

Decision No. 41968

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY, a) Application No. 26636
corporation, for an in lieu certificate) Sixteenth Supplemental
of public convenience and necessity.)

Randolph Karr for applicant

O P I N I O N

Under date of May 18, 1948, the Commission issued its order in Decision No. 41512, on Application No. 26636-16th Supplemental, as amended, wherein applicant, Pacific Electric Railway Company, was authorized to establish a passenger stage service over the following route:

Commencing at the intersection of Van Nuys Boulevard and Sherman Way, via Van Nuys Boulevard to its intersection with Nordhoff Street, and return via the same route.

By the terms of the above decision, applicant was authorized to turn its motor vehicles at termini and intermediate points, in either direction, at intersections of streets or by operating around a block contiguous to such intersection.

In this application authority is requested to suspend that portion of the route along Van Nuys Boulevard between the General Motors plant and Nordhoff Street. A public hearing was held in Los Angeles on August 13, before Examiner Syphers. At the hearing, testimony was presented indicating that it was not possible to establish a satisfactory turn-around in the vicinity of Nordhoff Street and Van Nuys Boulevard, inasmuch as the side

streets in that vicinity are not paved. The passenger traffic manager for applicant company testified that the busses cannot be satisfactorily operated over unpaved streets. He further testified that it is illegal to make a "U" turn at the intersection of Van Nuys Boulevard and Nordhoff Street. Testimony was presented by the general sales manager for Kaiser Community Homes, which company is constructing approximately 2,000 houses in the area between Osborne Street and Roscoe Boulevard, and between Woodman Street and Van Nuys Boulevard. Three hundred fifty-nine of these homes are now under construction. According to present plans and estimates, all the streets in the area of Osborne Street and Van Nuys Boulevard will be paved by November 1, and at that time it will be possible for applicant company to establish a turn-around for its busses in that area.

As to the possibility of securing a satisfactory turn-around at the intersection of Nordhoff Street and Van Nuys Boulevard, the testimony indicated that there were no definite plans. Such a turn-around cannot be established until the streets are paved and it is not presently known when such action will take place.

Applicant company has arranged for a turn-around on the property of the General Motors plant which can be used in providing service to that facility. According to this record we find that there is now a satisfactory turn-around point at General Motors plant and that, in all probability, there will be a satisfactory turn-around at the intersection of Osborne Street and Van Nuys Boulevard by about November 1 of this year. There is nothing definitely known at this time as to when a turn-around can be established at the intersection of Nordhoff Street and Van Nuys Boulevard.

Considering the testimony presented in this matter, we do not favor a suspension of the rights along Van Nuys Boulevard between Osborne and Nordhoff Streets, since the time of such suspension would necessarily be too indefinite. If and when conditions become such as to permit satisfactory operation along Van Nuys Boulevard between Osborne and Nordhoff Streets, then applicant may apply to this Commission for authority to so operate.

O R D E R

Application as above entitled having been filed, a public hearing having been held, the matter having been submitted, and the Commission being fully advised in the premises and hereby finding that the public interest so requires,

IT IS ORDERED that the Pacific Electric Railway Company be, and it hereby is, authorized to abandon that portion of its Los Angeles-North Hollywood-Van Nuys via Riverside Drive line, as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of Van Nuys Boulevard and Osborne Street, thence via Van Nuys Boulevard to Nordhoff Street.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that applicant be authorized to temporarily suspend, until November 1, 1948, that portion of its Los Angeles-North Hollywood-Van Nuys via Riverside Drive line, as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of Osborne Street and Van Nuys Boulevard, thence via Van Nuys Boulevard to the General Motors plant.

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

Dated at San Francisco California, this 24th day of August, 1948.

R. E. Anderson
Justice F. G. Allen
Frank J. Brown
Harold K. Hale
Kenneth L. Potter
COMMISSIONERS