

Attachment 5

Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee Recommendation

At its December meeting, the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) reviewed the proposed project lists. In addition to suggesting that the automated Transit Trip Planner be made accessible to people with disabilities (which Metro staff has confirmed that they are required by law to do so), **the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the Regional Transportation Commission program 2006 STIP funds for bus stop shelters and benches.**

Because this proposal was not previously identified by the Transit District as a candidate for STIP funds, approximate project cost information was not available at the time of the E&D TAC meeting. Instead the E&D TAC suggested that Metro's Bus Stop Advisory group identify priorities and costs.

Though the Bus Stop Advisory group's December meeting was canceled and they were unable to identify priorities and costs, Transit District staff has indicated that on average the capital cost of adding shelters and benches is approximately \$5,000 per bus stop. Depending on whether transit district staff and/or a private contractor were used to install the bus stop shelters and benches, 20-50 could be installed each year at an annual cost of \$100,000-\$350,000, respectively. Transit District staff has indicated that bus stop improvements would be implemented at locations prioritized by an existing public participation process which includes the RTC's Elderly and Disabled Technical Advisory Committee, the METRO Advisory Committee, the Bus Stop Advisory Committee and the Riders Union for Social Justice.

If the Commission were to fund this project, it is important to note that the Transit District would have to commit to maintaining the stops within its operating budget. Given the late identification of this project, **staff does not recommend programming funds to this project at this time.** However, this project should be considered for future funding programs.