

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2014 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-49-2014

Proposed by Council Members Davis, Franklin, Harrison, Olson, Toles and Turner

Introduced by Council Members Davis, Franklin, Harrison, Olson, Toles, Turner, Lehman

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction June 3, 2014

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Health Sciences District

3 For the purpose of establishing a Prince George’s County Health Care and Life Sciences District.

4 WHEREAS, the County Council recognizes that the heart of a community’s success and
5 prosperity is the health of its residents; and

6 WHEREAS, the Prince George’s County Health Improvement Plan 2011-2014 (the “Plan”)
7 was prepared by the Prince George’s County Health Department with the assistance of the Prince
8 George’s County Council sitting as the Board of Health, the Maryland Department of Health and
9 Mental Hygiene, existing community coalitions and key stakeholders concerned about the health
10 status and health needs of the County’s population; and

11 WHEREAS, the Plan addresses our County’s most pressing and immediate health needs as
12 well as overarching concerns of the health stakeholder community as a whole; and

13 WHEREAS, on July 21, 2011, the State, the County, and the Dimensions Healthcare
14 System reached a partnership agreement with the University of Maryland Medical System and
15 the University System of Maryland for the purpose of developing a comprehensive plan for
16 improving health care in Prince George’s County; and

17 WHEREAS, the University of Maryland Medical System analyzed the health care system
18 in 2010 and determined that a new regional medical center was necessary to strengthen the
19 County’s healthcare services; and

20 WHEREAS, Prince George’s County and Dimensions Healthcare System selected a parcel
21 of land located within Largo Town Center as the site for the new regional medical center; and
22

1 WHEREAS, the new regional medical center proposed for construction at Largo Town
2 Center is strategically positioned along the Central Avenue-Blue Line Corridor and presents
3 significant healthcare and economic development opportunities for the County; and

4 WHEREAS, the Central-Avenue Blue Line Corridor is also a major transportation corridor
5 that includes four Metro transit facilities and terminates at Largo Town Center; and

6 WHEREAS, because of its strategic location within the heart of Prince George's County,
7 the Central Avenue Blue Line Corridor offers significant opportunities for transit-oriented
8 development; and

9 WHEREAS, the County Council, in partnership with the Office of the County Executive,
10 has re-established economic development as a priority for Prince George's County focused on
11 expanding Prince George's County's commercial tax base, retaining the existing job market, and
12 increasing employment within the County; and

13 WHEREAS, the Council's legislative priorities emphasize the creation of a business-
14 friendly climate in the County by expanding growth opportunities and commercial development,
15 maximizing transit-oriented development and redevelopment opportunities, promoting revenue
16 creation, smart growth, and building a world class regional health center; and

17 WHEREAS, the County Council and the Office of the County Executive determined that it
18 is in the best interest of the County and its citizens to promote and, when deemed appropriate,
19 fund economic development activities in order to increase County revenues that can be used to
20 support vital County services such as public safety, education, and healthcare; and

21 WHEREAS, on July 16, 2013, the County Council adopted CR-75-2013 that endorsed
22 the May 2013 "Economic Drivers and Catalysts: A Targeted Economic Development Strategy
23 for Prince George's County, Maryland" report and adopted the economic actions and strategies
24 set forth therein; and

25 WHEREAS, based on a comprehensive analysis of the Prince George's County economy,
26 Healthcare and Life Sciences was identified as one of four key industry targets for advancing
27 economic development, high quality job creation to drive the local economy and economic
28 catalysts that offer competitive advantages for the County to build upon; and

29 WHEREAS, the purpose of the targeted economic development strategy is to maximize the
30 generation of new jobs in Prince George's County and to diversify and grow the County tax
31 base; and

1 WHEREAS, the County Council has determined that an organized approach for
2 development of key industry clusters is a critical element of the County’s overall economic
3 development activities and services.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
5 County, Maryland, that the Central Avenue Blue Line Corridor area be and the same is hereby
6 established as a Health Sciences District (“District”).

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the intention of the Council, in partnership with
8 the Prince George’s Planning Department, to provide an expedited review and approval process
9 for qualified health science and technology projects within the District.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the intention of the County Council, to pursue the
11 full range of public economic incentives for facilities, equipment, and related infrastructure
12 necessary to support health science and technology development within the District.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an element of the strategic plan of action for the Health
14 Science District is to work collectively across businesses within an industry cluster in order to
15 identify shared needs, opportunities, and to pursue common services, including gaps in
16 workforce skills, access to necessary financial startup capital, to ensure the availability of quality
17 facilities.
18

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is also a core goal of the Health Sciences District to
2 improve access to innovations for commercialization, and to address cross-cutting economic
3 development priorities to foster and sustain growth across the targeted healthcare and life
4 sciences industry clusters and in turn increase the broader economic base of the County.

Adopted this 3rd day of June, 2014.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Mel Franklin
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council