

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 1180

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served November 19, 1971

Application of Washington, )  
Virginia and Maryland Coach )  
Company, Inc., for Authority )  
to Discontinue Regular Route )  
Bus Service on Routes 1, 2, )  
3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 on Weekdays )  
After 8:00 P. M., and All Serv- )  
ice All Day Saturday and All )  
Day Sunday. )

Application No. 731

Docket No. 238

On November 4, 1971, Washington, Virginia and Maryland Coach Company, Inc. (W. V. & M.) filed proposed schedule changes which were marked as Application No. 731. The schedule changes would result in the elimination of all W. V. & M. service all day Saturday, all day Sunday, and weeknights after 8:00 P. M., effective December 12, 1971. W. V. & M. states that it is in desperate financial situation having lost more than one and a quarter million dollars in its past three years of operation. It asserts that the service to be discontinued lost \$135,000 last year.

Service reductions of this magnitude should receive careful public scrutiny. We herein suspend the proposed schedule changes pending full examination of W. V. & M.'s present situation; and set Application No. 731 for public hearings to determine whether such service cuts are warranted. We expect that a large segment of the public will wish to express its views on these proposed changes and we shall also schedule an informal evening hearing in the service area of W. V. & M. at which all interested members of the public may appear and present their views on this matter. In addition, we intend to discuss and explore alternatives to the proposals contained in the company's application with officials from the political subdivisions which would be affected by the proposed cuts in service. If, prior to the

hearings, such discussions appear to give promise of a solution, these hearings may become unnecessary. If so, we will, of course, give ample notice to all concerned.

In considering Application No. 731, this Commission will conform to national policy as established in Phase II of the National Economic Stabilization Program.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the effective date for the W. V. & M. Coach Company, Inc. schedule changes in Application No. 731, filed November 4, 1971, be, and it is hereby, suspended.
2. That a formal public hearing for the presentation of evidence by applicant W. V. & M. Coach Company, Inc., and all other formal parties be, and it is hereby, scheduled for Monday, December 20, 1971, at 10:00 a.m. in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20006.
3. That an informal public hearing for the receipt of public comments and evidence be, and it is hereby, scheduled for Wednesday, December 22, 1971, at 7:30 p.m., in the Arlington County Board Room, Arlington County Courthouse, 1400 North Courthouse Road, Arlington, Virginia.
4. That W. V. & M. Coach Company, Inc., publish notice of the above hearings in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District once, on or before November 25, 1971.
5. That W. V. & M. Coach Company, Inc., post notice in all its buses advising the public of the time, the place, and the function of the above ordered hearings within 5 days of service date of this order, such notice to be approved by the Commission staff.
6. That W. V. & M. Coach Company, Inc., submit to the Commission offices by close of business on November 26, 1971, ten copies of all exhibits and direct testimony it wishes to present at hearing in support of Application No. 731.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:

  
DOUGLAS N. SCHNEIDER, JR.  
Executive Director