Decision No. 46968



In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHERN CITIES TRANSIT, INC. for authority to operate over and along certain streets as extensions of existing routes and for authority to abandon certain portions of existing routes.

Application No. 33103

Charles Boehm for applicant. Herbert Atkinson for South Los Angeles Transportation Co.; Willard A. Lee for Long Beach City Lines, Inc.; Henry E. Jordan for Bureau of Franchises and Public Utilities of the City of Long Beach; interested parties.

<u>opinio</u>

A public hearing was held on this application before Examiner Chiesa, at Compton, March 6, 1952.

Applicant published and posted notice of hearing as required (Exhibits Nos. 1 and 2). The application was not opposed.

Applicant requests authority to (1) make a minor route change on its Hollydale-Downey Line, (2) reroute its Bellflower Line between the intersection of Orange Avenue and Compton Boulevard and the intersection of Downey Avenue and Flower Avenue, and (3) discontinue service in the North Long Beach area served by its Compton-North Long Beach Line .

Applicant proposes to change the name of its present Compton-North Long Beach Line to Willowbrook-Compton-Atlantic Line. In this opinion lines are referred to by the names appearing in Orders in Decisions Nos. 44584 and 45663. Applicant uses slightly different names for some of its lines because of consolidations of routes.

The proposed change on the Hollydale-Downey Line will reduce the number of schedules to the County Farm from an hourly basis to four trips daily in each direction. It is proposed to continue to operate on an hourly schedule along Paramount Boulevard. A three-day traffic count shows that on the County Farm schedules proposed to be discontinued less than two passengers per trip were transported. The resultant direct route along Faramount Boulevard will be approximately one and one-half miles shorter, thereby reducing running time and expense. The proposed extension on this route will be along Paramount Boulevard between County Farm Drive and Imperial Highway. The evidence also shows that Los Angeles Transit Lines operates between Hollydale and the farm, and that Holbrook Transit Company operates between Downey and the farm, both of such services being competitive with applicant's operation.

The proposed rerouting of the Bellflower Line will eliminate a duplication of service along Compton Boulevard and Paramount Boulevard between the intersections named in (2) hereinabove. The new portion of this route along Orange Avenue, Clive Street, Center Street and Downey Avenue, will serve a new schoolhouse situated near the intersection of Orange Avenue and Olive Street, and will also provide transportation to new residential developments along said route. The testimony of applicant's manager shows that many requests have been received for a service along Olive and Center Streets from persons employed or desiring to shop in the new Lakewood Village area. Patrons along Compton Boulevard and Paramount Boulevard will continue to be served by a branch of applicant's Richland Farms-Downey Line. The Bellflower Line will be continued on its present hourly schedule.

The abandonment of the North Long Beach terminal loop of applicant's present Compton-North Long Beach-Willowbrook Line appears

justified as not more than four passengers per trip board or are discharged along that portion of the route proposed to be abandoned. Applicant now operates only morning and one evening trip to this area. Some of these passengers can, without having to walk more than one-quarter to one-third mile, avail themselves of applicant's new hourly service on the Bellflower Line by walking to the intersection of Orange Avenue and Olive Street. The evidence shows that Long Beach City Lines operates two of its lines to within one block of the area now served by that portion of the line applicant proposes to discontinue, and it appears from the testimony that the residents in said area prefer, or have more need for, a ride to Long Beach. The discontinuance of this service will enable applicant to improve its service on the remaining portion of the line, and will reduce operating costs.

Having carefully considered applicant's proposals and the evidence of record, we are of the opinion and find that public convenience and necessity require that this application be granted.

ORDER

A public hearing having been held in the above-entitled proceeding, the Commission being fully advised in the premises and good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED:

(1) That a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and it hereby is granted to Southern Cities Transit, Inc., a corporation, authorizing the establishment and operation of service as a passenger stage corporation, as defined in Section 226 of the Public Utilities Code, for the transportation of persons along Paramount Boulevard between County Farm Drive and Imperial Highway, and between the intersection of Compton Boulevard and Orange Avenue

- (7) That said applicant be and it hereby is authorized to cancel all fares, rules, regulations, and schedules, applying to said services so authorized to be abandoned.
- (8) That the operating rights conferred under authority of the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted to Southern Cities Transit, Inc., in the Order in said Decision No. 44584, as amended by Decision No. 45663, over and along the routes and between the points described in ordering paragraph (6) herein, be and the same operating rights hereby are revoked and rescinded.
- (9) That, at least five (5) days prior to the establishment of the changes in service herein authorized, applicant shall post plainly visible notices of the route changes at its terminals and in all of its buses.

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

Dated at Francis, California, this 2:20 day of _______, California, this ________, 1952.

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