

# EPC's 2017 Annual Report

## Celebrating Our Environment



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



# Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County

## MISSION

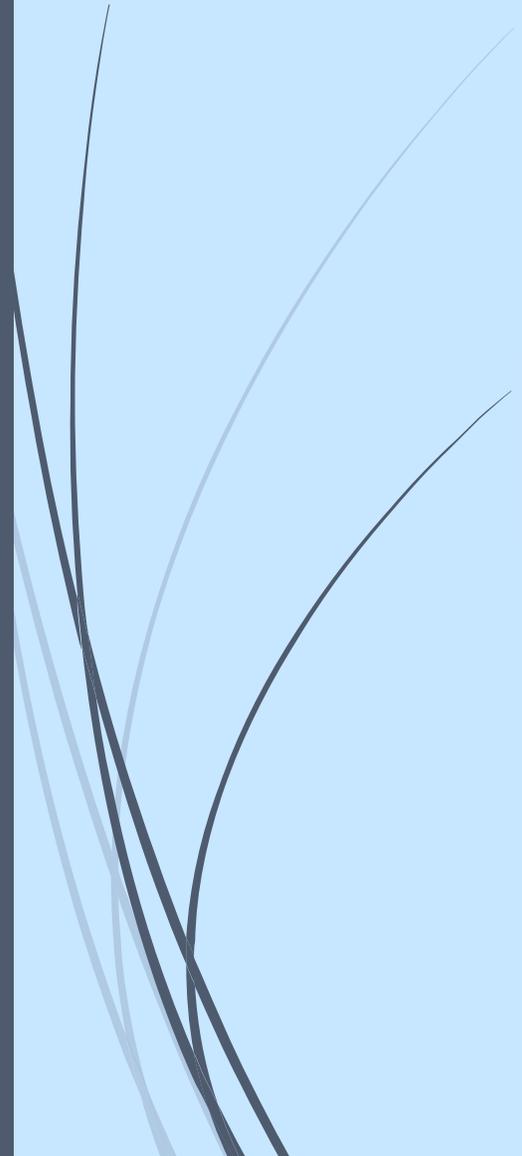
To protect the natural  
resources, environment,  
and quality of life in  
Hillsborough County

## VISION

Environmental  
excellence in a  
changing world

## VALUES

Environmental  
stewardship, integrity,  
transparency, and  
accountability.



# EPC's Core Functions

## Air & Water Monitoring



Checking air quality in Hillsborough County



Checking water quality in Tampa Bay



Investigating environmental complaints

## Citizen Support & Outreach

## Environmental Permitting



Writing effective permits

# Core Functions (Continued)

## Compliance Assistance



Inspecting small businesses

## Enforcement



Enforcing on turbidity plume from sewage discharge observed in the river

# Improving Air Quality

**Issue:** Stricter EPA Standards identify localized areas in Hillsborough County that need to improve

**Action:** Staff working with the State oversees cleanups in Riverview and East Tampa with industry spending in excess of \$100M to reduce emissions and now 4,500 children breathe cleaner air



# Maintaining a Cleaner Tampa Bay

**Issue:** Keeping Tampa Bay waters healthy and clean promotes tourism, fisheries, jobs and the protection of our greatest environmental asset

**Action:** EPC works with local inter-governments and the State to monitor water quality and ensure a healthy Bay and associated 291,000 jobs



