

Task force

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lege to submit its request. Moreover, Raymond Koloski, OGS real property task force coordinator, said yesterday he is certain that the college plan will be included in the recommendations the task force submits to Gov. Mario Cuomo.

"It fits so well," Koloski said, noting that the college can use many of the facilities being vacated by the SIDC.

The main purpose of yesterday's meeting was informa-

tional: The task force heard the results of a consultants' study for the City University of New York, which concluded that Willowbrook was the best site for a consolidated CSI campus.

The study recommended that the college, which now operates campuses in St. George and Sunnyside, request 187 of the 300 acres being vacated at Willowbrook.

While most people at the meeting asked questions rather than expressed opinions, repre-

sentatives from Community Board 2 took the occasion to voice their opposition to the college request.

"I want a second opinion on these charts," said Community Board 2 Chairman Edmund Murphy, gesturing at the charts used in the CSI presentation.

Murphy and Philip Scampas, chairman of the Community Board 2 land use committee and a member of the task force, argued that CSI should stick with its original plan to relocate to a

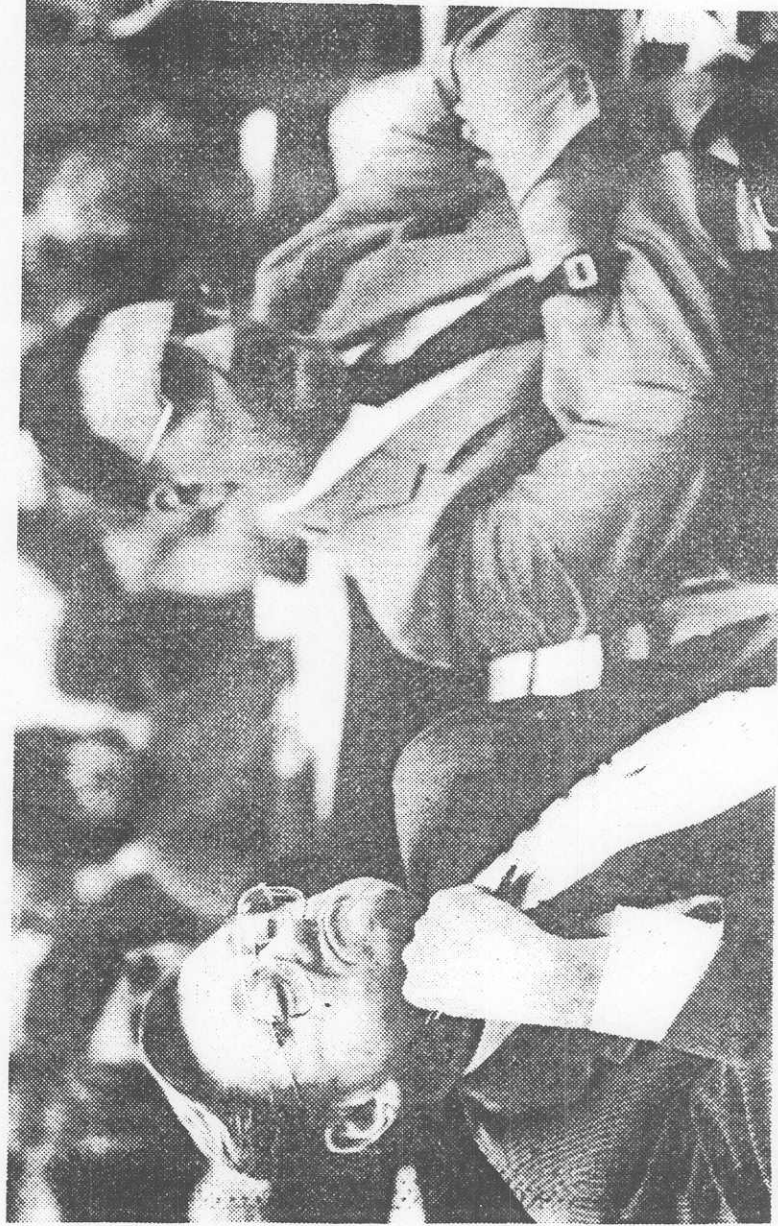
110-acre site adjacent to Staten Island Hospital in Ocean Breeze. While the consultant's report acknowledged that the Ocean Breeze site is acceptable for a new campus, it said the Willowbrook property can be developed for less money and that the site is more attractive.

Scampas and Murphy said the Ocean Breeze site is far more accessible for both students who drive and those who use mass transit, and that the college could build better medical programs by locating next to the hospital.

"We studied the Ocean Breeze site; we've fought for the Ocean Breeze site," Scampas said. "Now we've got the Ocean Breeze site and he (CSI President Edmund Volpe) changes his mind. What's going to happen in another five years?"

In addition, the Community Board 2 representatives protested the lack of community input in the consultant's study.

Murphy asked Volpe to delay a vote by the City University board of trustees on the issue. The CUNY board is meeting Monday and is expected to authorize university officials to begin negotiations for the Willowbrook property. Murphy argued that the CUNY board should wait until after the public hearing before pursuing the matter further, but Volpe said he does not have the authority to delay the vote.



Edmund J. Murphy, chairman of Community Board 2, scratches his chin while CSI President Edmund Volpe responds to questions by Philip Scampas.

S.I. Advance Photos by Tony Dugal