

"I disagree with the idea of excluding that area of land from our discussion, although I see where you are coming from," she said to the state officials. "But I think we need to look at the property in totality and figure out what's good for development and what should be preserved."

City officials did not present the only proposals involving recreation.

Assemblywoman Elizabeth A. Connelly asked the council to consider the interest of the regional Little League association, currently headquartered upstate in Newburgh, which is looking for a complex closer to the metropolitan area.

In addition, Mrs. Connelly said she wanted some of the SIDC property as a recreational site for the handicapped. Such a site would include an enclosed Olympic-size swimming pool, a gymnasium and a running track, she said.

Mrs. Connelly said she also wants additional acreage set aside as a "land bank" for future use for the handicapped.

Assemblyman Eric N. Vitaliano distributed copies of a proposal by Imagine-A Better Way, a non-profit organization seeking four acres of land for a school for developmentally disabled adults.

James Cooney of the Civil Servants Employees Association, which represents many SIDC employees, endorsed the idea of keeping facilities for the handicapped on the SIDC campus, although he said those facilities should be operated by the state rather than by non-profit agencies.

Cooney, who acknowledged his primary motivation is to save jobs for state employees, said his organization would like to see the Carl Warner complex — the newest group of buildings at SIDC — turned into a medical center for the handicapped, in addition to the establishment of 30 to 35 group homes on the campus.

Another suggestion is to renovate the SIDC buildings to accommodate a consolidated campus of the College of Staten Island. Dr. John Oppenheimer,

chairman of the CSI environmental science program and a member of the advisory council, said the college's administrators are seriously considering the Willowbrook site.

But Mrs. Connelly said she understood CSI officials are committed to another site, in Ocean Breeze. Philip Scampas of Community Board 2, who said his board had already endorsed the Ocean Breeze property, said he thought the board would oppose CSI's relocation to Willowbrook.

Of the other proposals introduced at the meeting, Assemblyman Robert A. Straniere suggested that buildings be set aside for community theater groups, and the Jewish Foundation asked to rent Building 19 as a school for 500 students during the next two years while its new school is under construction.

In addition, the CSEA representative suggested that the state could save "thousands of dollars" by using part of the SIDC property to store and repair the state's fleet of vehicles in the metropolitan area.

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