# Bay Segment Report Card



Port of Tampa

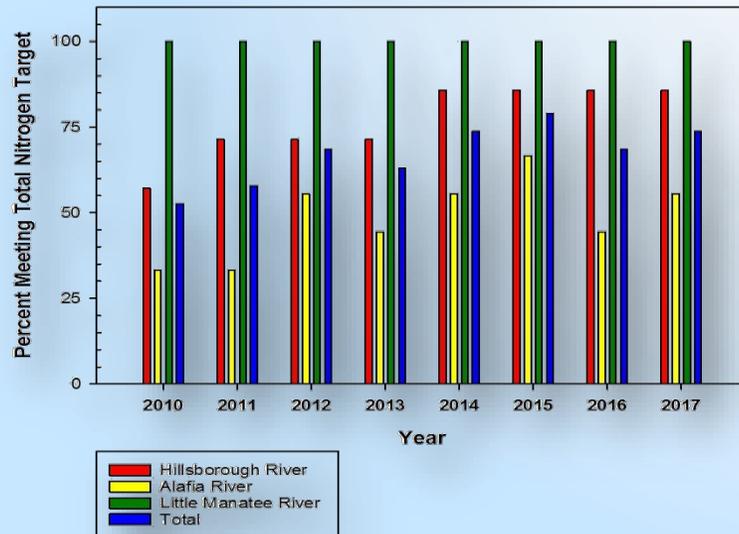
YEAR	HILLSBOROUGH BAY	OLD TAMPA BAY	MIDDLE TAMPA BAY	LOWER TAMPA BAY
2017	96.19	86.77	97.38	90.28
2016	85.95	80.36	86.31	75.50
2015	91.90	85.52	90.24	79.10
2014	91.27	89.42	91.67	85.71
2013	89.64	86.97	91.87	86.11
2012	88.45	87.24	90.38	82.94
2011	90.48	76.92	85.69	87.53
2010	89.64	81.08	88.49	78.37
2009	85.97	82.01	87.88	82.74
2008	86.31	86.57	89.98	79.62
2007	90.83	82.40	87.85	85.33
2006	91.79	89.62	93.95	82.64
2005	86.90	81.94	86.51	76.09
2004	85.32	76.64	86.61	71.23
2003	79.24	72.04	83.09	71.29
2002	81.63	74.56	85.12	69.68
2001	80.83	69.40	75.50	66.59
2000	80.60	77.85	76.43	58.14
1999	84.08	76.37	80.93	65.74
1998	60.99	63.98	55.19	46.75
1997	77.94	72.94	73.56	62.65
1996	80.84	72.20	82.88	73.60
1995	67.70	66.95	69.85	59.03
1994	64.27	65.21	65.61	52.19
1993	79.62	67.36	76.70	67.95
1992	73.06	69.16	74.43	66.28
1991	67.14	65.81	70.72	66.03
1990	67.64	55.56	63.97	63.54
1989	60.00	54.39	60.42	58.45
1988	63.23	66.01	70.07	67.89
1987	57.38	52.05	61.92	68.61
1986	60.93	62.48	71.26	73.41
1985	48.67	59.44	58.13	66.34
1984	57.86	45.62	57.02	62.93
1983	49.63	48.41	50.00	53.82
1982	48.05	50.45	50.27	57.95
1981	43.63	42.18	43.82	45.78
1980	53.10	37.04	35.43	38.46
1979	45.95	38.08	39.38	41.23
1978	45.71	45.55	38.54	43.10
1977	49.29	40.48	42.91	45.31
1976	50.16	43.22	53.57	48.54
1975	52.86	43.60	48.95	48.36

