



The intersection of Wellborn Road and Old Main Drive poses problems for both pedestrians and vehicles. As a major entrance to the

**Wellborn Road elevated?**

**Campus traffic flow studied**

By HARVEY LAAS  
Battalion Reporter  
Elevate Wellborn Road from University Drive past Jersey Street, toward the relocation of the road to an area that is beyond university property.  
These two proposals are stated as in Texas A&M University's year master plan.

The University officials who serve members of the Steering Committee of the Master Plan said these are needed to promote safety and prevent a divided campus.

The Master Plan was released in and approved in principle by the Board of Regents. The plan serves as a guideline for the Texas A&M University System's growth over a five-

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period. It provides a timetable and cost estimates for construction and renovation of facilities.  
The preface of the plan states that it serves as a guideline and is not a plan.

The Steering Committee, which was chosen by President Jarvis E. Vestal, is made up of five University officials: Howard L. Vestal, vice president for business affairs; Dr. Charles E. McCandless, director of academic planning and services; Dr. J. Prescott, vice president for academic affairs; Dr. T.R. Hathouse, associate dean for administrative affairs; College of Agriculture; and Heston Cherry, assistant director, Engineering Experiment Station.

McCandless said Wellborn Road presented the biggest problem by dividing the campus and threatening safety. He said cars use the road continuously, whereas trains pass through only several times daily. Part of the problem is people do not use the elevated crosswalk, he

said. Because of this, construction of another crosswalk at Old Main Drive would not help, he said.

Vestal said, "We want a one-campus university." He said the Steering Committee believed elevation of the road was the best way to accomplish this.

D.D. Williamson, district engineer for the Texas Highway Department in Bryan, has made some preliminary drawings of an elevation plan. The road would be built on pedestals allowing traffic and pedestrians to pass under it.

Williamson said projections show Wellborn Road eventually must handle 40,000 cars a day. He said the highway department thinks access to Wellborn Road at University Drive is dangerous and needs improvement.

"I feel that elevation of Wellborn Road is the best way to improve traffic flow," Williamson said.

"The ideal situation would be to have the railroad moved. That way there would be room for a diamond interchange at Wellborn and University," he said.

He said if the railroad tracks were not moved, then a partial cloverleaf could be built at the intersection.

Williamson said there were two alternatives to elevating Wellborn Road.

One would be to raise the road grade enough to create an underpass with a low clearance for pedestrians and smaller vehicles.

He said another method would be to lower Wellborn Road and the railroad tracks so traffic could pass over the road. This presented a problem since it would cost approximately the same as the elevation.

Williamson said if Wellborn Road were elevated, the state would retain an easement to the area under Wellborn Road, but the University would be allowed to develop it as it wanted.

McCandless said the space could be used for parking, landscaping or both.

Although the cost of elevating the

west campus, University officials have considered the possibility of relocating the railroad tracks or elevating Wellborn Road.

Battalion photo by Ed Conniss

**SALT talks start soon in Geneva**

United Press International  
WASHINGTON—The United States and the Soviet Union will resume the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks in Geneva next week, a State Department spokesman announced Tuesday.

"It has been agreed that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko will meet in Geneva Dec. 21-22 to continue discussions on SALT," said spokesman Hodding Carter.

"It is felt that this meeting can be productive," the spokesman said, but he declined to say what the two sides hoped to accomplish from this meeting.

Earlier, President Carter told a

press conference, "We have made good progress on SALT, but I can't say that we have reached agreement. If the Soviets are adequately forthcoming, we will have an agreement without delay. If they are not forthcoming, then we will continue to negotiate."

The president also confirmed that an agreement on a SALT-II accord will be followed by a summit meeting between the United States and the Soviet Union.

"At that summit meeting we will not only discuss concluding the SALT agreement officially, but we will also have a broad agenda of other items that are of mutual interest to us and the Soviet Union," Carter said.

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