequent number of miles which would be saved by a temporary suspension of this service, it is applicant's belief that in the conservation of rubber, man-power and equipment, the operation above described should be suspended for the time being, or until the termination of the war.

The Board of Public Utilities and Transportation of the City of Los Angeles has officially considered the application and recommends that it be granted. That body made an investigation of the matter and ascertained that there would be a possible annual saving of 33,700 coach miles, or approximately 135,000 tire miles.

annually. The Board in its report also pointed out that said suspension would be consistent with requests of the Office of Defense Transportation and would release equipment for use on other lines contributing to the war effort.

We are of the opinion that the suspension of service as requested is in the public interest and the application will therefore be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

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

IT IS ORDERED as follows:

(1) That the applicant, Asbury Rapid Transit System, a corporation, be and it hereby is authorized to suspend until the further order of the Commission the operation of its service, as a passenger stage corporation and as a highway common carrier, between Los Angeles and Pasadena, on the one hand, and Mount Wilson, on the other hand, over its Los Angeles - Pasadena - Mount Wilson Division.

(2) That public notice of the suspension of said service shall be given by posting a notice thereof in each of the motor coaches operated by applicant over said Los Angeles - Pasadena - Mount Wilson Division, at least five (5) days prior to the date on which such suspension shall become effective, and by filing with the Commission appropriate supplements to its tariffs and time schedules reflecting the authority herein granted.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, March 23, 1943.

Francis R. Havens
John A. Kelly
Justice C. C. Quinn
James J. Jackson
Francis W. Davis
COMMISSIONERS