

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 2485

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served October 12, 1983

Application of AIRPORT LIMO, INC.,)
for Authority to Increase Rates)

Case No. AP-83-52

On September 12, 1983, Airport Limo, Inc., filed its WMATC Tariff No. 13 proposing to cancel its currently effective WMATC Tariff No. 12. 1/ The tariff proposes to increase most special operations rates and charter rates (but see footnote 1) to become effective October 13, 1983. Order No. 2482, served October 4, 1983, required Airport Limo to post notice of its application in its vehicles and publish similar notice in a newspaper of general circulation. Interested parties were invited to comment on the proposed tariff change.

A summary of the proposed charges contained in WMATC Tariff No. 13 follows:

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

<u>Between</u>	<u>Current Fare</u>	<u>Proposed Fare</u>
<u>Washington National Airport and Dulles International Airport</u>	\$ 7.75	\$ 8.75
<u>Washington National Airport and Washington, D. C.</u>		
Capital Hilton Hotel	\$ 3.25	\$ 4.25
Washington Hilton Hotel	3.25	4.25
Sheraton Washington Hotel	3.75	4.75
Zone 1 (Formerly "Zone 5")	6.25	7.25
Zone 2 (Formerly "Beyond Zone 5")	6.25	7.25
	Plus \$1/mile	Plus \$1/mile

1/ The proposed rate changes do not include charges for hotel service contained in Supplement Nos. 1 and 3 to WMATC Tariff No. 12. In addition, the currently effective charter rates contained in Supplement No. 2 to WMATC Tariff No. 12 are the same as those reflected as proposed rates in Tariff No. 13.

Washington National Airport and Virginia

Holiday Inn, Tyson's Corner	\$ 7.00	\$ 8.00
Ramada Inn, Tyson's Corner	7.00	8.00
Sheraton Hotel, Tyson's Corner	7.00	8.00

Dulles International Airport and Washington, D. C.

Capital Hilton Hotel	\$ 7.75	\$ 8.75
Washington Hilton Hotel	7.75	8.75
Sheraton Washington Hotel	8.00	9.00
Zone 1 (Formerly "Zone 5")	8.75	9.75
Zone 2 (Formerly "Beyond Zone 5")	8.75	9.75
	Plus \$1/mile	Plus \$1/mile

CHARTER OPERATIONS 2/

Van -- Rate per Hour	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Minimum Charge	58.00	58.00
Bus -- Rate per Hour	40.00	40.00
Minimum Charge	125.00	125.00

In support of its application Airport Limo filed financial exhibits which are available for inspection at the office of the Commission. However, it is not clear as to what charter rate was used in calculating the charter revenue figures used in the year-to-date income figures as well as the annualized income figures. Similarly, since the airport-hotel service contained in Supplement Nos. 1 and 3 to Tariff No. 12 is not included in the proposed tariff and the revenue from that service is not listed in the projected passenger revenue used to calculate the applicant's operating ratio, the Commission has insufficient information to make a determination regarding approval of the proposed tariff.

In addition, the staff's review of applicant's financial data indicates that certain expenses warrant further explanation, and the staff and applicant's accountant are in the process of reanalyzing the appropriate data.

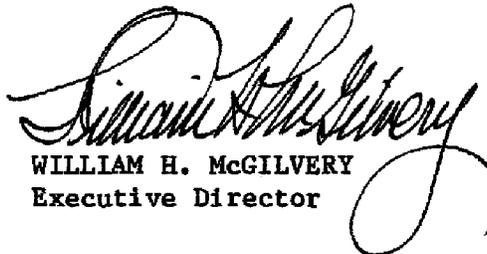
2/ Currently effective charter rates are those contained in Supplement No. 2 to Tariff No. 12. See also Order No. 2338, served May 18, 1982. The "current rates" contained in Airport Limo's application are those contained in Tariff No. 12 prior to the change effective in Supplement No. 2

Title II, Article XII, Section 6(a)(1) of the Compact authorizes the Commission to suspend any fare, regulation or practice at any time prior to the effective date thereof. In considering whether such fare, regulation or tariff shall be suspended the Commission must consider, inter alia, the financial condition of the carrier, its revenue requirements, and whether the carrier is being operated economically and efficiently. Further, the Compact, Title II, Article XII Section 6(a)(2) mandates that fares, regulations or practices relating thereto must be just, reasonable, and not unduly preferential either between riders or sections of the Metropolitan District. Subsections (a)(3) and (a)(4) list additional considerations, including the need, in the public interest, of adequate and efficient transportation service by a carrier at the lowest cost consistent with the furnishing of such service, and the opportunity for a carrier to earn a net return of at least 6.5 percent after all taxes properly chargeable to transportation operations.

Pursuant to the above-cited provision of the Compact, the proposed tariff will be suspended, and new rates will not be approved pending resolution of the questions raised by the staff. In the event that such a resolution does not appear to be forthcoming, a public hearing will be scheduled.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that WMATC Tariff No. 13, filed September 12, 1983, by Airport Limo, Inc., is hereby suspended for a 90-day period beginning October 12, 1983, and continuing through January 9, 1984, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION, COMMISSIONERS WORTHY, SCHIFTER, AND SHANNON:


WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY
Executive Director