

In the face of this serious contention, the Commission is of the opinion that it must act promptly and expeditiously to determine the legitimacy of Transit's claim. If the company is in fact unable to meet its payroll and other current operating expenses, then this community will be faced with the possibility of a cessation of operations. This is an eventuality we cannot countenance if it is within our power to take action to preclude it.

We are, therefore, setting this matter for hearing on Thursday, December 19, 1968, at 9:00 A. M. D. C. Transit is directed to appear and present evidence to support the allegations contained in its motion. Since we have previously determined, in Docket No. 186, the measurable operating expenses and interest requirements of this carrier, the sole issue to be considered will be whether the existing fares are failing to produce the revenue requirements found to be needed in Docket No. 186 and, if the amount is so substantial as to impair the financial ability of the company to meet its current operating and interest expenses, then what change in fares, if any, will be necessary to produce the additional revenue required.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That this matter be, and it is hereby, set for hearing on Thursday, December 19, 1968, at 9:00 A. M., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, 1815 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, Virginia.
2. That D. C. Transit System, Inc., be, and it is hereby, directed to appear and present evidence to support the contentions set forth in its motion described above, and present a schedule of fare changes designed to generate the additional revenue required within the guidelines enunciated above.
3. That any interested person may appear at said hearing in opposition to the relief sought by said motion.
4. That the Chief Clerk serve a copy of this order on each formal party to Docket No. 186, by special delivery mail.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:

Melvin E. Lewis

MELVIN E. LEWIS
Executive Director