

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-125-2020

Draft No.: 1

Committee: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Date: 11/17/2020

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 11-0 (In favor: Council Members Turner, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Hawkins, Ivey, Streeter and Taveras)

The County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole on November 17, 2020 to discuss CR-125-2020 a resolution continuing the emergency declaration adopted by the governing body on November 10, 2020, CR-121-2020 and continued by the County Executive as set forth in Executive Order 20-2020 dated September 3, 2020.

Rhonda Weaver, County Attorney, gave an overview of the resolution. She stated that the declaration of emergency shall stay in effect through January 15, 2021 from its effective date of November 18, 2020 unless amended or terminated sooner by the County Executive or as extended by a subsequent resolution of the governing body. Also, she noted that the County is in a Hybrid Phase 1/Phase 2 modified status and the specific changes since the adoption of CR-121-2020 are as follows:

- General rule for large gatherings remains 1 person/household per 200 square feet but has decreased to 10 persons inside and 25 persons outside, whichever is lower
- *Note: For most establishments, the 1 person/household per 200 square feet rule applies, with the specific percentage of maximum capacity, whichever is lower*
- Many businesses and establishments have been reduced to 25% maximum capacity
- Most Retail remains at 50% capacity--with spacing requirement
- Places of worship at 25% capacity, with a maximum of 125 outdoors
- Restaurants:
 - Outdoor with proper spacing, maximum is 50% capacity of the of the outdoor dining space as approved by the County
 - Indoor maximum capacity is 25%
 - Must maintain daily record of all patrons for at least 30 days to assist with contact tracing
- Banquet Halls/Meeting Rooms, etc: Extended date to June 30, 2021 to ask specific questions regarding a planned date (prior date was December 31, 2020)

- Sports: Specifically identified rules for Professional and Collegiate (Collegiate was not specified). No tailgating. Spectators are limited to no more than 10% of maximum capacity of stadium.

Dr. George Askew, Deputy CAO, Health, Human Services and Education, and Ronald Gill, Jr., Director of Emergency Management, also briefed the Committee on the status of COVID-19 efforts in the County and the need to continue the emergency declaration. The Ambassador Enforcement Team was present to answer questions related to enforcement. The Committee discussed issues involving the impact on events at FedEx Field and MGM; using 311 to report violations; a timeline for a possible vaccine and roll out; status of cases at nursing homes; and best practices for students returning home from college. After a robust discussion, the Committee of the Whole voted favorable on CR-125-2020, 11-0.