

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Prescription of)	APPLICATION NO. BR-270
Reasonable Rates and Charges for Motor)	
Carriers Passengers and Property for Hire)	GRANTED
Subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat.)	
(Reissue 1996), Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3.)	ENTERED: JANUARY 29, 2002

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On November 26, 2001, Transport Plus, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska, filed an application for authority to amend its van rates through an average increase of 18.2% and to establish rates for transporting persons in wheelchairs.

Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on November 27, 2001, pursuant to the Commission's rules. The application was not protested.

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 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. Supp 1: Passengers that are ADA eligible between points in Lancaster county and from points originating in Lancaster county to points in Nebraska over irregular routes. RESTRICTIONS: 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.

According to the Applicant, it has acquired a wheelchair van to accommodate passengers confined to a wheelchair. The Applicant also provided its expenditures for 2000 and 2001. The expense information shows increases in 2001 of 59% for vehicle maintenance, 52% for worker's compensation, 56% for liability insurance, 35% for communications and an overall increase in expenses averaging 23% for all reported categories. Applicant plans to increase driver wages in order to retain quality personnel. The proposed rates are deemed to be competitive and compensatory.

Applicant's current rates were established in December 2000. The proposed rates represent an average increase of approximately 18% over its current rates in addition to establishing rates for transporting clients confined to wheelchairs. Insurance rates increased an

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average of 32% in 2001; and since the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001, they are expected to further increase. 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 February 8, 2002.

ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that effective February 8, 2002, Transport Plus, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska, be, and it is hereby, authorized to amend its van rates as follows:

Description	Rates
I Transportation Rates:	
A. One-way within Lincoln city limits (From same origin to same destination)	
1. Between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (Monday - Friday)	
a. First Person	\$10.00
b. Each additional passenger	2.00
2. Between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. (Monday -Friday)	
a. First Person	\$15.00
b. Each additional passenger	2.00
3. Saturdays and Holidays	
a. First Person	\$15.00
b. Each additional passenger	2.00
B. Within Lancaster county: (Beyond the corporate limits of Lincoln)	
1. Same rates as in 1-A above, plus	
2. Round trip mileage charge	\$ 1.00/mile
C. Outside Lancaster county:	
1. Per round trip, plus	\$20.00/hour
2. Round trip mileage charge	1.00/mile
II Escort/Assistance	\$20.00/hour
III Transportation Rates for Wheelchairs:	
A. One-way within Lincoln city limits	
1. Between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (Monday - Friday)	
a. Per wheelchair	\$20.00
2. Between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. (Monday - Friday)	
a. Per wheelchair	\$25.00
3. Saturdays and Holidays	

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- a. Per wheelchair \$25.00
- B. Within Lancaster county: (Beyond the corporate limits of Lincoln)
 - 1. Same rates as in 1II-A above, plus
 - 2. Round trip mileage charge \$ 1.00/mile
- C. Outside Lancaster county:
 - 1. Per round trip, plus \$20.00/hour
 - 2. Round trip mileage charge 1.00/mile

IV Closed on Sundays

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 29th day of January, 2002.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

[Signature]
[Signature]

VICE Chair

[Signature]

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Executive Director

[Signature]

//s//Frank E. Landis

COMMISSIONERS DISSENTING:

//s//Anne C. Boyle

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
