

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2004 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-52-2004

Proposed by The Chairman (by request – County Executive

Introduced by Council Members Dean, Exum, Peters, Bland, Shapirp. Dernoga and Knotts

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction July 13, 2004

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Prince George's County's Clean Air Action Plan

3 and Declaration of Prince George's County Clean Air Awareness Day

4 For the purpose of endorsing Prince George's County, Maryland's Clean Air Action Plan and
5 declaring that July 13, 2004 be designated Prince George's County Clean Air Awareness Day.

6 WHEREAS, poor air quality can contribute to increased respiratory disease, heart and
7 lung ailments, and other public health problems for our citizens and residents; and

8 WHEREAS, the causes of air pollution in the region include exhaust from vehicles;
9 emissions from commercial and residential equipment; evaporative emissions from a range of
10 household products; and compounds from businesses; and

11 WHEREAS, although air quality is a regional issue and a significant portion of Prince
12 George's County's problem-pollution is transported from areas well outside our borders, we
13 must all take action to curb pollution; and

14 WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon Prince George's County to act as a leader in taking all
15 actions possible to reduce sources of air pollution from business practices followed by its
16 employees; and

17 WHEREAS, since 1998 the County has taken an active role in reducing pollution through
18 its Ozone Action Plan; and has sponsored a series of radio advertisements through the Clean Air
19 Partners, alerting the general public to actions they can take to reduce pollution; and

20 WHEREAS, representatives from the County Executive and County Council are active
21 participants on the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, as well as the Clean Air
22 Partners.

1 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Prince George's County Executive Jack B.
 2 Johnson and the County Council do hereby support the County's commitment to clean air and
 3 endorse all the various components of the County's Clean Air Action Plan as an integral part of
 4 the Livable Communities Initiative; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County is committed to informing its citizens
 6 and residents when air is unhealthy, as well as how they can take specific actions to reduce
 7 pollution-causing activities; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clean Air Plan includes the following actions to
 9 be taken by the Prince George's County Government pertaining to County governmental
 10 operations to reduce pollution year-round:

11 (1) Replace all gas cans used by County government employees with cans meeting
 12 the
 13 requirements of the California Air Resources Board and the United States Environmental
 14 Protection Agency;

15 (2) Use only interior and exterior paints with low or no Volatile Organic Compounds
 16 (VOC);

17 (3) Continue to use Best Practices in the application of pesticides and herbicides as well as
 18 integrated pest management;

19 (4) Increase the use of Alternative-Fueled Vehicles such as gas/electric hybrids in the
 20 County's fleet;

21 (5) Purchase electric power generated by wind energy; and

22 (6) On Air Quality Action Days for the Prince George's County Government pertaining to
 23 governmental operations:

24 (a) Ban all use of mowers and other lawn and garden-type equipment;

25 (b) Ban traffic-marking activities by the Department of Public Works and
 26 Transportation;

27 (c) Ban the refueling of County vehicles except for public safety, emergency, and
 28 other exempt vehicles;

29 (d) Reduce travel or consolidate trips or inspections; and

30 (e) Use teleconferencing in place of "drive-to" meetings.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that County employees and all County citizens, residents

and businesses are urged to take steps to reduce pollution on Air Quality Action Days, including but not limited to:

- (1) Refueling all personal cars after dusk whenever possible;
- (2) Using only your newest, best-maintained vehicle if you have to drive alone;
- (3) At home, avoiding mowing lawns with gasoline-powered mowers; and
- (4) Delay painting until after dusk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County will raise Air Quality/Ozone Action Day flags at all major County buildings and fire stations to inform residents of impending air quality problems; will continue to sponsor radio advertisements and theater slides in the Summer of 2004 along with the Clean Air Partners; and will support the Ride Free on Code Red and Code Purple Days for all users of *TheBus* and Call-a-Bus within the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive and County Council of Prince George's County do declare July 13, 2004 to be Clean Air Awareness Day to advise all our citizens, residents and employees about the health issues caused by air pollution and the actions all individuals can take to reduce pollution.

Adopted this 13th day of July, 2004.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Tony Knotts
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Jack B. Johnson
County Executive