

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application)	APPLICATION NO. BR-556/
of Transport Plus of Lincoln,)	B-1439
Inc., Lincoln, seeking to amend)	
its rates and charges subject to)	GRANTED ON AN EMERGENCY
the Provisions of Neb. Rev.)	BASIS
Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and)	
3.)	
)	ENTERED: December 4, 2018

BY THE COMMISSION:

On November 1, 2018, Transport Plus of Lincoln, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska, filed an application for authority to amend its transportation rates as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>
<u>Transportation Rates in Lincoln:</u>		
Per one way trip	\$35.00	
Per one way trip (visually impaired)	\$27.00	
Per one way trip (all transportation contracts, including IntelliRide and HHS)	\$35.00	\$38.00
<u>Within Lancaster County:</u>		
Per mile plus trip charge	\$2.50	\$2.70
<u>Outside Lancaster County:</u>		
Per Hour	\$30.00	
Per Mile	\$2.50	\$2.70
Escort/Assistance	\$30.00/hour	
<u>Wheelchair/Equipment Return</u>		
Per one way trip	\$15.00	No Charge
<u>Fuel Surcharge- price/gallon</u>		
<u>Trips within Lincoln corporate city limits</u>		
Under \$3.00	N/A	N/A
\$3.00-\$3.50	\$1.80	
\$3.50-\$4.00	\$2.50	
Over \$4.00	\$2.75	
<u>Trips beyond Lincoln corporate city limits- price/gallon</u>		

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Under \$3.00	N/A	N/A
\$3.00-\$4.00	\$0.20	
Over \$4.00	\$0.25	

Emergency action is requested.

Applicant is a common carrier that 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; (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 allows for 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. RESTRICTIONS: (1) Restricted against taxi service; the transportation of railroad train crews and their baggage is not authorized; and HHS Designation is yes.

In its application, Applicant is seeking to increase its one-way trip for transportation provided pursuant to contract, including increased contract rates with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, as well as an increase of the mileage charge for trips within and outside Lancaster County. Applicant is also proposing to eliminate its Wheelchair/Equipment Return charge, which was designed to offset expenses incurred when Applicant would need to return a wheelchair or other equipment that the client needed for the trip but not necessary at the destination. Applicant previously amended its rates in October 2014.¹

In order to grant an application on an emergency basis, Applicant must show and the Commission must find that an emergency situation exists.

¹ See *In the Matter of the Application of Transport Plus of Lincoln, Inc., Lincoln, seeking to amend its rates and charges subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3, Order Granting Rates on an Emergency Basis*, Entered October 21, 2014.

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In its application, Applicant represents to the Commission that the carrier has experienced an increase in demand, resulting in the need to add additional vehicles and drivers. The proposed rate is necessary due to the increased operating costs such as insurance and maintenance.

Based on the above, the Commission finds that the above rates are reasonable and should be approved. The Commission also finds that the rates should be approved on an emergency basis, as Applicant should be placed in a position to offset these new costs as well as have the ability to sign for contracted rates as set forth above.

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 on an emergency basis and that the proposed rate structure for Transport Plus of Lincoln, Inc., Lincoln, be approved effective December 4, 2018.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Transport Plus of Lincoln, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska, be, and it is hereby, authorized to amend its transportation rates as follows, effective December 4, 2018:

Description:

Rates:

Transportation Rates in Lincoln:

Per one way trip
Per one way trip (visually impaired)
Per one way trip (all transportation contracts, including IntelliRide and HHS)

\$35.00
\$27.00
\$38.00

Within Lancaster County:

Per mile plus trip charge

\$2.70

Outside Lancaster County:

Per Hour
Per Mile

\$30.00
\$2.70

Escort/Assistance

\$30.00/hour

Wheelchair/Equipment Return

Per one way trip

No Charge

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Fuel Surcharge- price/gallon

Trips within Lincoln
corporate city limits

Under \$3.00	N/A
\$3.00-\$3.50	\$1.80
\$3.50-\$4.00	\$2.50
Over \$4.00	\$2.75

Trips beyond Lincoln corporate city limits-
price/gallon

Under \$3.00	N/A
\$3.00-\$4.00	\$0.20
Over \$4.00	\$0.25

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that public notice of this action be published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, pursuant to the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 75-121 and Commission rules.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 4th day of December, 2018.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Cystal Knodes

Tim Schram

Frank E. Landis

//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Mary Ridder

Mary Ridder

Chair

ATTEST:

Michael H. ...

Executive Director