# Overseeing Cleaner Rivers and Lakes

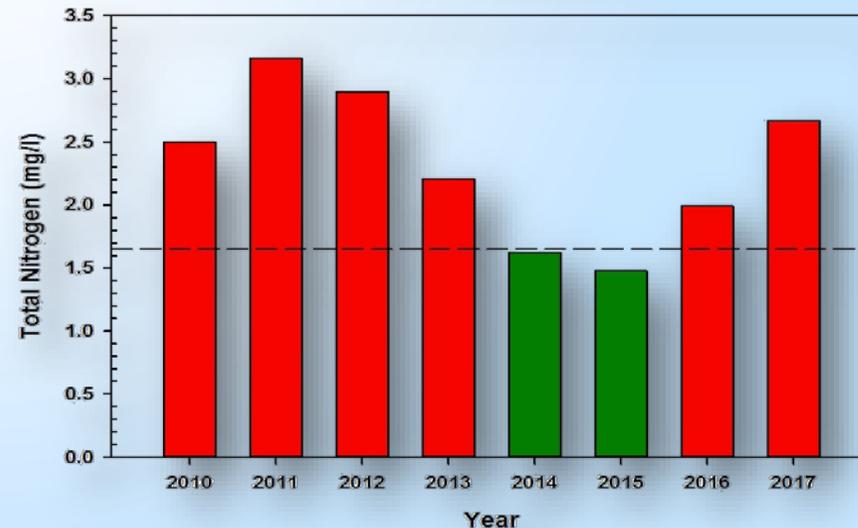
**Issue:** Area sources such as urban runoff can degrade freshwater bodies such as rivers and lakes

**Action:** Staff works with partners to educate the public about fertilizer use and results have shown improvement

EPCHC Water Quality Monitoring  
River Stations



EPCHC Water Quality Monitoring  
Lake Thonotosassa



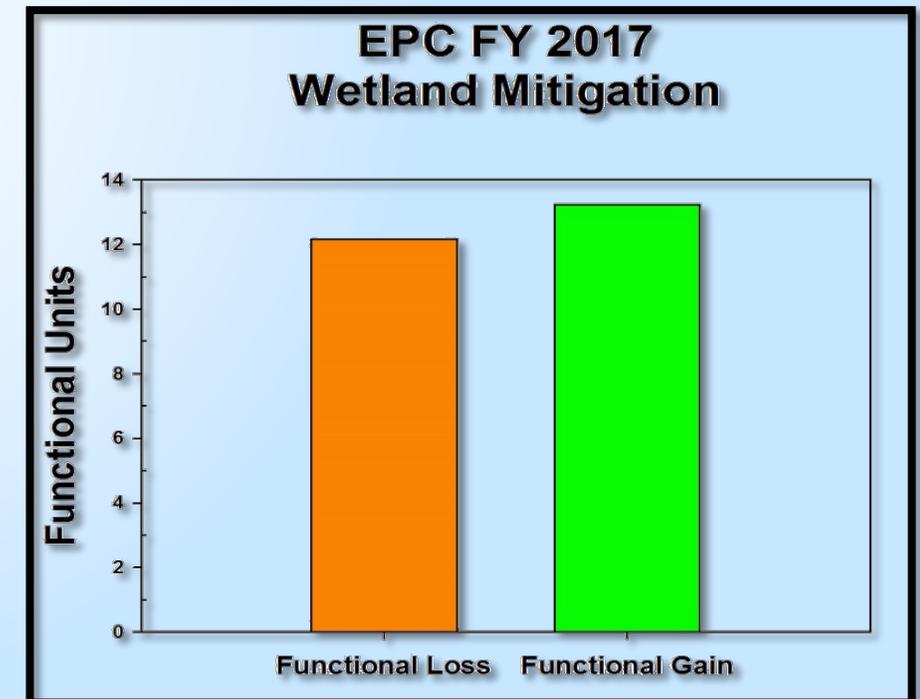
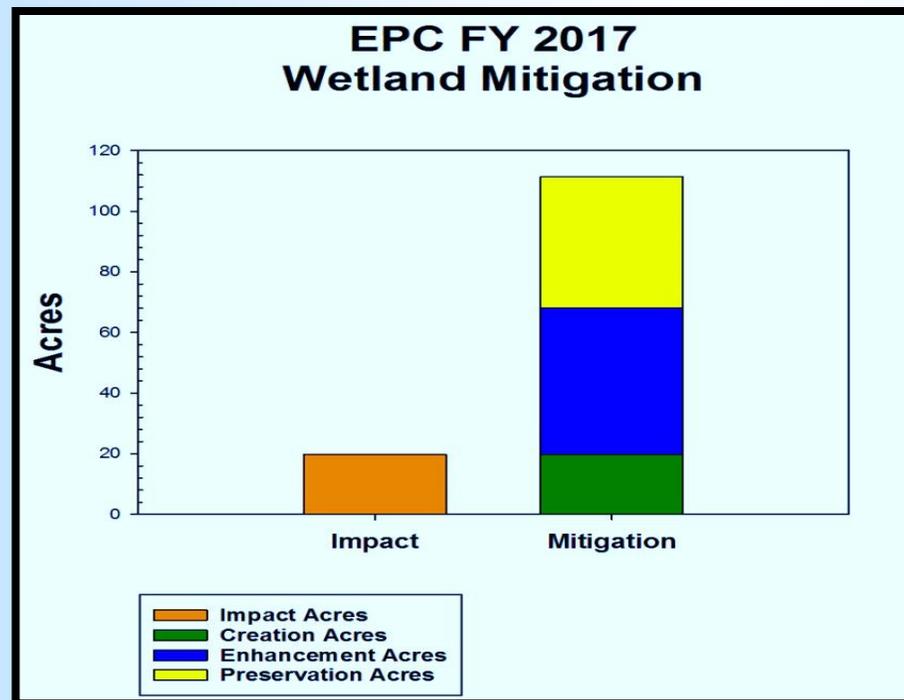
# Ensuring Healthy Wetlands

