

**Community Focus Statement A:** Improve the quality of built environment to enhance community health, neighborhood character, and the image of our business corridors.

**A6**

**Action Statement A.6:** Construct improved bus stops with permanent and accessible benches and shelters in order to improve comfort and safety for bus riders, in partnership with Mountain Transit and local organizations such as the Community Services District, community service organizations, and local businesses.

**Benchmark:** All bus stops in Bear Valley improved to include functional benches and shelters.

**Champion:** Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

**Estimated Cost:** \$16,000-25,000 per shelter (cost may be lowered if labor and materials may be donated)



*Semi-enclosed bus shelters with benches and overhead structures are important in mountain areas that receive snow. Photo source: [Bidgee](#)*

Bus stops are a key component in a passenger’s journey. In Bear Valley, many bus stops are limited to only the sign. To increase comfort, anonymous people have placed lawn chairs near some of the signs. Without shelter or permanent seating and lighting, bus stops can be cold, windy, dark places to wait for the bus. For people with disabilities, inaccessible bus stops represent the weak link in the system and can effectively prevent the use of fixed-route bus service. Physical, cognitive, and psychological barriers at bus stops can hamper bus ridership by disabled individuals, limiting their mobility and potentially leading to increased paratransit costs.

Recognizing the problem, Big Bear firefighters have volunteered time, donated money, and worked with Mountain Transit to design a new bus stop. This model may be expanded and/or replicated by others. Additional resources are also available through grant funding. Local advocates should follow the Big Bear Firefighter’s lead and

work with Mountain Transit to identify and prioritize necessary bus stop improvements. Once this process is complete, these types of improvements should be added to serve the Bear Valley communities where needed as funding and other resources are available.

The table below lists two potential improvements and typical costs per item per representative transit agency standards. The Bear Valley communities would need to absorb additional costs on-going maintenance of the amenities.

**Typical Costs for Improvements**

Potential Improvement	Cost (typical per measure or item)
Bus Shelter	\$5,000-\$15,000
Bench	\$2000 - \$5000 per bench

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Convene a meeting with like-minded citizens and form a committee for improving access to Mountain Transit	Champion	Month 1	Mountain Transit <a href="http://mountaintransit.org/">http://mountaintransit.org/</a>
2. Meet with Mountain Transit and Firemen volunteers who previously initiated a similar discussion in 2016 to discuss problem and learn about process to improve bus stops.	Transit access committee, Mountain Transit	Month 2	Bus Stop Guidelines – National Association of City Transportation Officials <a href="https://nacto.org/docs/us dg/bus_stop_guidelines_t rimet.pdf">https://nacto.org/docs/us dg/bus_stop_guidelines_t rimet.pdf</a>
3. Develop a list of priority bus stops that should take priority for upgrades.	Transit access committee	Month 3-6	
4. Secure funding, donated materials, and/or volunteers	Transit access committee, Mountain Transit	Month 6-12	
5. Construct bus stop improvements to serve the community where needed, and approved by Mountain Transit, as funding and other resources are available.	Transit access committee, Mountain Transit, volunteers	Year 2, On-going	