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Wakulla Spríngs Allíance

"Protecting and restoring water quality, spring flow and ecological health of Wakulla Spring"

August 30, 2021

Dear Commissioner

The Wakulla Springs Alliance recognizes and appreciates the substantial efforts that are underway to address the causes of sanitary sewer raw sewage overflows from the city's sewage collection network including the environmental management system; public education program; enhanced collection system inspection and maintenance programs; and collection system rehabilitation capital improvement program.

The Alliance Board shares the concerns of the Tallahassee Sewage and Wakulla Basin Advocacy Group and other members of our community with the lack of readily accessible public information provided by the City of Tallahassee concerning Florida Department of Environmental Protection consent orders resulting from raw sewage overflows from the city's sanitary sewer system. When such overflows enter surface waters that drain into our karst lakes, such as Lake Lafayette and Lake Munson, they add to the burden of nitrogen pollution that continues to impair the water quality of Wakulla Spring and the upper Wakulla River. We also share concerns about the lack of information about contaminated sites within the city.

To provide more transparency to citizens of Tallahassee and others who value the environmental and recreational values of the Wakulla Spring and River ecosystem, we urge the City Commission to direct staff to include the following on the Commission's consent agendas:

- all new or amended DEP consent orders concerning sanitary sewer overflows
- all consent order status reports to DEP.
- a quarterly status review of all contaminated sites within the City of Tallahassee

We believe it is important to keep both our elected officials and citizens regularly apprised of both the status of the city's efforts mitigate the causes of sanitary sewer overflows and any new or amended consent orders that may be imposed by DEP for such overflows.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Dayle

Robert E. Deyle, Chair

cc: City Manager Reese Goad Steve Shafer, Genl Mngr, Underground Utilities & Public Infrastructure