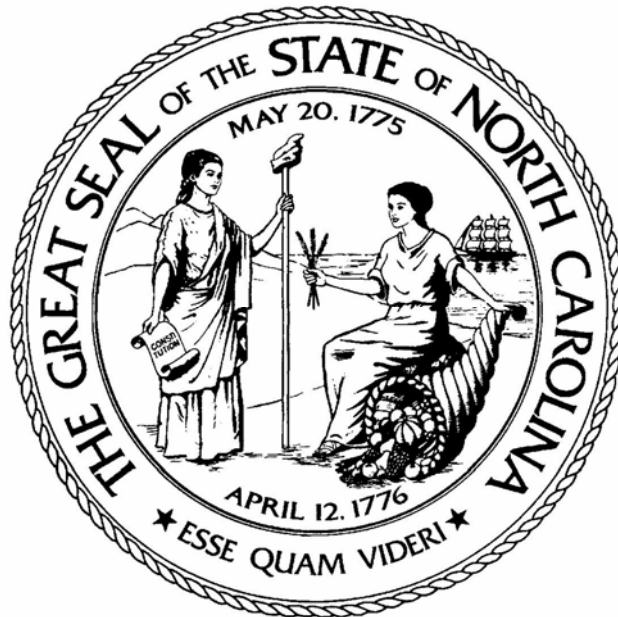


**North Carolina
Dorothea Dix Property Study Commission**



**Interim Report to the
Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental
Operations of the 2003 General Assembly**

Executive Summary with Recommendations

April 20, 2004

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the 2003 Session, the General Assembly authorized financing for the construction of a new state-operated psychiatric hospital. In addition to authorizing the financing, S.L. 2003-314 determined that the new hospital would be located in Granville County, replacing John Umstead Psychiatric Hospital in Granville County and Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Hospital in Wake County. Construction is scheduled to finish in March 2007.

Anticipating the closure of Dorothea Dix Hospital and the potential for the disposal of hospital lands, the General Assembly created the Dorothea Dix Property Study Commission (the Commission). The purpose of the Commission is to examine the possible sale of the property to private interests. The work of the Commission focused on two main issues: (1) development and use of the land after the Dix Campus is disposed, and (2) the allocation of proceeds generated from the disposal of the Dix Campus.

Recommendations of the Dorothea Dix Property Study Commission

Recommendation #1:

The State and the City of Raleigh (the City) shall develop a new Master Plan for the Dorothea Dix Campus. The cost of the planning process should be shared between the State and the City.

The Commission recognizes that the 1995 Master Plan for the Dorothea Dix Campus has been made, in part, inapplicable. Any future development or disposition of the property should consider State needs and local considerations. Therefore, the proposed new Master Plan should examine, among other things, options for land conservation, mixed-use development, and anticipated State office-space needs.

In order to enhance communication and feedback regarding the planning process, a subcommittee shall be established to oversee the development of the Master Plan. The committee shall consist of five members: three shall be appointed by the cochairs of the Dorothea Dix Property Study Commission; one shall be appointed by the Raleigh City Council; and one shall be appointed by the Wake County Board of County Commissioners.

The State and the City shall submit the Master Plan to the Dorothea Dix Property Study Commission no later than April 1, 2005. The Commission shall review the Master Plan and shall make recommendations to the 2005 General Assembly.

Recommendation #2:

All proceeds generated from the sale, lease, or other disposition of the Dorothea Dix property shall be deposited in the Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs. These proceeds shall only be used to provide additional funding for non-recurring or capital expenditures for community-based projects.

Recommendation #3:

The Dorothea Dix Property Study Commission will continue its work, as authorized under S.L. 2003-314, Sec. 3.4(a), in order to oversee, receive, examine, and make recommendations regarding the proposed Master Plan developed by the State and the City of Raleigh. The Commission's work would end upon its submission of a final report.