

Decision No. 50787**ORIGINAL**

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 ATKINSON TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, )  
 a corporation, for an order granting )  
 permission to abandon certain portions ) Application No. 35803  
 of its WATTS - EAST IMPERIAL line, to )  
 extend service on Wilmington Avenue )  
 in the Willowbrook area to Stockwell )  
 Street, and to make other changes. )

Newell & Chester by Robert M. Newell, for applicant.  
Thomas N. Bristow for Metropolitan Coach Lines; T. M. Chubb and Clark H. Sturm for the Department of Public Utilities and Transportation of the City of Los Angeles; and Cora B. Motten, Rev. L. E. Williams, Fanny Leonard, Edna G. White, and Rosa Perez, interested parties.

O P I N I O N

By this application Atkinson Transportation Company seeks authority to (1) discontinue that portion of its present Watts Avenue-East Imperial No. 4 Line, easterly of Wilmington Avenue, and westerly of Wilmington Avenue along Santa Ana Boulevard and Graham Street, (2) discontinue service along 121st Street and Palm Lane on its Palm Lane No. 2 Line, and (3) extend present service along Wilmington Avenue south to Stockwell Street.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Mark V. Chiesa at Los Angeles. Oral and documentary evidence having been adduced, the matter was submitted for decision.

Applicant presented evidence showing that for the first eight months of 1954 it has operated at a loss of \$12,157.77 (Exhibit No. 5); that the revenue trend for Lines Nos. 2 and 4 has been dropping steadily and considerably each year since 1948 (Exhibit No. 6); that applicant has been operating twenty-six schedules daily along the Watts Avenue loop, and that approximately

seventy-six passengers daily boarded buses at ten stops along said portion of the route, or about three passengers per trip (Exhibit No. 7); that based on the ten-cent cash fare the daily revenue would be \$7.60 per day from boarding passengers; that about half that amount is realized from returning passengers because some originate on other lines and transfer free; that only five of the twenty-six trips carry five or more passengers (Exhibit No. 7); that the said Watts Avenue-East Imperial Line is now operating at an annual loss of \$3,802.99, exclusive of operating taxes and licenses (Exhibit No. 8).

The area served by that portion of the line proposed to be discontinued lies easterly of Wilmington Avenue, northerly of Imperial Highway, and southwesterly of Santa Ana Boulevard.

Applicant proposes to continue service along Wilmington Avenue. Nine of the present riders live within reasonable walking distance of service along Wilmington Avenue. Approximately forty-five riders are within reasonable walking distance of Metropolitan Coach Lines rail service on Santa Ana Boulevard, although the fare is five cents higher, and twenty-two daily riders would be inconvenienced by having to walk a greater distance to the Metropolitan Coach Lines service, or having to use the Cross Town Line service along Imperial Highway which operates less frequently and has no transfer arrangement with applicant.

That portion of Line No. 4 operated along Santa Ana Boulevard and Graham Street is to be discontinued for better operating efficiency.

The discontinuance of the service along 121st Street and Palm Lane, the evidence shows, will not materially inconvenience any one and will remove a traffic hazard for children living in the project which the line serves. Convenient service will be provided by applicant's Wilmington Avenue Line and the Colpton Avenue Line.

The proposed extension along Wilmington Avenue between 124th Street and Stockwell Street (about 135th Street) will serve a large residential area which is rapidly expanding and will provide a new and convenient service for many persons travelling to and from places of employment, stores, schools and churches. The Commission finds that public convenience and necessity require the establishment and operation of the service proposed.

Three persons objected, on behalf of present patrons, to the discontinuance of the Watts Avenue-East Imperial loop service, although they agreed that the line has not been well patronized. They contend that the area should have better service than will be available should the line be discontinued, particularly in the vicinity of Watts Avenue and Mona Boulevard between Imperial Highway and Santa Ana Boulevard. It appears that the Manchester-Central Line No. 6 could provide a reasonably adequate service for a considerable number of applicant's present patrons if it were extended from the intersection of 108th Street and Gorman Avenue, thence along 108th Street to Watts Avenue and thence southerly along Watts Avenue to Santa Ana Boulevard, terminating in a turnaround loop along Santa Ana Boulevard and 111th Street. Such extension would also result in an improved service for residents living north of Santa Ana Boulevard. As this extension would not exceed one-half mile, the operating cost would be negligible, and, considering the revenue that may be expected, it appears that the operation would be financially desirable. We find that public convenience and necessity require such extension. —

Having duly considered the evidence of record, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that discontinuance of the services as proposed has been justified, provided a service is established in the Watts Avenue-Santa Ana Boulevard area as hereinbelow authorized.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held in the above-entitled proceeding, the Commission having fully considered the matter and having found as hereinabove set forth,

## IT IS ORDERED:

(1) That a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and it hereby is granted to Atkinson Transportation Company, a corporation, authorizing the establishment and operation of a passenger stage service, as defined in Section 226 of the Public Utilities Code, for the transportation of persons (1) along Wilmington Avenue between 124th Street and Stockwell Street, and (2) between the intersection of 108th Street and Gorman Avenue and the intersection of Watts Avenue and Santa Ana Boulevard, as an extension and enlargement of and to be consolidated with its present operating rights.

(2) That in providing service pursuant to the certificate herein granted, there shall be compliance with the following service regulations:

- (a) Within thirty days after the effective date hereof, applicant shall file a written acceptance of the certificate herein granted.
- (b) Within sixty days after the effective date hereof, and upon not less than five days' notice to the Commission and the public, applicant shall establish the service herein authorized and file in triplicate and concurrently make effective tariffs satisfactory to the Commission.
- (c) Subject to the authority of this Commission to change or modify such at any time, Atkinson Transportation Company shall conduct said passenger stage operations over and along the following described routes:
  1. Beginning at the intersection of 124th Street and Wilmington Avenue, thence along Wilmington Avenue to its intersection with Stockwell Street.
  2. Beginning at the intersection of 108th Street and Gorman Avenue, thence along 108th Street, Watts Avenue to its intersection with Santa Ana Boulevard.

Applicant is 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 intersections, or in accordance with local traffic rules.

(3) That Atkinson Transportation Company may discontinue its present passenger stage operations along the following streets:

- (a) 112th Street between Wilmington Avenue and Gorman Avenue; Gorman Avenue between 112th Street and Santa Ana Boulevard; Santa Ana Boulevard between Gorman Avenue and Watts Avenue; Watts Avenue between Santa Ana Boulevard and Imperial Highway; Imperial Highway between Watts Avenue and Croesus Avenue; Croesus Avenue between Imperial Highway and 114th Street; 114th Street between Croesus Avenue and Wilmington Avenue; Santa Ana Boulevard between Wilmington Avenue and Graham Street; Graham Street between Santa Ana Boulevard and 103rd Street.
- (b) Along 121st Street and Palm Lane between Wilmington Avenue and the terminal point approximately 200 feet east of Compton Avenue.

(4) That applicant shall post notice of the proposed service changes herein authorized in all of its buses for a period of at least ten days prior to the discontinuance of said services.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 13rd day of NOVEMBER, 1954.

*John E. Mitchell*  
 President  
*James J. Caswell*  
*Deane Roggins*  
*Ralph Winters*

Commissioners

Commissioner Kenneth Potter being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.