

**ULSTER COUNTY
BLUE RIBBON HEALTHCARE SERVICES ADVISORY PANEL
LONG TERM CARE COMMITTEE REPORT**

MAJOR FACILITY PROBLEMS

The Committee reviewed the Architect's reports, which detail that a major disaster of old piping that could erupt at any moment. Further, the facility "has reached or is nearing the useful life expectancy" and "will require replacement in the near future" (Vosburgh). "Golden Hill is greatly outdated and major portions of the facility do not meet the requirements of the current, existing State Hospital Code and the Building Code of New York State, including non-ADA compliant toilet rooms, insufficient toilets, insufficient dining/recreation areas, insufficient resident exam and treatment rooms, and non-compliant interior fire doors and resident room doors" (Vosburgh). The 2004 cost estimate for these renovations and repairs was \$43.9 million (see Table on page 8 of the Vosburgh Report – Appendix I).

Members of the Committee discussed the Certificate of Need approval and reimbursement process with representatives of the New York State Department of Health. The Department of Health representative indicated that a project of that expense was unlikely to receive approval for such an old facility. Further, even if a project that large was approved, only a portion would be reimbursed; Mr. Vosburgh estimated that 75% of the cost would be reimbursable.

Renovating Golden Hill would require temporary relocation of some residents. With all local homes running at or near capacity, relocation would likely not be in Ulster County. During the 5-year renovation period, the County would not receive reimbursement for the relocated patients, thus making the financial situation worse.

For additional details, see the following reports:

- The Vosburgh Report (Appendix I)
- The SWBR Architects Report (Appendix II)