

Decision No. 50997**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of A. L. Willingham,)
 doing business as the El Cajon)
 Valley Lines, for the authority to) Application No. 35829
 cancel its Route "4" bus line from)
 City of El Cajon to Fletcher Hills,)
 and the community of Grossmont.)

A. L. Willingham for applicant. Russell Crane, Jr.,
 for Ed Fletcher Company, and Donald E. Barrett, for
 Coordinating Council of Fletcher Hills, protestants.
Fred G. Ballenger, of the Commission's staff.

O P I N I O N

Applicant operates a passenger stage service in El Cajon and vicinity. By this application authority is sought to discontinue that portion of the Fletcher Hills Line, Route "4", westerly and southerly of the intersection of Cuyamaca Street and Broadway. It is alleged that patronage no longer justifies the service to the Fletcher Hills area. ✓

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

The evidence of record shows that the monthly income and operating expense for the entire line, Route "4", from March 1953

to July 1954 was as follows:

<u>Income</u>		<u>Average Operating Expense</u>
March 1953	\$ 74.60	\$288.00
April	75.25	288.00
May	71.50	288.00
June	76.15	288.00
July	132.05 *	288.00
August	75.30	288.00
September	73.30	288.00
October	72.20	288.00
November	74.55	288.00
December	73.40	288.00
January 1954	69.05	288.00
February	70.20	288.00
March	72.85	288.00
April	75.15	288.00
May	73.85	288.00
June	71.30	288.00
July 1954	135.10 *	288.00
TOTAL	\$1,365.80	\$4,896.00

*Summer School Month

The deficit for the period was \$3,530.20.

A more recent weekly check shows revenue of \$18.85, or an average of \$3.14 per day, with a corresponding average operating expense of \$12.00 per day. Until October of this year applicant operated five regular daily schedules. He is now operating three schedules. Between November 1 and December 13, inclusive, applicant's revenue for said line totalled \$53.65, or a daily average of approximately \$1.58. The evidence also shows that only a small part of said revenue is derived from that portion of the line which is proposed to be abandoned. The reason for the light patronage is that some of the route is through undeveloped territory and that the Fletcher Hills area is a community of comparatively high-cost homes whose owners use private means of transportation.

The application was opposed by two representatives of home owners and real estate developers in the Fletcher Hills area. Their position was that property values would be adversely affected, and that more schedules should be operated and the route

extended into newly developed territory. It was also suggested that applicant should advertise his services and post schedules along the route. Applicant testified that this had been done. No evidence was offered which supports protestants' position.

The Commission having considered the evidence of record, is of the opinion and finds that applicant's request is justified. 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 A. L. Willingham, doing business as El Cajon Valley Line, be and he hereby is authorized to discontinue the passenger stage service along that portion of his Fletcher Hills Line, Route "4", between the intersection of Cuyamaca Street and Broadway, and the present terminus at the intersection of Murray Avenue and El Cajon Boulevard.

(2) That within sixty days after the effective date of this order, and upon not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public, applicant shall amend his tariff in accordance with the authority herein granted.

(3) That for a period of five days prior to the discontinuance of service as herein authorized, applicant shall post at his terminals

and in each of his buses a clearly visible notice of said service dis-
continuance.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 17th
day of JANUARY, 1955.

John E. Mitchell
President

James J. O'Connell

Paula Luterer

William J. Spady

Commissioners