**Issue:** Looking at function of impacted acreage as well as quantity in mitigation areas



Mitigated wetland area

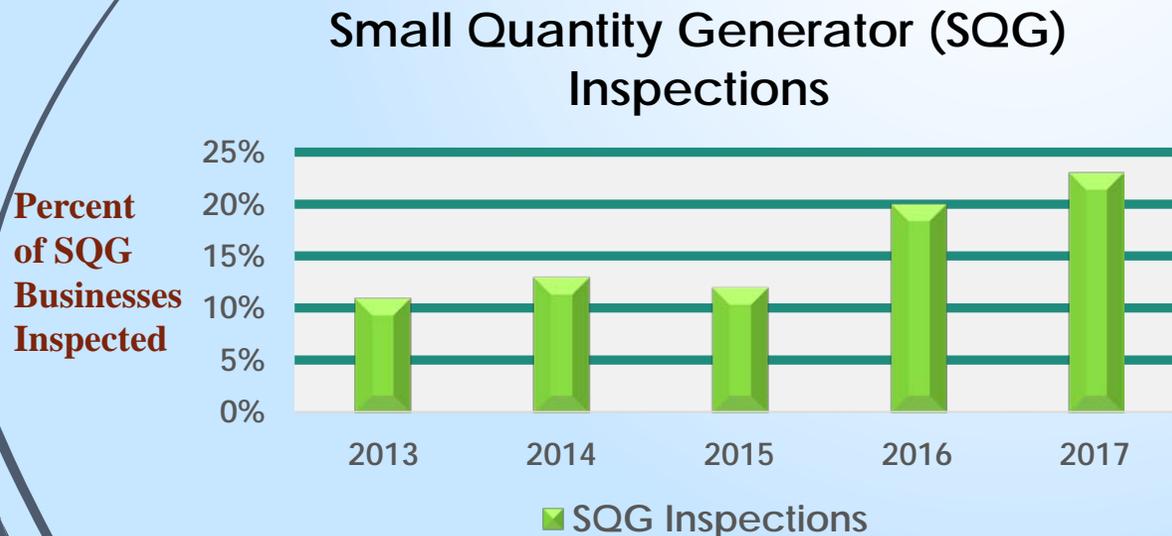
**Action:** EPC has developed a metric to measure function gains



