

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**2022 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-014-2022

Proposed by The Chair (by request --- County Executive)

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Introduction March 8, 2022

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND'S SEVENTEENTH CONTINUED  
3 DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY—CORONAVIRUS ("COVID-19")

4 For the purpose of continuing the emergency declarations most recently adopted by the  
5 governing body on January 18, 2022, CR-001-2022, and as may be further amended.

6 **WHEREAS**, Section 14-111 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of  
7 Maryland provides for the declaration of a Local State of Emergency; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Section 10-328(b) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of  
9 Maryland states that a county may provide for the prevention of contagious diseases in the  
10 county; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Subtitle 6 of the Prince George's County Code, including but necessarily  
12 limited to Division 5 of this Subtitle, provides for the declaration of a Local State of Emergency  
13 by the County Executive and the authority to issue rules and regulations as deemed necessary to  
14 control the situation; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the President of the United States proclaimed that the COVID- 19 outbreak in  
16 the United States constituted a national emergency beginning March 1, 2020; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization, on March 11, 2020, announced that the  
18 COVID-19 outbreak can be characterized as a pandemic; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Prince George's County, Maryland has previously issued the following  
20 emergency declarations: Executive Order Number 6-2020 dated March 16, 2020; Executive  
21 Order Number 7-2020 dated April 13, 2020; CR-31-2020 adopted May 11, 2020; Executive  
22 Order Number 8-2020 dated May 14, 2020; Executive Order Number 10-2020 dated May 28,

1 2020; CR-51-2020 adopted June 9, 2020; Executive Order Number 13-2020 dated June 12,  
2 2020; Executive Order Number 15-2020 dated June 25, 2020; CR-64-2020 adopted July 7,  
3 2020; Executive Order Number 20-2020 dated September 3, 2020; CR-90-101 adopted  
4 September 15, 2020 ; CR-101-2020 adopted October 13, 2020; CR-125-2020 adopted November  
5 17, 2020; and Executive Order 27-2020 dated December 15, 2020; CR-02-2021 adopted January  
6 12, 2021; Executive Order 3-2021 dated January 26, 2021; CR-13-2021 adopted February 16,  
7 2021; Executive Order 8-2021 dated March 11, 2021; CR-33-2021 adopted March 30, 2021; CR  
8 48-2021 adopted May 11, 2021; Executive Order 11-2021 dated May 14, 2021; Executive Order  
9 14-2021 dated May 26, 2021; Executive Order 17-2021 dated June 28, 2021 (amended Executive  
10 Order 14-2021); CR-77-2021 adopted July 6, 2021; Executive Order 18-2021 dated August 5,  
11 2021; Executive Order 19-2021 dated August 18, 2021; Council Resolution 80-2021 adopted  
12 September 8, 2021; Executive Order 21-2021 dated September 30, 2021; Executive Order 22-  
13 2021 dated October 4, 2021(superseded Executive Order 19-2021); CR-122-2021 adopted  
14 October 19, 2021; CR-137-2021 adopted November 29, 2021; CR-001-2022 adopted January 18,  
15 2022; Executive Order 2-2022 dated February 25, 2022; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Prince George' s County, Maryland has been and continues to be severely  
17 impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak; and

18 **WHEREAS**, as of February 28, 2022, based on data from the Maryland Department of  
19 Health, the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the County was cumulatively 168,886 cases,  
20 with approximately 2059 deaths; and

21 **WHEREAS**, based upon data available as of February 28, 2022, the Centers for Disease  
22 Control and Prevention is reporting the County's positivity rate is 2.02% and the average daily  
23 case rate is approximately 7.4 new cases per 100,000 residents; and

24 **WHEREAS**, available hospital capacity as of February 28, 2022, is 48%, with 3%  
25 hospitals beds in use for patients with COVID-19, which is 34% lower than the week of  
26 February 20, 2022; and

27 **WHEREAS**, as of February 28, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is  
28 reporting that 72% of County residents are fully vaccinated and 86% have received at least one  
29 dose. For fully vaccinated individuals, ages 65 and older, 67.7% have received a booster or  
30 additional vaccination; and

31

1       **WHEREAS**, the County’s health care system continues to need resources to effectively  
2 combat this emergency; and

3       **WHEREAS**, Section 14-111 (b) (1) of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of  
4 Maryland states that the consent of the governing body is needed if a local declaration is  
5 continued or renewed for more than 30 days; and

