

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 1411

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of AIR TRANSIT,)	Served March 13, 1975
INC., for Temporary)	Application No. 857
Authority)	Docket No. 284

By Application No. 857, filed March 5, 1975, Air Transit, Inc. (Air Transit) seeks temporary authority pursuant to Title II, Article XII, Section 4(d)(3) of the Compact. Air Transit proposes to operate a scheduled limousine service over irregular routes for passengers and their baggage, and express and mail in the same vehicle with passengers, between Dulles International Airport (Dulles) or Washington National Airport (National) on the one hand, and on the other, the following points at the indicated per capita fare:

	<u>National</u>	<u>Dulles</u>
Holiday Inn Montgomery Village Ave. Gaithersburg, Md.	\$8.00	\$8.00
Holiday Inn 8747 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, Md.	\$4.50	\$4.50
Mayflower Hotel 1127 Connecticut Ave. Washington, D. C.	\$2.25	\$4.25
Rockville Plaza Motor Hotel 254 N. Washington St. Rockville, Md.	\$6.00	\$6.00
Sheraton Park Hotel 2660 Woodley Road, N.W. Washington, D. C.	\$3.00	\$4.50

Shoreham Americana 2500 Calvert Street, N.W. Washington, D. C.	\$3.00	\$4.50
Washingtonian Motel & Golf Club Shady Grove Road Gaithersburg, Md.	\$8.00	\$8.00
Linden Hill Hotel 5400 Pooks Hill Road Bethesda, Md.	*	*

The proposed limousine service would be offered pursuant to an established schedule. The service would be rendered in 12 passenger radio-equipped vans. The proposed schedules indicate that each trip to or from either airport would consist of stops at four of the specified motels.^{1/}

Under Title II, Article XII, Section 4(d)(3) of the Compact, the Commission must base any decision to grant temporary authority to provide a specific service upon the findings that there is an immediate and urgent need to a point or points within a territory and that there is no carrier service capable of meeting such need. So finding, the Commission may, in its discretion and without hearings or other proceedings, grant temporary authority.

Air Transit filed as part of its application a verified statement of its assistant manager. This statement contains the opinion that there is an immediate and urgent need for the proposed scheduled limousine service and that there is no existing scheduled limousine service capable of satisfying that need. This opinion is based on the assistant manager's experience as a dispatcher during an unspecified period of six months. During that period, arriving passengers allegedly made on the average of three inquiries per day seeking a limousine service from Dulles to points and places throughout the Metropolitan District, including the specific places in the District of Columbia and Montgomery County, Md., proposed to be served by Air Transit.

^{1/} Although no authority has been requested for the Linden Hill Hotel, 5400 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, Md., the proposed schedules list as a stop this hotel. Also, a letter from the Linden Hill Hotel was attached to the application as support for the requested approval.

Air Transit also filed letters supporting its application. These letters were signed by representatives of the Shoreham Americana, Sheraton Park, Linden Hill Hotel, Holiday Inn-Silver Spring, Holiday Inn-Gaithersburg, Executive Travel Agency, Rockville Travel Center, Silver Spring Travel Corporation, Gaithersburg Chamber of Commerce and Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce. Each expressed the opinion that there is an immediate and urgent need for the proposed scheduled limousine service and that there is no carrier currently providing scheduled limousine service as proposed by Air Transit. No letters of support were filed on behalf of Mayflower Hotel, Rockville Plaza Motor Hotel or Washingtonian Motel and Golf Club.

Greyhound Airport Service, Inc. (Greyhound) holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 7, authorizing Charter Operations and Special Operations between Dulles or National on the one hand, and on the other, points in the Metropolitan District, except points in Virginia. As directly relevant to the application of Air Transit for temporary authority, Greyhound has filed a tariff which provides for the performance of special operations in motor coaches from Dulles to either the Sheraton Park or Mayflower and in limousines from National to either Sheraton Park or Mayflower. To the limited extent of Greyhound's one-way service, there exists a question of fact whether there is carrier service capable of meeting the need for scheduled limousine service between either Dulles or National and either Sheraton Park or Mayflower. Accordingly, Air Transit shall be directed to mail a copy of the application to Greyhound.

By Order No. 1399, served January 22, 1975, Beltway Limousine Service, Inc. (Beltway) was granted temporary authority to perform limousine service by appointment between Dulles or National and, as pertinent herein, either Holiday Inn-Gaithersburg or Washingtonian Motel and Golf Club. To the limited extent of Beltway's reservation service, there exists a question of fact whether there is carrier service capable of meeting the need for scheduled limousine service between either Dulles or National and either Holiday Inn-Gaithersburg or Washingtonian Motel and Golf Club. Accordingly, Air Transit shall be directed to mail a copy of the application to Beltway.

The record does not support the findings that there is an immediate and urgent need for the proposed scheduled limousine service between Dulles or National and all the points specified by Air Transit and that no carrier service is capable of meeting such need. A hearing shall be scheduled to develop an adequate record concerning immediate and urgent need for Air Transit's proposed scheduled limousine service and other carrier service capable of

meeting such need. To fully develop a factual basis for any finding as to Air Transit's fitness to perform the proposed transportation service, Air Transit will be required to submit and be prepared to support with competent witnesses the following exhibits:

(A) A detailed balance sheet of applicant as of December 31, 1974; and

(B) A projected statement of revenues and expenses allocated between taxicab service and limousine service for a one-year period, together with supporting details, including ratio of revenue deductions to revenues.

Air Transit will be directed to submit six (6) copies of the statements and exhibits required hereinbefore to the Commission and to serve one copy on each party of record on or before Thursday, April 3, 1975. Air Transit shall be prepared to present evidence in addition to that previously submitted with respect to the allegation that there is an immediate and urgent need for the proposed service and that there is no carrier service capable of meeting such need.

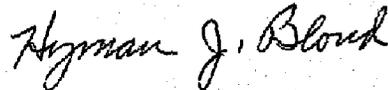
THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Air Transit, Inc., deposit forthwith a copy of its Application No. 857 in the United States mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Greyhound Airport Service, Inc., Washington National Airport, Washington, D. C. 20001
2. That Air Transit, Inc., deposit forthwith a copy of its Application No. 857 in the United States mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Beltway Limousine Service, Inc., 8727 Colesville Road, Suite 1422, Silver Spring, Md. 20910.
3. That Application No. 857 of Air Transit, Inc., be, and it is hereby, scheduled for public hearing to commence Tuesday, April 8, 1975, at 10:00 a.m., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.
4. That Air Transit, Inc., publish notice in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission of such application and hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District no later than Saturday, March 22, 1975, and present at the hearing a certificate of publication from the selected newspaper.
5. That six (6) copies, the original to be submitted at the hearing, of the statements and exhibits required hereinbefore be filed by Air Transit, Inc., with the Commission and one copy served

by mail on each party of record on or before Tuesday, April 1, 1975.

6. That any person desiring to protest shall file a protest or any person desiring to be heard on this matter shall notify the Commission, in writing, on or before Friday, March 28, 1975, and shall mail a copy of such protest or such notice to counsel of record for Air Transit, Inc., S. Harrison Kahn, Esquire, Suite 733 Investment Building, Washington, D. C. 20005.

FOR THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hyman J. Blond".

HYMAN J. BLOND
Executive Director