# Protecting Groundwater

**Issue:** Protect Florida's number one source of potable water despite increased urbanization

**Action:** Increase the number of small quantity generator inspections and expedite Brownfields Remediation cases



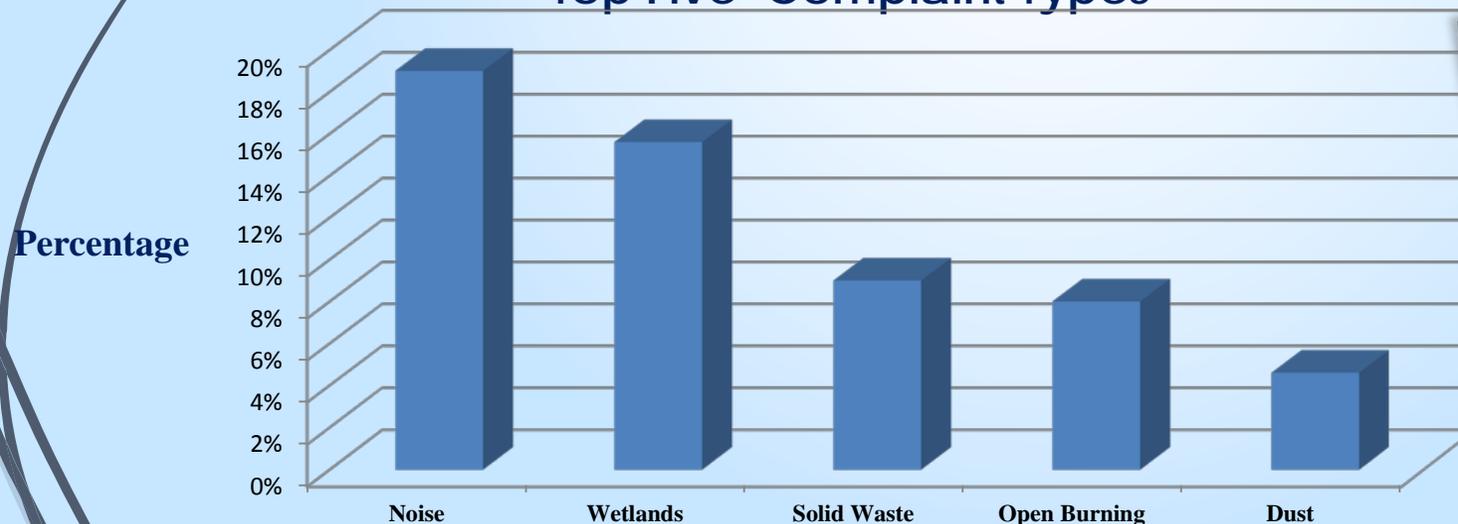
Novus Apartments, Brownfields redeveloped project

# Responding to Citizens

**Issue:** EPC receives over 1,500 environmental complaints a year from citizens

**Action:** 98% of the time staff initiates their investigation within 3 days and 99% of the time it is closed within 90 days with a satisfaction rating of 3.2 out of 4.0.

Top Five Complaint Types



# Involving Citizens

Issue: Many of Hillsborough County's 1.4 million residents are environmentally aware and want to be engaged

Action: Staff participated in 82 community outreach events last year and posted 519 messages through social media



# Restoring Polluted Areas and Providing Environmental Education

**Issue:** There are a number of areas in the County which need environmental restoration and many educational projects in need of funds

**Action:** Every year staff solicits requests for EPC's Pollution Recovery Fund and to date has awarded \$8.3 M dollars for worthy projects.



Restored area

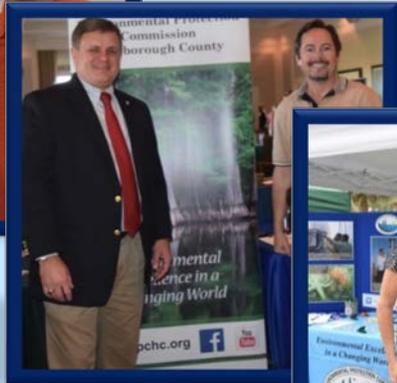


High School students touring EPC

# Providing Leadership

**Issue:** Providing staff direction to balance this community's prosperity and natural resources

**Action:** EPC's Board meets regularly with staff to give policy guidance and the necessary resources to complete the Agency's Mission



# EPC's New Website

E-Notification Employment Contact Us   

 Environmental Protection Commission  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

About Divisions I Want To...

