

**ORIGINAL**

Decision No. 40518

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 BAKERSFIELD & KERN ELECTRIC RAILWAY )  
 COMPANY (a) For authority to reroute )  
 and extend the Route 3, Chester Ave- )  
 nue-California Avenue Tract bus line, )  
 from the Alta Vista Tract into the )  
 Drury Addition, and establish a fare )  
 zone at Pacific Street and Union Ave- )  
 nue. (b) For authority to reroute the )  
 northerly portion of Route 2, La )  
 Cresta-West 19th Street bus line. )  
 (c) For authority to reroute a )  
 portion of the Route 5, Flower-Niles )  
 bus line, from 19th Street and Union )  
 Avenue to Baker and Niles Streets via )  
 Union Avenue and Niles Street to )  
 facilitate the movement of through )  
 passenger traffic. )

Application No. 28516

O P I N I O N

In this application, Bakersfield & Kern Electric Railway Company requests authority to extend and reroute portions of the following existing bus lines:

- (a) Route 3, Chester Avenue-California Avenue
- (b) Route 2, La Cresta-West 19th Street
- (c) Route 5, Flower-Niles

Applicant proposes to extend its Route No. 3, Chester Avenue-California Avenue bus line, from the present terminus at Alta Vista Drive and Flower Street northeasterly about one mile to the intersection of Pearl and Haley Streets, with a loop to cover the territory. A portion of the present loop along Flower Street and Union Avenue would be abandoned. Applicant alleges that this extension is necessary to serve a growing area, that there are approximately 2,254 persons in this area, and that construction of new homes is progressing rapidly.

Applicant proposes to establish a fare zone point on Route No. 3 at Pacific Street and Union Avenue so as to provide a 7-cent fare for passengers crossing this zone limit, but maintaining a 5-cent fare for passengers who do not cross this limit. Applicant alleges that the proper location for the fare zone point on Route No. 3 is at Pacific Street and Union Avenue, in order that the fare structure be consistent with the fare structure on Routes Nos. 2 and 5 which serve the same general territory. Applicant further states that a request to establish this fare zone point should have been made at the time authority to extend Route No. 3 to Alta Vista Drive and Flower Street was requested in Application No. 27036 and granted by Decision No. 38446.

It appears the establishment of this fare zone, as requested, will result in an increase in fares from 5 cents to 7 cents for those patrons of Route No. 3 who reside along the route between the proposed fare zone point and the present terminus of the line at Alta Vista Drive and Flower Street, a distance of about one-half mile. The proposed fare zone point is the same distance from downtown Bakersfield as is the Southern Pacific station which is the corresponding fare zone point on Routes Nos. 2 and 5. This increase in fares is hereby found to be justified.

Applicant proposes to reroute a portion of its Route No. 2 - La Cresta - West 19th Street bus line - in the La Cresta area by means of a loop on Irene, Alta Vista, Magnolia, and Skyline. At the same time portions of its present loop on Crawford Street, Bernard Street, and on Alta Vista Drive between Bernard and Irene Streets, would be abandoned. Applicant alleges that this rerouting is necessary to better serve the residents of the area.

This proposed rerouting will remove the Route No. 2 buses from streets on which it is proposed to operate the extended Route No. 3.

Applicant proposes to reroute during peak periods a portion of its Route No. 5 - Flower-Niles Street line. The deviation from the present route will be from Niles and Baker Streets to Union Avenue (Highway 99) and 19th Street via Niles Street and Union Avenue. Applicant alleges that this alternate route is necessary to enable the residents of the northeast section traveling to and from the downtown business section to reach their destination without passing through the highly congested area adjacent to the Southern Pacific depot and in the business area of East Bakersfield.

No other transit system provides service in the area covered by applicant's proposal. The City Council of Bakersfield has approved these extensions.

Applicant proposes that all the changes and extensions requested will be integrated with and coordinated with its present system of passenger stage lines within the City of Bakersfield and in the areas in the County of Kern adjacent to said city. It appears that this is a matter in which a public hearing is not necessary and the application will be granted.

#### O R D E R

Application as above entitled having been filed, the Commission being fully advised in the premises and hereby finding that public convenience and necessity so require,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

(1) That a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and it is hereby granted to the Bakersfield & Kern Electric Railway Company authorizing the establishment and operation of a service as a passenger stage corporation, as defined in Section 2½, Public Utilities Act, as an extension of and to be consolidated with its present operations, for the transportation of passengers between points and over the routes hereinafter described.

(2) That in the operation of the passenger transportation service authorized above, Bakersfield & Kern Electric Railway Company shall comply with and observe the following service regulations:

- a. Written acceptance by letter of the certificate herein granted shall be filed within a period of not to exceed 30 days from the date hereof.
- b. Service shall commence within a period of not to exceed 90 days from the effective date hereof and upon not less than 1 day's notice by letter to the Commission and appropriate notice to the public.
- c. Applicant shall comply with the provisions of General Order No. 79 and Part IV of General Order No. 93-A by filing in triplicate and concurrently making effective appropriate tariffs and time schedules within 90 days from the effective date hereof and on not less than 1 day's notice to the Commission and the public.
- d. Subject to the authority of this Commission to change or modify such at any time by further order, Bakersfield & Kern Electric Railway Company shall conduct said passenger stage operations along the following described routes:

Route 2, La Cresta-West 19th Street Bus Line Extension

From Baker Street and Bernard Street north on Baker Street to Irene Street, west on Irene Street to Alta Vista Drive, north on Alta Vista Drive to Magnolia Avenue, southeast along Magnolia Avenue and Skyline Boulevard to Baker Street, and south along Baker Street to Bernard, and thence over the present La Cresta-West 19th route.

Route 3, Chester Avenue-California Avenue Line Extension

From the intersection of Alta Vista Drive and Flower Street, north on Alta Vista Drive to Bernard Street, east on Bernard Street to Beale Avenue, north on Beale Avenue and Arlington Street to Height Street, east on Height Street to Nelson Street, south on Nelson Street to Knotts Street east on Knotts Street to Haley Street, south on Haley Street to Pearl Street, west on Pearl Street to Peale Avenue, north on Beale Avenue to Bernard Street, west on Bernard Street to Alta Vista Drive, south on Alta Vista Drive to Pacific Street, west on Pacific Street to Union Avenue, and thence west along 30th Street over the present Route No. 3, Chester Avenue-California Avenue bus line.

Route 5, Flower-Niles Bus Line Alternate Route  
From the intersection of Baker and Niles Streets, west along Niles Street to Union Avenue, south on Union Avenue to 19th Street, and thence west on 19th Street along the present Route No. 5, Flower-Niles Streets bus line.

Applicant is authorized to turn its motor vehicles at termini or intermediate points, either in the intersection of the streets or by operating around a block contiguous to such intersection in any direction.

All within the City of Bakersfield or the areas in the County of Kern contiguous to said city.

(3) That a fare zone point on the Route 3, Chester Avenue-California Avenue bus line, may be established at the intersection of Pacific Street and Union Avenue, providing for a 7 cent fare for all passengers who cross this zone limit and a 5 cent fare for those passengers who do not cross the zone limit.

The effective date of this order shall be 20 days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1947.

Harold P. Hule  
Justus F. Cassin  
W. H. Powell  
A. J. ...  
Benjamin ...  
COMMISSIONERS