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Construction prepares for 1980's

Cooper Street traffic signals 'hopefully' installed by fall

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Two more traffic lights will be installed on Cooper Street "hopefully by September," according to Dudley Wetsel, vice president for business affairs. The lights will be near Texas Hall and Campus Drive.

Four traffic signals will then be located on Cooper Street between West Mitchell and Second Street. All lights will be synchronized for traffic.

The school is currently undergoing a \$33 million expansion program designed to accommodate a student body expected to reach 22,000 by 1980.

Among the major projects are the \$8.5 million fine arts complex, \$4.5 million activities building, \$950,000 Ransom and Preston Hall renovation, \$3.7 million engineering tech renovation, \$3.5 million College of Engineering laboratory, \$7.5 million College of Business Administration structure, \$3.5 million utility tunnels and a \$1.2 million recreation site.

When completed, the latest expansion and refurbishing projects will boost the value of UTA's physical plant on the 300-acre campus to more than \$97 million.

The fine arts complex, originally scheduled for completion on Oct. 15, should be completed by December or January, Wetsel said.

The complex will have 200,000 gross square feet and will occupy 600 feet along South Cooper. Located in the structure will be the departments of communication, art, architecture and music.

It will house radio-television studios, a forum debate hall seating 123 in the communication section, a 370-seat re-

ital hall in the music section and a skylit exhibition area and 150-seat lecture hall in the art-architecture section.

No decision has been made on who will occupy College Hall when the music department moves into the new complex, Wetsel said. The architecture department will hold classes in both the new complex and Swift Center in the spring as they have grown beyond expectations.

The art building will be razed after that department's move and communication offices, with the exception of journalism which will remain in Pres-

ton Hall, will move from Carlisle Hall to the Fine Arts building.

The activities building is set for completion in January, 1976. Included in the building are locker rooms, 12 handball courts, gymnasiums, an exercise and rehabilitation room, a student lounge-recreational area and a multi-purpose 500-seat theater.

Included in the renovation of Ransom and Preston Hall, are elevators, new windows, seating, lighting, wall coverings and ceilings. Student publications will be housed on the third floor of Ransom Hall.

The renovation of the engineering

tech building, although not yet started, should be completed by 1976. It will house the department of geology.

The business building, set for a '78 completion, is now in the planning stages. The engineering lab, with approximately 50,000 square feet, is set for completion in '76.

The utility tunnel will be completed in early '75 although it was originally scheduled for completion prior to the fine arts complex. The 10 feet by 20 feet underground tunnel will serve the campus buildings with chilled water, steam and electricity through the central power plant.

The recreation site is set for completion in August, 1975. The project will include landscaping along Trading Horse Creek from Swift Center to West Street and Doug Russell park. It will be connected with hike and bike trails.

In addition to the 12 tennis courts and three platform tennis courts are 847 parking spaces. New parking lots will be constructed north of the activities building, west of the men's PE Building and at Border and Yates Streets north of the engineering tech building.