SEARCH 

*Environmental Excellence in a Changing World*

 Report a Concern

 Permit Center

 Sustainability

 News & Calendar

 Maps & Data

 LOCATION  
3629 Queen Palm Dr. Tampa, FL 33619

 CALL  
813.627.2600

 EMAIL  
Contact Us

# EPC's Philanthropic Committee

An all-volunteer employee committee has participated in ten charitable events in the last 2 years collecting approximately \$2,000 cash, school supplies, gift bags and pet supplies for outside organizations



Backpacks of Hope Drive donations to  
Metropolitan Ministries



Pet supplies donations

# EPC – USF Wetland Study

EPA funded study of hundreds of EPC-approved wetland mitigation areas and what makes them successful



**Linebaugh Avenue Mitigation Site**



**EPC staff partnering w/ USF on wetland grant**

# EPC – USF Wetland Study (cont.)

## Key Participants

### EPC Staff:

- Sterlin Woodard
- Bill Vorstadt
- Dr. Dave Karlen
- Heidi Leslie
- Mike Thompson
- Richard Batty
- Kim Tapley
- Dr. Scott Emery

### Outside Contributors:

- Dr. Aaron Brown (USF)
- Dr. Thomas Crisman (USF)
- Kim Hagg (USGS)



**Dr. Aaron Brown**

# Environmental Stewardship



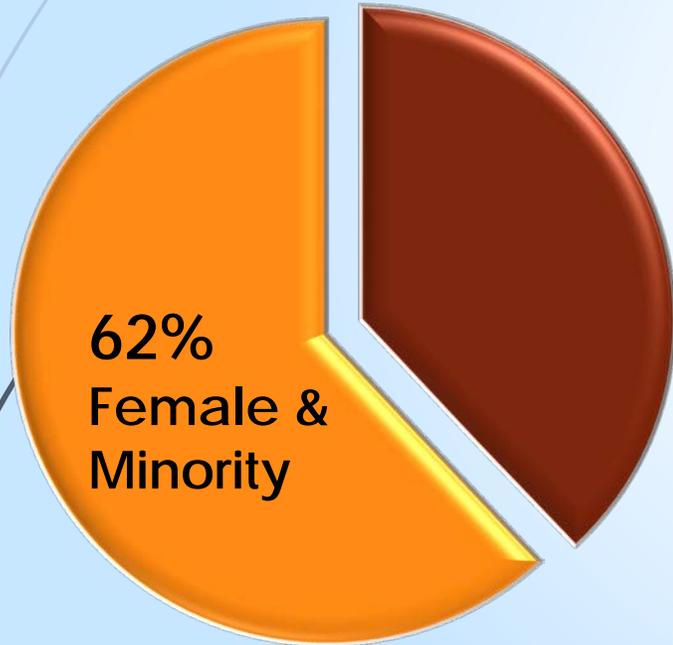
96% employee participation

3,800 Hours  
Devoted to  
Environmental  
Outreach



# Staff Diversity

2016 EPC Staff Diversity



EPC Promotions



# Sterling Legacy

Following 2016 Governor's Sterling Award, EPC completed the following in 2017:

