

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the)	APPLICATION NO. BR-258
Prescription of Reasonable)	
Rates and Charges for Motor)	GRANTED
Carriers Passengers and)	
Property for Hire Subject to)	
the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat.)	ENTERED: DECEMBER 12, 2000
(Reissue 1996), Chapter 75,)	
Articles 1 and 3.)	

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On October 4, 2000, Transport Plus, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska filed an application for authority to amend its van rates as follows:

Description	Proposed Rate
I. Transportation Rates:	
A. One-way within Lincoln city limits (from same origin to same destination)	
1. Between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.	
a. First Person	\$ 8.50
b. Each additional passenger	2.00
2. Between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.	
a. First Person	\$12.50
b. Each additional passenger	2.00
B. Within Lancaster county (Beyond the corporate limits of Lincoln)	
1. Same rates as in I-A above, plus	
2. Round trip mileage charge	\$ 0.50/mi
C. Outside Lancaster county	
1. Per round trip, plus	\$15.00/hr
2. Round trip mileage charge	0.50/mi
II. Escort/Assistance	\$15.00/hr

Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on October 9, 2000, pursuant to the Commission's rules. the application is unopposed.

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Applicant is a certificated common carrier which holds Certificate B-1439. The certificate authorizes the transportation of: (a) retired and semi-retired persons 60 years old and older requiring specialized personal assistance, children 16 years old and younger requiring specialized personal assistance, and visually-impaired persons requiring specialized personal assistance between points in Lancaster county over irregular routes; (b) passengers requiring specialized personal assistance and their baggage from points in Lancaster county, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, points in Nebraska over irregular routes; and (c) members of church and youth groups from points in Lancaster county, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, points in Nebraska over irregular routes. Supplement 1, to its authority, authorizes the transportation of passengers that are ADA eligible between points in Lancaster county and from points originating in Lancaster county to points in Nebraska over irregular routes. RESTRICTION: Restricted against taxi service; 24 -hour advance scheduling is required for all transportation other than transportation conducted under contract with the Lincoln Star Tran Brokerage Program. Other restrictions apply.

Applicant states that it has made a concerted effort to maintain its current rates. However, increases in operational expenses (i.e. fuel, vehicle maintenance, wages and insurance) have necessitated a review of these rates and a request for an increase. Wage increases are necessary to retain quality personnel. Insurance costs continue to escalate at the rate of 5% per annum. Vehicle maintenance costs have also increased approximately 4% within the past year. The rates proposed are deemed to be competitive and compensatory.

Applicant's current rates were established two years ago. The proposed rates represent an average increase of approximately 5.2%. In the same two year period, the consumer price index has increased approximately 7%. Over the past two years, fuel costs have risen 40% and vehicle maintenance costs have increased 8%. The proposed rates are comparable to rates on file for other carriers providing similar type services.

Upon consideration of the application and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the application should be granted effective December 22, 2000.

ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that effective December 22, 2000, Transport Plus, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska, be, and it is hereby, authorized to amend its van rates as follows:

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MADE AND ENTERED in Lincoln, Nebraska, this 12th day of December, 2000.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Frank E. Landis
Anne C. Boyle

Frank E. Landis

//s//Frank E. Landis

Frank E. Landis
Chairman

ATTESTS:

Frank E. Landis
Executive Director

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