DANIEL D. HOGAN
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES
MAYOR ERASTUS CORNING 2ND TOWER
THE GOVERNOR NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER EMPIRE STATE PLAZA
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12242

ROBERT J. FLEURY
FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

January 20, 2006

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Office of the State Comptroller
JAN 25 2006
Lynn Canton
Deputy Comptroller

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2006
OFFICE OF
COMPTROLLER ALAN
EXECUTIVE

Honorable Alan G. Hevesi
Comptroller
Office of the State Comptroller
110 State Street
Albany, NY 12236

Dear Comptroller Hevesi:

In accordance with Section 170 of the Executive Law, the Office of General Services (OGS) has prepared its comments regarding the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in the State Comptroller's Audit Report 2005-S-9, a report on the "Executive Mansion Trust".

The Mansion Trust was created by the Legislature to allow funds to be donated for preserving, improving and promoting the State's Executive Mansion as a historical and cultural resource. It was created after the Natural Heritage Trust, indicating that the Legislature intended to create a separate entity to accomplish its goal. To date the Mansion Trust has been inactive; however, there is the possibility with each election cycle, or perhaps with the coming sesquicentennial anniversary of the Mansion, that there might be new interest that could generate activity.

The audit included the following recommendation: "Work with Legislative officials to formally transfer the responsibilities of the Executive Mansion Trust to the Natural Heritage Trust and enact legislation to discontinue the existence of the Executive Mansion Trust."

We wish to thank the Comptroller for his attention to such issues and for the valuable resources dedicated to this performance audit of internal controls over the Executive Mansion Trust.

OGS stands ready to assist any legislative officials should they take action to formally transfer responsibilities from the Executive Mansion Trust to the Natural Heritage Trust.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Fleury

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