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Tracks
 (Continued from page 1)

include street improvements and park improvements.

The election to decide if voters approve the sale of bonds to raise money for the low-track project will be in July, August or September.

Ringer said he is not sure how the citizens of College Station feel about selling bonds for the low-track project.

"The voters must decide what's important to them," Ringer said. "There are a lot of other issues to consider."

He said if the low-track project is not supported by enough citizens, the bond election process must start over and win approval before construction of the low-track project begins.

Ringer said the project would increase the traffic capacity of Wellborn Road and help the city provide emergency service to property west of the railroad tracks.

Zeigler said if the project is approved by A&M and College Station voters, construction will begin in two years or more.

The proposed budget for the project is \$35 million. The City of Col-

Letter
 (Continued from page 1)

concerning racism, but they cannot say they understand racism," he said. "You have to be in a person's shoes to understand what they are going through."

Martin and the person who received the letter said they both believe tension at A&M is running high concerning racial issues.

Things aren't as bad at A&M as they are at other universities that have had violent incidents, Martin said. But, he said, A&M has a problem with students not being interested in issues that don't concern A&M.

"If it doesn't concern A&M students, then they are not interested," Martin said. "They talk about A&M traditions and other (A&M) things

Measles
 (Continued from page 1)

with a strep throat rash."

Juarez said that in certain cases the disease can be fatal.

"It depends mainly on complications that stem from the disease," she said. "The condition of your body at the time you contract the disease also plays a major role. Things like eating right and getting enough sleep all contribute to the severity of the disease."

Twelve people have died from measles in Texas since October 1988, a Texas Department of Health official in Austin said.

"The average is to have two or three deaths per 3,000 cases of measles," Wes Hodgson, from the health

lege Station would pay \$2 million, the City of Bryan would pay \$2.9 million, Texas A&M would pay \$6.6 million and the State Department of Public Highways and Transportation would pay \$23.5 million.

Money owed by the highway department includes funds from state revenue sources, the Federal Highway Administration and railroad companies.

Zeigler said railroad companies usually contribute 5 percent of construction costs of similar projects.

Because Wellborn Road is part of the state highway system (FM Road 2154), lowering the road is the state's financial responsibility, Zeigler said.

"The State Highway Commission decided the separation of rail traffic, highway traffic and cross-street traffic also is a state responsibility," he said.

Local governments are responsible for providing all right-of-way for the project and clearing all utility lines, such as water, sewer and electric lines.

A&M is responsible for adjusting all underground on-campus utility lines.

Zeigler said A&M wants to landscape the walkways built across the lowered tracks and road if the project is approved.

being important, but no one wants to talk about racism."

Koldus said the only way to deal with racism and situations like the letter is by educating people.

"Education is, has been and always will be the key," Koldus said. "You have to get people really thinking through what they are saying and how it applies to every human being."

Director of Security and University Police Bob Wiatt said the student who received the racist letter cannot file harassment charges because she was not directly threatened with bodily harm or injury.

He said that as unfortunate and derogatory as the letter might be, it expresses an opinion and is not in violation of federal postal regulations. Wiatt has not seen a copy of the letter and the student did not report the incident to the University Police Department.

department, said.

Hodgson said that 35 to 40 counties across Texas have confirmed reports of measles.

"The endemic areas are El Paso, Laredo, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston and Denton," Hodgson said.

He said the first reported outbreak of measles occurred in Houston in October 1988.

Health department officials believe the disease filtered up from Mexico.

"There were 17,000 cases and 300 deaths in Mexico in 1989," Hodgson said.

Last year there were 3,500 cases reported in Texas, he said.

Hodgson also said the increased outbreak of measles has not been limited to Texas.

"It's nationwide, all over us," he said. "Cases have been reported in Florida, California and Illinois."

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