

Dear friends and neighbors,

This is **your neighborhood, your community** an enormous amount of time and work has been done for you! Please help protect your community and **Show Up!**

BOCC Hearing – Public Participation Needed

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 5:01 PM

100 N Apopka Ave, Room 100, Inverness, FL 34450



WEAR A SOLID OCEAN-BLUE SHIRT – fill the room with visible unity!

If you would like to read please contact us! Text 518-637-6829

While the Special Master ruled against the proposed Southworth sand mine, the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will make the ultimate call — and **they are under no obligation to follow the Special Master's recommendation.**

This is our best chance to stop this destructive project. If we don't show up in force, we risk losing everything we've worked for. We again have all new information and this project does not belong here!

Why We Must Stop This Project Now:

- The proposed 322.8-acre borrow pit would cause permanent damage to our water, land, and wildlife. Once the aquifer is exposed and oxygenated, there is no turning back. The applicant's own expert admitted at a public hearing: "It obviously cannot be [restored]..."
- The mine would sit inside a state-designated Priority Focus Area for spring protection — where the groundwater flows directly into Crystal River and Kings Bay, an Outstanding Florida Water (OFW) and a vital estuary. The applicant denied this in their state permit materials — a false claim that undermines environmental protections.

- Protected species and live wetlands are documented on site — but neither the County nor the applicant has pursued formal consultation with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. No meaningful local review has occurred.
- Multiple drinking water wells — including some on the applicant's own property — were left off the required well survey. No baseline water testing, no well protection plan, and no explanation.
- This is a residential neighborhood, not an industrial zone. Allowing this kind of mining would violate the intent and spirit of the County's Comprehensive Plan, which was designed to protect people from incompatible, hazardous development.
- We've seen what happens elsewhere. In Levy County, the 3RT sand mine was blocked by a judge after Commissioners failed to follow procedure. In Hernando County, the Sandal Key project suffered sinkhole collapses after building on karst terrain. Do we want that here?

Here's How You Can Help Today:

- ✓ Be there on August 12 – whether you speak or not, your presence makes a difference.
- ✓ Wear a solid ocean-blue shirt – let's turn the room into a sea of support.
- ✓ Send an email or letter to the BOCC — it only takes a minute:



Go to StopTheSandMine.com
Click on "How 2 Help" for submission info.

**This is a community effort. This is your water, your neighborhood,
your fight.**

**Let's protect what makes Citrus County special — and send a clear
message to our elected leaders:**

**We will not stand by and let this happen.
See you August 12.**

– Stop the Sand Mine Committee

