

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 1504

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of WEBB )	
TOURS, INC., for )	Served February 13, 1976
Temporary Authority )	
to Perform Special )	Application No. 911
Operations )	

By Application No. 911, filed January 27, 1976, Webb Tours, Inc. (Webb) seeks temporary authority pursuant to Title II, Article XII, Section 4(d)(3) of the Compact. Webb seeks temporary authority to conduct round trip sight-seeing tours as previously authorized in Order No. 1443, served July 21, 1975, and supplemented by Order No. 1455, served September 9, 1975.

By Order No. 1443, Webb was granted temporary authority to transport passengers, over irregular routes, located within Washington, D. C., embracing the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Capitol Hill, The Mall, and Embassy Row, Pennsylvania Avenue, and within Arlington County, Va., to the extent of Arlington National Cemetery and Iwo Jima Memorial. That temporary authority became effective July 21, 1975, and remained in effect through January 17, 1976, a period of 180 days. Order No. 1455 merely changed a practice specified in Webb's temporary authority tariff.

Webb submits that a grant of this temporary authority application would enable the provision of uninterrupted service to the public until a ruling on applications for permanent authority is rendered. Webb's current Applications No. 894 and 895 seek a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing charter operations and special operations within the Metropolitan District. These applications seek more authority in a larger portion of the Metropolitan District than was previously temporarily authorized.

The Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 4(d)(3), contains the following restrictions upon a grant of temporary authority:

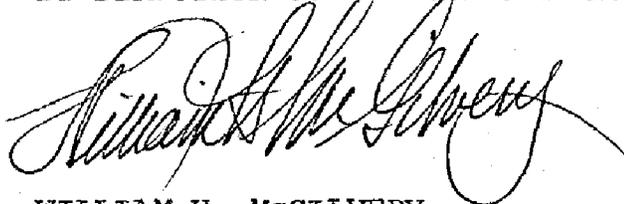
"Such temporary authority unless suspended or revoked for good cause, shall be valid for such time as the Commission shall specify, but for not more than an aggregate of 180 days and create no presumption that corresponding permanent authority will be granted thereafter."  
(Emphasis added.)

The Compact clearly sets forth a statutory limitation upon the period that temporary authority may be effective.

The Commission shall deny Webb's Application No. 911. That Application seeks temporary authority to provide a service for a period more than 180 days. Moreover, Webb has not set forth in support of its request any statement evidencing an immediate and urgent need for the continued provision of the service.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Application No. 911 of Webb Tours, Inc., for temporary authority to perform special operations be, and it is hereby, denied.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:



WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY  
Executive Director