

and other areas.

The report caused something of a backlash from those who feared, in Mrs. Connelly's words at the time, "cutting up the Willowbrook property in little pieces and cramming it shoulder to shoulder with condominiums."

According to Joseph Manifold, chairman of Community Board 2, there still is no assurance that private developers would not have a hand in the property's future, even if some of the offices eventually move there.

"About nine months ago we were informed that SIDC was

forming a community advisory board" for future planning, he said yesterday.

"We were asked to be a part of that," Manifold said. "I submitted the name of Tom Prisco, chairman of the health and hospitals committee, and heard nothing more about it."

One of the uses Manifold said he sees for the property is health facilities to increase hospital space for a growing population in the area.

Available space at SIDC has slowly grown.

Mentally retarded and disabled people housed in what was once known as the infamous Willowbrook State School are being transferred into what officials call community-based facilities.

The gradual withdrawal of the patients under the auspices of

the OMRDD, which runs SIDC (the former state school) was done under court order in 1975 by the Willowbrook Consent Decree.

But that process has been slower than originally projected, and the state is again expected to ask a court for an extension of a deadline in operating the disabled facilities.

Also in the summer of last year, it was noted that existing and potential baseball and softball fields enjoyed by some could be eliminated.

Mrs. Connelly said that three weeks ago, there was some talk among General Services officials of moving the organization Little Leagues from the Northeastern United States to the property from its current location in Newburgh, N.Y.

But again, no concrete plans have been produced.