6       **WHEREAS**, CR-001-2022 remains in effect through March 9, 2022, at 5:00 p.m., unless  
7 amended or terminated sooner; and

8       **WHEREAS**, Executive Order 2-2022, issued February 25, 2022, rescinded to a large  
9 degree the County’s indoor mask mandate in public places; and

10       **WHEREAS**, COVID-19 continues to pose an imminent threat to the health, safety and  
11 welfare of County residents; and

12       **WHEREAS**, several relevant metrics are now in the low to medium level of disease  
13 transmission for the key metrics, and although there has been some improvement, there is  
14 continued concern over community spread of new COVID-19 and its variants. Therefore, it is  
15 necessary that the County remain vigilant and cautious: and

16       **WHEREAS**, as of February 28, 2022, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has  
17 indicated that the County is an area of “substantial” transmission; and

18       **WHEREAS**, available data shows that the predominant variant in Maryland is the highly  
19 transmissible Omicron variant, which continues to spread and affect a wider portion of the  
20 population and creates an increased risk of cases, hospitalizations, and death, particularly among  
21 unvaccinated individuals.

22       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Prince George’s  
23 County, Maryland, that Prince George’s County, Maryland continue under a declaration of  
24 emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak;

25       **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Prince George’s County Emergency Operations  
26 Plan remain in full force and effect until terminated by the County Executive; and

27       **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the following rules apply to Face Coverings:

28       A. “Face Covering” means a covering that fully covers a person’s nose and mouth.

29       The term “Face Covering” includes, without limitation, scarves and bandanas.

30       It is recommended that all reusable Face Coverings be cleaned frequently (at  
31 least once per day).

1 B. The County recommends, that for the most effective protection, persons wear a  
2 properly fitting N95, KN95 or a cloth mask over a surgical mask to prevent spread of the disease,  
3 particularly the Omicron variant.

4 C. Face coverings are required to be worn by all persons on public transportation.

5 D. All persons, including County employees, entering the District and Circuit Court for the  
6 County will follow the rules established by the judiciary and/or administrative judge.

7 E. Local schools, both public and nonpublic, and childcare programs should continue  
8 following the guidance established by their governing authority.

9 F. This Resolution should not be interpreted as preventing private establishments from  
10 setting their own rules regarding face coverings.

11 G. Unvaccinated individuals, if eligible, continue to be STRONGLY encouraged to get  
12 vaccinated or boosted, as applicable.

13 H. A mandate reinstating a requirement for face coverings, or further restrictions, may be  
14 imposed if the relevant metrics show measurable increase in the spread of the COVID-19 virus  
15 and that more restrictive measures are needed to save lives and to protect the public safety and  
16 welfare.

17 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** unvaccinated residents are STRONGLY encouraged to  
18 continue wearing face coverings while they are in public until they are fully vaccinated. “Fully  
19 vaccinated” means the individual has received all required dosages as applicable to the vaccine  
20 received, including two weeks post the date of the last dose. Eligible persons are also  
21 STRONGLY encouraged to receive booster shots; and

22 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** additional restrictions will be reinstated if the relevant  
23 metrics show measurable increase in the spread of the COVID virus and that more restrictive  
24 measures are needed to save lives and to protect the public safety and welfare.

25 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Resolution will go into **effect on**  
26 **March 9, 2022, at 5:01 p.m.**; and

27 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the directives set forth herein will be enforced by the  
28 Prince George’s County Health Department, with the assistance of Prince George’s County law  
29 enforcement and other appropriate County employees as determined by the Chief Administrative  
30 Officer, as needed; and

31 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** the County may continue to conduct scheduled and

1 unscheduled inspections of retail, restaurant and other establishments as needed to help prevent  
2 increase in virus spread; and

3 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Executive Branch continue to provide regular  
4 updates to the Council Chair or Vice Chair; and

5 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** this declaration supersedes any inconsistent provision of a  
6 prior Council Resolution or Executive Order; and

7 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the provisions of the Resolution are severable such that  
8 if any provision of this Resolution or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held  
9 invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of this  
10 Resolution shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or  
11 application; and

12 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this declaration of emergency shall stay in effect  
13 through April 23, 2022, at 5:00 p.m., unless amended or terminated sooner by the County  
14 Executive or as extended by a subsequent resolution of the governing body.

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect on the day it is  
16 adopted.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Calvin S. Hawkins, II  
Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna J. Brown  
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Angela D. Alsobrooks  
County Executive