

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2022 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-019-2022

Proposed by Council Member Davis

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

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction March 22, 2022

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION concerning

Prince George's County Infrastructure Implementation Working Group

For the purpose of supporting the final recommendations of the Sewer Extension Needs for Unserved and Underserved Neighborhoods Bi-County Infrastructure Working Group and establishing a Prince George's County Infrastructure Implementation Working Group.

WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council recognizes that there is a growing public health problem in underserved and unserved communities due to a lack of access to public water and sewer service; and

WHEREAS, the current approach to water and sewer extensions is not working for some homeowners who need services from WSSC Water; and

WHEREAS, a Bi-County Working Group comprised of representatives from the Executive and Legislative branches of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties and WSSC staff considered this issue in 2006 and 2014, prior to the current Group that completed its work and presented a final report including recommendations to the Prince George's County Council on January 11, 2022; and

WHEREAS, approximately 4,977 homes are served by septic systems in Prince George's County and approximately 2,087 homes have septic systems that are failing or close to failing; and

WHEREAS, public and environmental health impacts from these aging septic systems will only get worse over time; but costs are often too high for homeowner to pay for sewer service extensions; and

WHEREAS, a core duty and primary function of government is to promote policies and

1 strategies in furtherance of public health, safety and welfare; and

2 WHEREAS, the Bi-County Working Group concluded that any program adopted should
3 prioritize public health and should ultimately improve public health outcomes for communities
4 with current or pending septic systems; and

5 WHEREAS, the Bi-County Working Group report contains recommendations that will
6 ensure an improved system for addressing the extension of water and sewer service that have been
7 identified along with a process for moving toward the improved system; and

8 WHEREAS, the Bi-County Working Group concluded that this is a complex problem that
9 will take many years to address on an ongoing basis; and

10 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council desires to create a formal working group
11 to facilitate implementation of the recommendations contained in the final recommendations of
12 the Sewer Extension Needs for Unserved and Underserved Neighborhoods Bi-County
13 Infrastructure Working Group report as presented on January 11, 2022; and

14 WHEREAS, Section 506 of the Charter provides that the Council may appoint, for designated
15 periods, one or more temporary advisory board of citizens of the County who shall assist in the
16 consideration of County policies and programs.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
18 Maryland, that the Prince George's County Council does hereby establish the Sewer Extension
19 Needs for Unserved and Underserved Neighborhoods Prince George's County Infrastructure
20 Implementation Working Group (Prince George's County Infrastructure Implementation Working
21 Group) for a period of two years, subject to reauthorization and assign it the responsibility of
22 providing oversight, coordination, collaboration, direction as well as assistance in obtaining
23 resources needed to implement the recommendations of the Bi-County Infrastructure Working
24 Group.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George's County Infrastructure
26 Implementation Working Group, shall not replace but collaborate with existing ad hoc working
27 groups tasked with coordinating "short term", "interim" and/or Health Hazard Mitigation
28 resources to assist homeowners currently experiencing septic system failures.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George's County Infrastructure
30 Implementation Working Group [shall] may, at the discretion of the respective appointing
31 authorities, be composed of the same membership, or their designees as the Bi-County Working

1 Group subject to reappointment or replacement by the appointing authority, as follows: the County
2 Council Representatives appointed by the Chair of the Council; [the County Executive
3 Representatives appointed by the County Executive; the Executive Agency Representatives
4 appointed by the Directors of the Department of Planning, Inspections and Enforcement and the
5 Health Department;] the Executive Branch Representatives appointed by the County Executive;
6 the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission Representatives appointed by the
7 Planning Director; and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC-Water)
8 Representatives appointed by the General Manager/CEO.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Administrative Officer may assign appropriate
10 technical support staff to assist the Infrastructure Implementation Working Group with its work.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George's County Infrastructure
12 Implementation Working Group shall have an initial term of two (2) years from the date of the
13 adoption of this Resolution. If determined advantageous and desirable, the Prince George's
14 County Infrastructure Implementation Working Group may be reauthorized in subsequent years
15 by Council Resolution.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair and Vice Chair shall be appointed by the
17 County Council for a two-year term, subject to reappointment to one -year terms of service, if the
18 Prince George's County Infrastructure Implementation Working Group is reauthorized in
19 subsequent years by Council Resolution.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council Administrator shall assign appropriate
21 technical and administrative support staff to assist the Prince George's County Infrastructure
22 Implementation Working Group in its work.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George's County Infrastructure
24 Implementation Working Group shall submit a quarterly report to the Prince George's County
25 Council with a copy to all three appointing authorities, the County Executive, the General
26 Manager/CEO of WSSC-Water and the Planning Director of the Maryland National Capital Park
27 and Planning Commission and provide an annual report of the Working Group's activities and
28 accomplishments by February 1st.

Adopted this 12th day of April, 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Calvin S. Hawkins, II
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council