

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2023 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-065-2023
Proposed by The Chair (by request – County Executive)
Introduced by Council Members Dernoga, Watson, Harrison, Ivey, Olson and Franklin
Co-Sponsors Council Member Hawkins
Date of Introduction June 20, 2023

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Prince George’s County Hazard Mitigation Plan

3 For the purpose of adopting an updated County-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan as required by the
4 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to remain eligible for Federal mitigation
5 assistance for natural disasters.

6 WHEREAS, Prince George’s County Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by Prince
7 George’s County through CR-20-2005, and an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved in
8 2018 through CR-34-2018. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the County’s 2023 Hazard
9 Mitigation Plan supersedes all previous County Mitigation plans; and

10 WHEREAS, the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 was signed into law to reduce the
11 effects of disasters. The law encourages, among other initiatives, a planning process based on
12 cooperation among state and local authorities, community partners and the public at large; and

13 WHEREAS, the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 recognizes local and state pre-
14 disaster planning and promotes “resiliency” as a major mitigation strategy; and

15 WHEREAS, pursuant to the regulations implementing the federal Disaster Mitigation Act
16 of 2000, states and local governments must have an approved and adopted hazard mitigation plan
17 in order to maintain eligibility for pre and post disaster mitigation grant funding; and

18 WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for
19 reviewing and approving State and local plans; and

20 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 is a major update to
21 the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan and is in accordance with all State and federal rules and
22 regulations governing local hazard mitigation plans; and

1 WHEREAS, Prince George’s County, pursuant to the requirements of the Robert T.
2 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 and
3 implementing regulations at 44 CFR Part 201, adopted its Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

4 WHEREAS, 44 CFR § 201.3 requires that the County update its Hazard Mitigation Plan at
5 a minimum of every 5 years to continue its eligibility for federal funding to implement certain
6 mitigation projects; and

7 WHEREAS, 44 CFR Part 78 prescribes procedures for the Flood Mitigation Assistance
8 Program, authorized by the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4104c and
9 4104d, requiring that the County adopt a mitigation plan in order to be eligible for funding to
10 implement certain flood mitigation projects; and

11 WHEREAS, Prince George’s County has experienced past flooding and other natural
12 hazard events that pose risks to public health and safety and which may cause serious property
13 damage; and

14 WHEREAS, the planning process fostered by the Maryland Emergency Management
15 Agency and set forth by FEMA offers the opportunity to consider natural hazards and risks, and
16 to identify mitigation actions to reduce future impacts of such hazards; and

17 WHEREAS, the State of Maryland has provided federal mitigation funds to support the
18 development of the mitigation plan; and

19 WHEREAS, in developing the updated Hazard Mitigating Plan, a core planning team, the
20 Mitigation Advisory Committee, was assembled consisting of the Prince George’s County Office
21 of Homeland Security, Prince George’s County agencies, municipalities, utility companies and
22 the community and volunteer organizations; and

23 WHEREAS, public hearings were held to solicit public comments and questions and to
24 present an updated plan and the proposed updated mitigation actions; and

25 WHEREAS, in addition to the public hearings, public input was sought and received via
26 community events, social media, civic and HOA meetings and online via the Prince George’s
27 Office of Homeland Security; and

28 WHEREAS, the Hazard Mitigation Plan recommends several mitigation actions that will
29 help minimize and reduce safety threats and damage to private and public property and the
30 Hazard Mitigation Plan (2023) is set forth in Attachment A, attached hereto and made a part
31 hereof; and

1 WHEREAS, the Hazard Mitigation Plan must be updated as required by FEMA in order to
2 continue eligibility for Federal Disaster Assistance; and

3 WHEREAS, the purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is to identify policies, capabilities,
4 activities, and tools to help make Prince George’s County more resilient in the face of future
5 disasters.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
7 County, Maryland, that that the attached Hazard Mitigation Plan (2023) is hereby adopted as an
8 official plan of Prince George’s County.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George’s County Office of Homeland
10 Security and Prince George’s County offices identified in the Hazard Mitigation Plan are hereby
11 directed to pursue implementation of the recommended priority actions that are assigned to their
12 agencies.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any action proposed in the Hazard Mitigation Plan
14 shall be subject to and contingent upon budget approval, if funding is required, and this
15 resolution shall not be interpreted so as to mandate any such appropriations.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George’s County Office of Homeland
17 Security is designated to coordinate with other offices and entities and shall periodically report
18 on the activities, accomplishments, and progress, and shall prepare a progress report as required
19 by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.

Adopted this 26th day of September, 2023.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Thomas E. Dernoga
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council