

PRESS RELEASE

**RE: ADDENDUM HAND- DELIVERED TO TALLAHASSEE
284 NAMES REPRESENTING OVER 10,000 RESIDENTS HAVE SIGNED
ONTO LETTER TO GOVERNOR**

On Monday, August 13, 2007, the attached addendum to the original July 29th letter to the Governor was hand-delivered to Governor Crist's General Counsel's office in Tallahassee. The request for help now bears the names of 284 individuals and organizations representing over 10,000 residents of Hillsborough County. Meetings with both the Governor's counsel as well as the Department of Community Affairs resulted in the state "watching with interest" the outcome of the August 16, 2007, Environmental Protection Commission meeting and hearings.

At Thursday's EPC hearings, the possibility of eliminating the wetlands division is real, but the probability of a weakening of the rules is just as dangerous...and illegal. There is a third option, however: To ask the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation to perform an "independent" audit of the Environmental Protection Commission under the rules they adopted. After all, aren't we trying to get at the TRUTH regarding duplication and efficiency?????

"This is not just a local wetlands issue," states Denise Layne. "It has risen to the level of state attention. They appear to be hearing the voices of the public. Will those voices be heard by our local EPC commission on Thursday?"