

Decision No. 86587**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

WHIPPET CHARTER SERVICE, INC., for) Application No. 56455
 the Authority to Increase Weekly) (Filed May 3, 1976)
 Fare, Toll and Charge to Passengers.)

O P I N I O N

Whippet Charter Service, Inc. (Whippet) operates service as a passenger stage corporation (PSC-910) between Hayward, Union City, Newark, Fremont, Milpitas and Dublin on the one hand and United Airlines Maintenance Base at the San Francisco International Airport. The service is of the "home-to-work" character, providing commute transportation between these residential neighborhoods and the United Airlines Maintenance Base at the San Francisco International Airport. By this application, Whippet requests authority to increase by \$1.50 per week the following passenger stage fares:

<u>Between United Airlines Maintenance Base and</u>	<u>Present Weekly Fare</u>	<u>Proposed Weekly Fare</u>
Hayward Service Area	\$6.75	\$8.25
Union City " "	7.25	8.75
Newark " "	7.50	9.00
Fremont " "	7.50	9.00
Milpitas " "	8.00	9.50
Dublin " "	8.00	9.50

In support of this application, Whippet cites increases in public liability insurance rates. During the past year insurance expense has increased by 120%. Whippet expects to operate at a loss during 1976 unless it is granted immediate relief by way of a fare increase to defray the insurance costs. The increase in revenue with the proposed fares is estimated by the applicant to be \$29,600 annually.

The highest of the applicant's proposed fares would still be lower than those of similar and comparable transportation service,

- ✓ such as West Valley Charter Lines and Smith Charter Service, which
- ✓ charge \$12.50 and \$10 per week, respectively.

Copies of this application were served on interested parties and the application was listed in the Commission's Daily Calendar. Additionally, the Commission staff notified affected public transit operators and planning agencies of the receipt of this application, pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Sections 730.3 and 730.5. No protests or comments have been received.

The Transportation Division staff recommends that the application be granted by ex parte order.

After consideration, the Commission finds that the requested fare increases are justified. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Whippet Charter Service, Inc. is authorized to establish the increased fares as set forth in the application. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order may be made effective not earlier than five days after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public.
2. This authority shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order.
3. In addition to the required posting and filing of tariffs, applicant shall give notice to the public by posting in its buses a printed explanation of its fares. Such notice shall be posted not less than five days before the effective date of the fare changes and shall remain posted for a period of not less than thirty days.

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The carrier is presently operating at a deficit and needs this relief immediately to achieve break-even operations.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 2nd day of NOVEMBER, 1976.

I dissent as to the effective date being the date hereof.
William Sproun, Jr.

I dissent
Vernon L. Sturgeon

[Signature]
President

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
Commissioners