

# Board, City Push Hunt for York Site

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By SY SAFRANSKY

Board of Higher Education and City Planning Commission officials, voicing confidence that an interim home for York College would soon be found in Jamaica, continued today to press their hunt for available properties.

They warned, however, that because of the current site acquisition snag, classes in the new facilities would probably not begin before the February semester, rather than in September as scheduled.

Community leaders, while heartened by the optimistic signals, repeated their call for Mayor Lindsay to try to resolve the impasse, since they fear that if Jamaica is abandoned as a temporary site, this would imperil plans to place the permanent \$58 million campus there.

The civil rights and civic leaders, who on Wednesday formed the Ad Hoc Committee for York College, requested a meeting with the mayor next Tuesday "to make sure that the city is still committed to Jamaica as an interim and permanent site and that classes will open in September," according to the Rev. Leonard Miller, leader of the group and chairman of the social action committee of the Queens Federation of Churches.

The committee—which includes representatives from the Jamaica Community Development Corporation, Jamaica Community Corporation, and the Queens Urban League—was joined in its appeal by City Councilman-

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# Press Hunt For York Site

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at-large Michael Lazaar of Holliswood, who said there was "no excuse" for the delay.

"Where there's a will there's a way," Lazaar commented. "There are many sites available. The city and the board have an obligation to open classes in September. The morale of the student body depends on it."

According to Charles Smith, director of the City Planning Commission's Queens office, "there is no doubt that York will be temporarily and permanently located in Jamaica. The only question now is the fall opening."

He said that municipal planners and BHE officials were in daily contact and were exploring the possibility of acquiring several properties that could be converted to classrooms and administrative facilities.

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**DR. SEYMOUR** Hyman, the City University's vice chancellor for campus planning and development, said he shares "that confidence. The chances are good we'll find something in Jamaica. A lot of people are chipping in to help."

Dr. Hyman warned, however, that if appropriate properties in Jamaica could not be found "we will have to look elsewhere."

The latest flap over York, the newest senior unit of the City University, came to light earlier this week when it was learned that the city had failed to secure two of the three sites it had promised the BHE. York's students now attend classes in Bayside. Its administrative offices are located in Kew Gardens Hills.

Both Smith and Dr. Hyman indicated that a decision on site acquisition would probably be made within the next few weeks. Smith declined to indicate which sites are under discussion, for fear that speculators might attempt to capitalize on the project.