

Retention Of Bus Lineog Being Sought

Sun Staff Reporter NEW WESTMINSTER — Mayor Muni Evers told a group of Royal City businessmen at Monday night's city council meeting that he would investigate the impending cancellation of the Columbia Stage Lines' franchise.

Mayor Evers said the bus line, linking downtown New Westminster and Port Moody, should be kept operating if at all possible.

R. S. MacDonnel, manager of the New Westminster Chamber of Commerce, spoke for the businessmen in asking for council's intervention. Businessmen representing the Uptown Merchants' Association, the Downtown Business Association and the Sapperton Merchants' Association, attended the meeting.

The businessmen believe the cancellation of service will affect their businesses, Mayor Evers agreed.

MacDonnel said that residents of Coquitlam and Port Moody also use the bus line to get into New Westminster to work, and this would result in a hardship to many.

Mayor Evers said he would contact officials of Coquitlam and Port Moody in an effort to try to stop the cancellation.

Earlier this month, the bus line filed notice with the Public Utilities Commission that it would withdraw service.

The company blames falling revenues on the action, and has told both Coquitlam and Port Moody councils it would need a subsidy to continue.