

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2021 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-33-2021
Proposed by The Chair (by request – County Executive)
Introduced by Council Members Hawkins, Turner, Davis, Streeter, Harrison, Dernoga,
Glaros, Franklin, Ivey and Anderson-Walker
Date of Introduction March 30, 2021

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Prince George’s County, Maryland’s Tenth 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 February 16, 2021, CR-13-2021, 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, on March 5, 2020, the Governor of the State of Maryland declared a state of
18 emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the State of Maryland to control and prevent
19 the spread of COVID-19; and

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

22 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County, Maryland has previously issued the following

1 emergency declarations: Executive Order Number 6-2020 dated March 16, 2020; Executive
2 Order Number 7-2020 dated April 13, 2020; CR-31-2020 adopted May 11, 2020; Executive
3 Order Number 8-2020 dated May 14, 2020; Executive Order Number 10-2020 dated May 28,
4 2020; CR-51-2020 adopted June 9, 2020; Executive Order Number 13-2020 dated June 12,
5 2020; Executive Order Number 15-2020 dated June 25, 2020; CR-64-2020 adopted July 7,
6 2020; Executive Order Number 20-2020 dated September 3, 2020; CR-90-101 adopted
7 September 15, 2020 ; CR-101-2020 adopted October 13, 2020; CR-125-2020 adopted November
8 17, 2020; and Executive Order 27-2020 dated December 15, 2020; CR-02-2021 adopted January
9 12, 2021; Executive Order 3-2021 dated January 26, 2021; CR-13-2021 adopted February 16,
10 2021; Executive Order 8-2021 adopted March 11, 2021; and

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

13 WHEREAS, as of January 2021, the County's unemployment rate was 7.8% (not
14 seasonally adjusted), resulting in the County having the fourth highest unemployment rate in the
15 State with 38,039 unemployed residents; and

16 WHEREAS, as of March 23, 2021, the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the County
17 is 76,495 cases, with approximately 7720 hospitalizations and approximately 1343 deaths; and

18 WHEREAS, based upon reported data analysis as of March 22, 2021, the County's
19 infection rate is .99, its positivity rate is 4.8%, the average daily case rate is 15.6 per 100,000
20 residents and the number of inpatients with COVID-19 in County hospitals accounts for
21 approximately 11% of total hospital capacity; and

22 WHEREAS, as of March 23, 2021, approximately 160,968 County residents have received
23 a vaccine dose and 69,457 have completed vaccination; and

24 WHEREAS, the County's health care system continues to need resources to effectively
25 combat this emergency; and

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

29 WHEREAS, CR-13-2021 remained in effective through April 2, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. and
30 Executive Order Number 8-2021 remained in effect through April 2, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., unless
31 amended or terminated sooner; and

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

3 WHEREAS, while some relevant metrics have shown a downward trend, Prince George's
4 County remains in the high-risk category of disease transmission for average daily case rates,
5 public health experts continue to indicate that we may still be at risk for a surge of COVID-19
6 cases and warn against re-opening too quickly, and concern over community spread of new
7 COVID-19 variants, it is necessary that the County remain vigilant and cautiously remain into
8 Phase 2 re-opening:

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
10 County, Maryland, that Prince George's County, Maryland continue under a declaration of
11 emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak;

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

14 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Prince George's County, Maryland remain in Phase 2 of
15 its reopening; and

16 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that it is necessary and reasonable to save lives and to prevent
17 the further spread of COVID-19, the orders set forth in Attachment A of this Resolution are fully
18 incorporated and adopted herein; and

19 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the rules set forth in this Resolution and Attachment A
20 will go into effect on April 2, 2021 at 5:01 p.m.; and

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

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

30 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Branch continue to provide weekly
31 updates to the Council Chair or Vice Chair; and

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

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

8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this declaration of emergency shall stay in effect through
9 May 17, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., unless amended or terminated sooner by the County Executive or as
10 extended by a subsequent resolution of the governing body.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect on the day it is
12 adopted.

Adopted this 30th day of March, 2021.

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