

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 69620

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of  
 BENICIA VALLEJO STAGE LINE  
 Authority to extend its established  
 and approved route in two directions;  
 from City of Benicia to White Front  
 Store in Contra Costa County (No City  
 involved) and from Terminus point in  
 Vallejo to Larwin Shopping Center,  
 Vallejo.

Application No. 47667  
 (Filed June 16, 1965)

George A. Grinestaff, in propria persona; applicant.  
Dugald Gillies, for Vallejo Transit Lines and John J. Carniato, for the City of Benicia, protestants.  
Joseph Chappell, for Vallejo Interurban Transit Line, interested party.  
Hilton H. Nichols and Everest A. Benton, for the Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

George A. Grinestaff, doing business as Benicia Vallejo Stage Line, presently rendering a passenger stage service between Benicia, Vallejo and Mare Island, requests authority to extend service as follows:

- (a) Between Benicia and the White Front Store located near the Willow Pass Road in Contra Costa County; and
- (b) Between Vallejo, Kaiser Hospital and the Larwin Plaza Shopping Center.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Daly on July 27, 1965, at Vallejo and the matter was submitted.

Applicant has been providing service in the area since 1961; he operates three buses. By this application he proposes to provide a shoppers' service to the White Front Store and the Larwin Plaza Shopping Center. Four round trips daily would be

provided to Larwin Plaza and Kaiser Hospital and three round trips daily would be provided to the White Front Store. No evening service is proposed and no service is proposed on Sundays or holidays.

Between Benicia and Larwin Plaza or the Kaiser Hospital applicant proposes the same fares that he presently charges between Benicia and Vallejo. The proposed one-way fares between Benicia and the White Front Store are sixty cents for adults and fifty cents for children. The proposed round-trip fares between said points are \$1.00 for adults and 90 cents for children.

According to applicant he has received many requests for the proposed extended services. A number of public witnesses testified in support of the application. For the most part they were residents of Benicia, who have occasion to travel to the Larwin Plaza Shopping Center or to the Kaiser Hospital. At the present time they use applicant's service to Vallejo and from there use the service of Vallejo Transit Lines to Larwin Plaza or the hospital. According to the witnesses the proposed service would be more convenient in that it would not be necessary to change buses or to pay an additional round-trip fare of fifty cents.

The protest of the Vallejo Transit Lines was limited to applicant's proposal to serve the Larwin Plaza and the Kaiser Hospital. The operations of this carrier are primarily within the city limits of Vallejo and are therefore not subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission. Although applicant proposes to limit service to passengers having either point of origin or destination in Benicia so that there is no direct competition with the Vallejo Transit Lines said protestant nevertheless contends that any diversion of those passengers presently using the

combined services of both carriers would have an adverse effect upon its operations.

In support of its protest the general manager of Vallejo Transit Lines testified that said carrier is operated at a loss; that as the result of a recently negotiated ten-year contract with the City of Vallejo, the city will purchase seven new buses, which it will lease to Vallejo Transit Lines for one dollar a year; such assistance is absolutely essential if the carrier is to remain in business; Vallejo Transit Lines performs a feeder service within the City of Vallejo and any attempt to compete with that service will result in a diversion of traffic.

The protest of the City of Benicia is predicated upon the argument that since the closing of the arsenal, Benicia has experienced economic difficulties, particularly felt by the small downtown merchants. According to the city anything that attracts shoppers away from the Benicia stores will further aggravate the situation.

After consideration the Commission finds that:

1. Applicant is presently rendering a passenger stage service between Benicia, Vallejo and Mare Island and has the necessary experience and facilities to provide the proposed service.
2. The proposed extension of service to Kaiser Hospital and Larwin Plaza Shopping Center would be a more direct, convenient and less expensive service for many residents of Benicia.
3. The proposed extension to the White Front Store would also be a convenience to many individuals who either do not drive

or have no automobile available to them. Although said service may attract some shoppers from the Benicia stores, denial of the application for such reason would do little to alleviate the condition unless it were also possible to prevent all other residents of Benicia from using private automobiles to shop outside of Benicia.

