

# The Great Cooper Street Depression Slowly Sinking

One of the most difficult experiences in the collegiate career of any UTA student, past or present, has been "getting across Cooper St."

The four-lane street not only divides the campus in half but also happens to be one of Arlington's major thoroughfares and oftentimes it is literally a matter of taking your life in your own hands to attempt (even at the cross walk) to get from one side of the street to the other.

But all that may soon change.

The Great Cooper Street Depression Project, as it has been called, is still in the works.

Acting UTA President Wendell Nedderman says however, "the highway department must satisfy rights of way and utility easements and there is still discussion as to whether the depressed street should be four or six lanes wide."

The latest proposal calls for a five per cent grade depression beginning at the Texaco station across from the campus and rising again at the Old Mitchell St. intersection. Three concrete bridges would span the lowered thoroughfares.

And it is the bridges that appear to the point of disagreement between UTA and highway department officials.

Nedderman points out that the bridges must support pedestrians and emergency traffic but also must be "aesthetic and functional."

"We have been spending a great deal of money to make this place palatable and there is no doubt that the depression project can be also," Nedderman said.