

Potential Timeline *(subject to change)*

- ▶ May 12th: **#4** Noise, lighting, aesthetics, community character
- ▶ June 9th: **#6** Economic benefits, **#8** Lifespan of facility
- ▶ July 14th: **#3** Water usage & Stormwater
- ▶ Future Topics: **#1** Energy consumption and emissions, **#2** Electrical transmissions, **#5** Emergency Services, **#9** Intergovernmental relations

Hyperscale data centers & Community Character Impacts

May 12 Topic of Focus:

- ▶ Noise, lighting, and other aesthetic and community character impacts associated with large-scale data centers

Meeting Information

- ▶ Mark Gribbin, Chief Legislative Analyst, Joint Legislative Audit & Review Commission (JLARC) of Virginia
- ▶ Overview of data center impacts on “quality of life” and community character
- ▶ Secondary focus on other findings from JLARC’s data center report
- ▶ Tools and mechanisms to promote community character compatibility and mitigate impacts?

Questions to Consider for Each Topic Area

- What are the risks, consequences, and/or impacts? Are they local or regional?
- Are there mechanisms that can mitigate the above?
- What are the opportunities?
- What are the most useful tools for local govt? Are there others?
- What are the decision points, and who has jurisdiction?

Virginia Joint Legislative Audit & Review Commission

Mark Gribbin, Chief Legislative Analyst

- ▶ Project Leader for 2024 Report to the Governor and the General Assembly of Virginia regarding Data Centers
- ▶ Looked at topics such as:
 - ▶ Economic & Fiscal Impacts
 - ▶ Energy Impacts
 - ▶ Energy Costs
 - ▶ Natural and Historic Resource Impacts
 - ▶ **Local Residential Impacts**
- ▶ Focusing on final topic, but will wade into other topics as well

Some Questions Specifically for this Topic

1. How much of a buffer should there be between hyperscale data centers and residences?
2. If located in rural areas, are there any impacts to agricultural or natural resource assets (ex. livestock, wildlife) or operations?
3. Are there any definitive, or potential, health impacts associated with noise and/or light pollution from data centers?
4. What regulations could be utilized to mitigate impacts to the community? Or are the impacts too great that mitigation isn't a possibility?
5. How should communities weigh localized impacts against potential broader benefits?