**DCOAG Task List**
**July 2, 2025**

1. **Finalize the Daft Noise Ordinance** – Eric, Ed, and Angie are reviewing and editing the draft Ordinance.

2. **Noise Scale Supporting Documentation** – David is compiling the technical/medical references to support our Octave Band criteria.

3. **Develop a Cheat Sheet for Noise Testing** – Eric is producing a one-page "cheat sheet" for Inspectors to use when conducting noise enforcement tests. Includes operation and mater settings.

4. **Proposed Legislative Changes** – Ed and Angie will be compiling a list of legislative changes for the Board to consider with this year's legislative agenda.  A couple thoughts on changes are:
   a. We need the General Assembly to recognize data center development is unique and regulatory requirements, like the Noise Ordinance, should be specific to the data center use.
   b. Change the Code section that requires Criminal actions for noise violations stemming from Industrial Zoned property.  The Code change will allow Civil penalties to be imposed.
   c. Allow localities to require a noise modeling submission with Rezoning applications, Special Use Permit applications and Site Plans.  This will help ensure new data center projects are compliant with the noise ordinance.
   d. Allow localities to require perimeter noise monitor with class 1 meters (we need more specs in terms of how we want the noise monitored)
   e. Increase the fines associated with Civil Penalties.  If we shift from criminal to civil enforcement, we want the fines to be high enough to compel compliance.

5. **Develop a Noise Model**  - Ed and Angie will be developing a Noise Model template that will allow us to collect noise modeling data from applicants in a consistent manner.

6. **Baseline Testing** – We need to identify areas for potential baseline testing.  The purpose of the testing is to capture pre-data center development readings.  The testing will need to be handled by a consulting firm, so a budget will need to be developed and approved by the BOCS.

7. **Noise Testing and Enforcement SOP** – We need to develop an SOP for use by Public Works and in coordination with the Police Department.

8. **Resources** – Staff need to establish a program budget, which will include staffing, training and equipment.

9. **Implementation Date** – Based on the timing of resource availability and staff training, we need to establish an effective date for the Noise Ordinance.
   a.) Rutgers University – December 9 – 18  or  March 2026

10. **Media/Communication Plan** – The County needs to establish a communication plan to get the word out to the business community and our residents.

11. **Initiate engagement strategy** with data center industry to induce cooperation with newly approved standards.

12. **Quantify costs associated** with data collection and enforcement efforts to justify recoupment through raising the computer & peripheral equipment tax

***Pencils down date – August 11