## GOVERNOR'S STERLING AWARD SHOWCASE



## Annual Sterling Council Conference



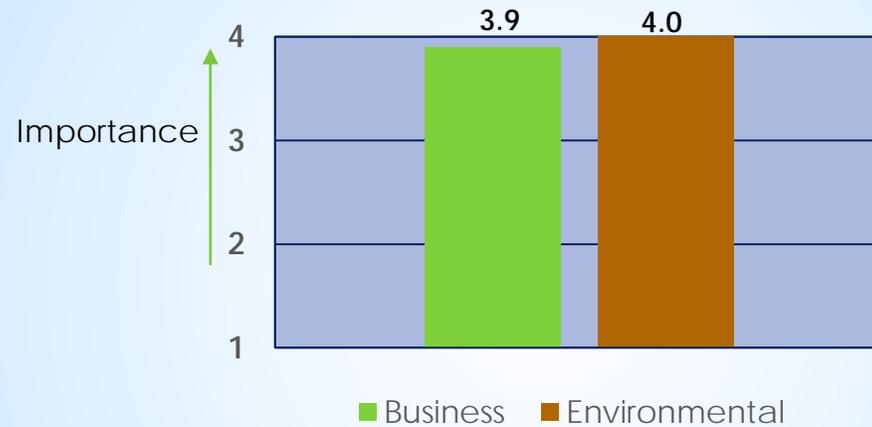
## Two EPC employees completed Sterling Examiner status



# EPC's Feedback Groups

EPC continues to be a good listener

2017 Survey



How important is a clean environment?