4. Public convenience and necessity require the granting of this application.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity is hereby granted to George A. Grinestaff, doing business as Benicia Vallejo Stage Line, authorizing the establishment and operation of service as a passenger stage corporation as that term is defined in Section 226 of the Public Utilities Code, for the transportation of passengers, baggage and express between the points and over the routes set forth in Second Revised Page 2 and Original Page 3 attached hereto, as an extension and enlargement of and consolidation with, and subject to all the limitations and restrictions set forth in, the certificate granted by Decision No. 62129, as amended.

2. In providing service pursuant to the certificate herein granted, applicant shall comply with and observe the following service regulations:

- (a) Within thirty days after the effective date hereof, applicant shall file a written acceptance of the certificate herein granted. By accepting the certificate of public convenience and necessity herein granted, applicant is placed on notice that he will be required, among other things, to file annual

reports of his operations and to comply with and observe the safety rules of the California Highway Patrol, the rules and other regulations of the Commission's General Order No. 98 and insurance requirements of the Commission's General Order No. 101-A. Failure to file such reports, in such form and at such time as the Commission may direct, or to comply with and observe the safety rules, or the provisions of General Orders Nos. 98 or 101-A, may result in a cancellation of the operating authority granted by this decision.

- (b) Within one hundred twenty days after the effective date hereof, applicant shall establish the service herein authorized and file tariffs and timetables, in triplicate, in the Commission's office.
- (c) The tariff and timetable filings shall be made effective not earlier than ten days after the effective date of this order on not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and the public, and the effective date of the tariff and timetable filings shall be concurrent with the establishment of the service herein authorized.
- (d) The tariff and timetable filings made pursuant to this order shall comply with the regulations governing the construction and filing of tariffs and timetables set forth in the Commission's General Orders Nos. 79 and 98.

3. The authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within one hundred twenty days after the effective date of this order.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of AUGUST, 1965.

[Signature] President  
George T. Grover  
[Signature]  
William W. Brund  
 Commissioners

-5- Commissioner Frederick B. Holoboff, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Beginning at 1st and J Streets, Benicia, thence along 1st Street, State Military Highway, East 2nd Street, Hillcrest Avenue, East 5th Street to its intersection with State Military Highway.

Beginning at East 7th Street and State Military Highway, thence over 7th Street, East L Street, East 6th Street and K Street to its intersection with West 6th Street.

Beginning at the intersection of 1st and F Streets, Benicia, thence over West F Street, East 2nd Street to H Street. Over G Street between 1st and East 2nd Streets, thence over 1st Street to West F Street. Over H Street between East 5th and East 7th Streets. Over East 6th Street between H Street and K Street.

Passengers originating at or destined to Mare Island, on the one hand, shall not be transported to or from points intermediate to Mare Island and Benicia, on the other hand.

\* Between Benicia and the White Front Store, Contra Costa County

Commencing at the city of Benicia, thence south along U. S. Highway 680 to the White Front Store located at the intersection of Willow Pass Road.

\* Between Vallejo, Kaiser Hospital and Larwin Plaza Shopping Center

Commencing at the intersection of York Street and Sonoma Boulevard in the City of Vallejo, thence along Sonoma Boulevard, Couch Street, Redwood Street, Alameda Street, Sereno Drive, Couch Street, Redwood Street, Sacramento Street, Valle Vista Drive and Sonoma Boulevard to its intersection with York Street.

No passengers shall be picked up or discharged except at the Kaiser Hospital or the Larwin Plaza Shopping Center.

Issued by California Public Utilities Commission.

\*Added by Decision No. 69620 Application No. 47667.

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Appendix A  
(Dec. 62129)

GEORGE A. GRINESTAFF  
doing business as  
Benicia-Vallejo Stage Line

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General Conditions

As to each of the routes specifically described herein, applicant may traverse any of such routes according to reasonable operating requirements, and is, in addition, authorized to turn his motor vehicles at termini or intermediate points either in the intersection of streets or by operating around the blocks contiguous to such intersection in either direction, or in accordance with local traffic regulations.

Issued by California Public Utilities Commission.

Amended by Decision No. 69620 Application No. 47667.