

Decision No. 89424 SEP 19 1978**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the Application of)
 HI-WAY TOURS, INC., for authority)
 to increase fares for transporta-)
 tion of passengers for sightseeing)
 purposes between points in a ser-)
 vice area in San Mateo County and)
 points of interest in the City and)
 County of San Francisco and Marin)
 County.)

Application No. 58138
 (Filed June 14, 1978)

O P I N I O N

Robert J. Ruhland, Maury Swidler, Nathan Swidler and Stephen W. Hackett, dba Hi-Way Tours, Inc., are operating as a passenger stage corporation (PSC-809) between a service area in San Mateo County on the one hand, and points of interest in the City and County of San Francisco and Marin County, on the other hand.

By this application, Hi-Way Tours, Inc., seeks to increase passenger fares by 25 percent.

The present fares were originally established by Decision No. 72814, dated July 25, 1967, in Application No. 49114.

Applicants allege that their present fares do not yield sufficient revenue to allow them to conduct their passenger stage operations at a profit.

Applicants further allege that additional revenue is required because of increased cost in all phases of operation, including fuel, insurance, labor and maintenance.

The estimated results of operations based on the future year ending December 31, 1978, under present and proposed fares is shown below:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Present Fares</u>	<u>Requested Fares</u>
Revenues	\$54,000	\$67,500
Expenses	70,745	70,745
Net Income	-16,745	-3,245
Operating Ratio - %	131	104

The results of operation show that even with the proposed 25 percent fare increase, the operating ratio of the passenger stage service would be 104 percent, with a net loss of \$3,245.

In accordance with Sections 730.3 and 730.5 of the Public Utilities Code, the State and local agencies operating or planning public transit systems were notified and asked for comments regarding the proposed rate increase. No replies were received.

Notice of filing of this application appeared in the Commission's Daily Calendar on June 15, 1978. No protests have been received.

After consideration the Commission finds that:

1. The requested fare increase would result in additional annual revenue of \$13,500.
2. The proposed fare increase is justified.
3. A public hearing is unnecessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Robert J. Ruhland, Maury Swidler, Nathan Swidler and Stephen W. Hackett, dba Hi-Way Tours, Inc., are authorized to establish the increased fare proposed in Application 58138. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order may be made effective not earlier than on five days' notice to the Commission and to the public.
2. The 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, applicants shall give notice to the public by posting in their buses and terminals, a printed explanation of their 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.

4. Since applicants will be operating at a loss even under the authorized fares, the effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 1967
day of SEPTEMBER, 1978.

William J. Quinn President
Vernon L. Sturgeon
Richard D. Howell
Clare T. DeBorja Commissioners

Commissioner Robert Batinovich, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.