# Building Trust with Staff



► Regular Team Building Exercises



► One on One Conversations with Every Staff member



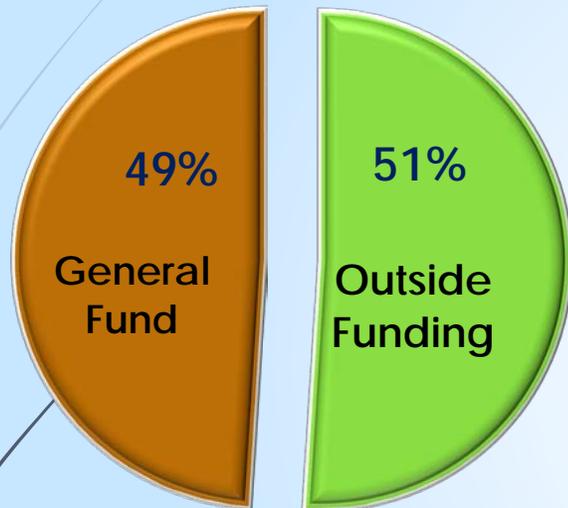
# EPC Named Top Workplace for 2017



# Staff's 2017 Goals

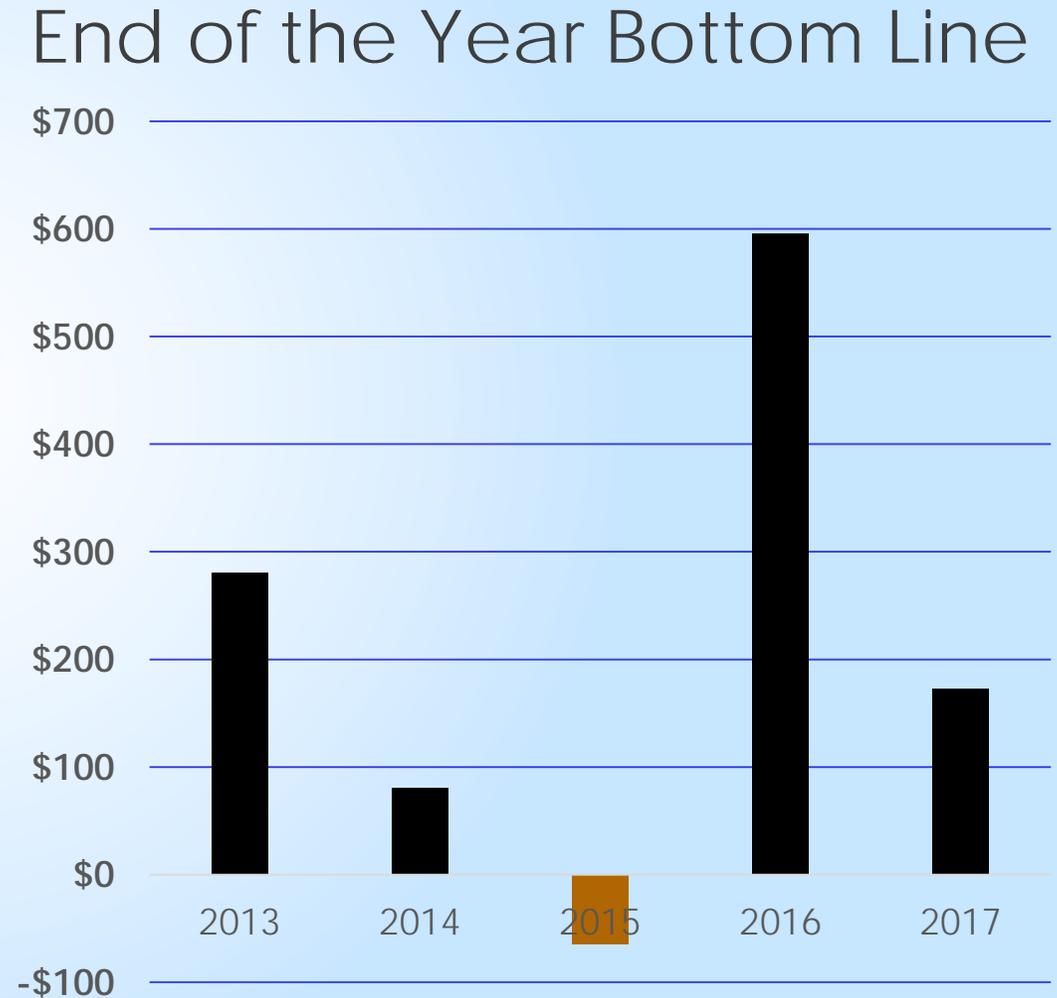
Core Function	Measure	Pre-Sterling Year (2009)	2014	2015	2016	2017 (YTD)	2017 Goal
Permitting	Average Time to Issue an Intent for State Construction Permits	57 days	20 days	18 days	17 days	17 days	Less Than or Equal to 30 days
	Average Time to Issue an Intent for Tampa Port Authority Permits	56 days	55 days	45 days	44 days	53 days	Less Than or Equal to 60 days
	Average Time EPC Permits were In-house	21 days	19 days	23 days	22 days	29 days	Less Than or Equal to 30 days
Compliance	Timely Resolution of Lower Level Non-Compliance Cases	92%	93%	92%	93%	84%	Greater Than or Equal to 90%
Environmental Complaints	Timely Initiation of Investigation	99% in 5 Days	99% in 5 Days	98% in 3 Days	98% in 3 Days	98% in 3 Days	Greater Than or Equal to 90% in 3 Days
Enforcement	Timely Initiation of Enforcement	73%	96%	100%	95%	100%	Greater Than or Equal to 90%

# EPC's Fiscal Prudence



EPC's 2016 Actual Expenditures

Monies Returned to General Fund (in \$1,000)





# Challenges Ahead

- Develop Sustainability and Community Readiness
- Increase Web-based Services
- Manage Increased Workload
- Succession Planning



## Air Division

Air Analysis/Citizen Response/Sustainability Section



Air Division  
Compliance and Permitting Section



Air Division  
Air Monitoring Section



## Legal and Administrative Services Division



Water Division  
Compliance and Engineering Section



Water Division  
Laboratory



Water Division  
Water Monitoring Section



Waste Division  
Administrative and Enforcement Section



Waste Division  
Petroleum Cleanup Section



Waste Division  
Solid and Hazardous Waste Section



Waste Division  
Storage Tank Compliance Section



Waste Division  
SQG Section



Wetlands Division



Current and former EPC employees celebrating EPC's 50th Anniversary

**Thank You For Your Support**