#### **Local Wetlands Protections**

# Andrew Zodrow Senior Assistant Counsel Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County



### EPC is a local environmental regulatory agency

- Created by Special Act of Legislature Chapter 84-446, Laws of Florida
- > EPC Wetland Rule Ch 1-11 and EPC Basis of Review





### Chapter 1-11 and Basis of Review

- Wetland and Other Surface Water impacts prohibited unless necessary for reasonable use of the property.
- ➤ Mitigation Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method adopted in Ch. 1-11.
- MAIW authorizations Section 1-11.10



#### **EPC Delegated Programs**

- EPC Mangrove Trimming and Preservation Rule Ch. 1-14
- Limited FDEP ERP delegation Single Family, etc.
- ➤ Tampa Port Authority Minor Work Permit Delegation Marine Construction Activities
- > ACOE SPGP Verification/Coordination Agreement





### National Flood Insurance Program "Community Rating System"

- Established by National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994
- Encourages Flood Plain Management "Activities" that exceed national standards
- Flood insurance premium rates for policyholders can be reduced up to 45% for local jurisdictions that qualify under CRS



#### Four Floodplain Management "Activities" under CRS

▶ Public Information: Series 300

► Mapping and Regulation: Series 400

► Flood Damage: Series 500

► Flood Preparedness: Series 600



## Mapping and Regulation: Series 400 Activity 420 "Open Space Preservation"

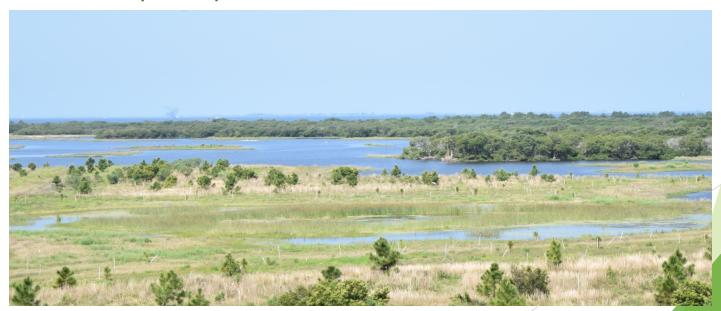
- Local Wetland Ordinances
- Deed Restrictions / Conservation Easements
- Natural Shoreline Protection
- > Other?





### EPC Mitigation requires Conservation Easements

- > Section 1-11.08(6)(e) and (f) require Conservation easements over mitigation areas.
  - > (e) areas exceeding ½ acre
  - > (f) upland preservation



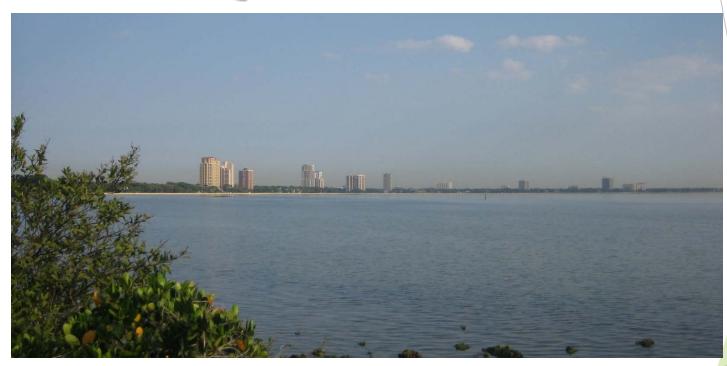


#### **CRS Point Scoring**

- ► 500 points to move down from each CRS Rating 10 1
- Corresponding 5% discount of flood Insurance premiums for each rating level
- ► Maximum reduction up to 45% discount off insurance premiums
- ► Section 420 provides up to 1,450 points



### Conclusion Questions?



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