

Decision No. 50738**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
 SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY TRANSIT COMPANY,)
 a corporation, for authority to abandon) Application No. 35794
 that portion of Line No. 7 east of)
 3rd and Victoria Streets.)

Alden Reid for applicant. Glenn E. Newton for
 the Public Utilities Commission.

O P I N I O N

Applicant requests authority to discontinue its present passenger stage service along that portion of its Line No. 7 lying east of the intersection of Third Street and Victoria Street described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of Third and Victoria Streets, in the County of San Bernardino; east along Third Street to Church Street, in the settlement of East Highlands, in the County of San Bernardino, a one-way distance of 3.2 miles.

Authority for said operation was granted by Decision No. 43177, dated August 2, 1949, the line then being designated as Line No. 8.

A public hearing was held at San Bernardino before Examiner Mark V. Chiesa. Oral and documentary evidence having been adduced, the matter was submitted.

The evidence clearly shows a lack of patronage and a consequent operating loss. Prior to September 8, 1954, applicant operated thirteen one-way trips⁽¹⁾ along the route proposed to be discontinued, and after said date 8 one-way trips (four round trips) have been operated. Applicant presented two passenger counts, one for a period of three representative and consecutive weekdays in August 1954, and the other five representative and consecutive weekdays in October 1954. Applicant's president testified that the line carries no school

(1) Applicant's first trip operates from the end of the line, the bus leaving from downtown serving the Third Street route, and then deadheading to East Highlands.

children along the segment proposed to be discontinued. The three August days averaged nineteen passengers per day, or 1.5 passengers per trip, and the five October days averaged 16.4 passengers per day, or two passengers per trip. The per bus mile revenue for the August and October periods was 11.4 cents and 16 cents respectively. Considering only the out-of-pocket costs of 26.97 cents per bus mile, the proposed curtailment of service would result in an annual reduction in expense of approximately \$2,122 and an annual reduction in revenue of approximately \$1,257. No material change will occur in the system's operating ratio which was recently estimated to be 96 per cent for the year ending June 30, 1955.

Approximately twenty persons attended the hearing in opposition to the proposal. All were given an opportunity to testify and present evidence. Two spoke in behalf of the others and persons not able to attend. Although these two witnesses realized that the line was not well patronized, their position was that some service should be continued to take care of a few regular riders and the occasional transportation needs of others.

No immediate material residential or commercial development in the area served was indicated ^{Commission} and the continuance of said service, so lightly patronized, does not appear justified.

Having considered the evidence, the Commission is of the opinion that applicant has justified its request for authority to discontinue its present service along that portion of its Line No. 7 east of the intersection of Victoria Street and Third Street. The application will be granted.

O R D E R

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

IT IS ORDERED:

(1) That applicant be and it hereby is authorized to discontinue its operation of a passenger stage service along Third Street between Victoria Street and Church Street in the community of East Highlands.

(2) That applicant shall post notice of the proposed discontinuance of said service in all of its buses operated on Line No. 7 for a period of at least ten days prior to the discontinuance of service.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 23rd day of NOVEMBER, 1954.

[Signature]
President

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

Commissioners

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