

CSI likes Willowbrook campus

By JULIE MACK
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The College of Staten Island wants to consolidate its two campuses on land being vacated by Staten Island Developmental Center (SIDC) in Willowbrook, the school's president said yesterday.

The announcement pushed aside previous plans to build a new campus in Ocean Breeze to consolidate the college's campuses in St. George and Sunny-

side. Many people, starting with Republican state Sen. John J. Marchi, have suggested in recent months that CSI relocate to the Willowbrook site, but this is the first time that college officials publicly responded to the idea.

"With the understanding that the Staten Island Developmental

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Center property will be available to us in a reasonable amount of time, it is certainly the primary site in which the college would be interested in for its consolidated campus," CSI President Edmond Volpe

said in a statement yesterday.

"It is our feeling that the Willowbrook site is more immediately developable than the current site available to us in Ocean Breeze. In addition, we anticipate building a campus at Willowbrook would prove a significant savings over site development at Ocean Breeze."

College officials said they would renovate some of the 40

buildings at the site and build several new structures, and they initially plan to use at least 110 of the 382 acres there. The project is estimated to cost about \$200 million, or \$30 million less than a campus in Ocean Breeze, CSI spokesman Brian Morris said.

The state Office of General Services (OGS), is in charge of selling or redeveloping the land,

although the final decision rests with the governor's office. Gov. Mario Cuomo has pledged to consider the recommendations of a 13-member task force formed to explore possibilities for the site.

However, some state officials and several members of the task force already have expressed

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