

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**2020 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-90-2020

Proposed by The Council Chair (by request – County Executive)

Introduced by Council Members Turner, Davis, Streeter, Taveras, Harrison, Franklin  
and Glaros

Date of Introduction September 15, 2020

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning  
 2 Prince George's County, Maryland's Fourth Continued Declaration of Emergency—Coronavirus  
 3 ("Covid-19")

4 For the purpose of continuing the emergency declarations most recently adopted by the  
 5 governing body on July 7, 2020, CR-64-2020, and continued by the County Executive as set  
 6 forth in Executive Order 20-2020 dated September 3, 2020, and as may be further amended.

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

9 **WHEREAS**, Section 6-134, et seq., of the Prince George's County Code provides for the  
 10 declaration of a Local State of Emergency; and

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

13 **WHEREAS**, on March 5, 2020, the Governor of the State of Maryland declared a state of  
 14 emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the State of Maryland to control and prevent  
 15 the spread of COVID-19; and

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

18 **WHEREAS**, the County Executive for Prince George's County, Maryland has issued  
 19 several local declarations of emergency because of the COVID-19 pandemic: Executive Order  
 20 Number 6-2020 on March 16, 2020; Executive Order Number 7-2020 on April 13, 2020;  
 21 Executive Order Number 8-2020 on May 14, 2020; Executive Order Number 10-2020 on May  
 22 28, 2020; Executive Order Number 13-2020 on June 12, 2020; Executive Order Number 15-

1 2020 on June 25, 2020; and Executive Order Number 20-2020 on September 3, 2020; and

2 **WHEREAS**, the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the County is more than 27,200,  
3 with more than 3700 hospitalizations and approximately 790 deaths; and

4 **WHEREAS**, based upon data analysis as of September 8, 2020, the County's infection rate  
5 is 1.01, its positivity rate is 4.4%, and, as of September 9, 2020, the average daily case rate is  
6 11.9 per 100,000 residents; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the County's health care system continues to be in need of resources to  
8 effectively combat this emergency; and

9 **WHEREAS**, as of July 2020, the County's unemployment rate was 9.5% (not seasonally  
10 adjusted) compared to the State's rate of 7.7%, resulting in the County having the second highest  
11 unemployment rate in the State and the most unemployed persons in the State with  
12 approximately 50,098 unemployed residents; and

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

16 **WHEREAS**, the Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland Number 20-09-01-01,  
17 issued September 1, 2020, specifically authorized political subdivisions to issue more restrictive  
18 orders than issued by the Governor including requiring any businesses, organizations,  
19 establishments, or facilities to close or modify their operations; and/or requiring individuals to  
20 remain indoors or to refrain from congregating; and

21 **WHEREAS**, CR-64-2020 remained in effective through September 16, 2020, unless  
22 amended or terminated sooner by the County Executive; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Executive Order 20-2020, was issued September 3, 2020 to ensure that the  
24 County remained in Phase 2 of reopening and not move to Phase 3 pursuant to the Governor's  
25 Order Number 20-09-01-01 for the reasons stated in said Executive Order; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Executive Order 20-2020 remains in effective through September 16, 2020 at  
27 5:00 p.m.; and

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

30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Prince George's  
31 County, Maryland, that Prince George's County, Maryland continue under a declaration of

1 emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak;

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

4 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Prince George's County, Maryland continue in  
5 Phase 2 of its reopening; and

6 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that it is necessary and reasonable to save lives and to  
7 preventing the further spread of COVID- 19, **effective September 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**, the  
8 orders set forth in Attachment A of this Resolution are fully incorporated and adopted herein:  
9 and

10 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the directives set forth herein will be enforced by the  
11 Prince George's County Health Department, with the assistance of Prince George's County law  
12 enforcement and other appropriate County employees as determined by the Chief Administrative  
13 Officer, as needed; and

14 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** the County will continue to conduct scheduled and  
15 unscheduled inspections of retail, restaurant and business establishments to check for compliance  
16 with this Resolution. Non-compliance may subject the owner and/or operator to a fine not  
17 exceeding \$1,000 pursuant to the Prince George's County Code, may subject the establishments  
18 to closure pursuant to the legal authority of the Health Officer and/or other legal authority; and

19 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a person who knowingly and willfully violates this  
20 Resolution is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not  
21 exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

22 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Executive Branch continue to provide weekly  
23 updates to the Council Chair or Vice Chair; and

24 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** this declaration supersedes any inconsistent provision of  
25 any prior Executive Order or Health Directive; and

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

31 **IT IS FUTHER ORDERED** that this declaration of emergency shall stay in effect thirty

1 (30) days from its effective date, unless amended or terminated sooner by the County Executive  
2 or as extended by a subsequent resolution of the governing body.

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

Adopted this 15th day of September, 2020.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Todd M. Turner  
Council Chair

ATTEST:

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

APPROVED:

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

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