

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2023 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-089-2023

Proposed by Council Members Franklin, Hawkins, Ivey and Watson

Introduced by Council Members Franklin, Hawkins, Ivey, Watson and Fisher

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction October 3, 2023

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 County Council Rules of Procedure

3 For the purpose of amending Rules of Procedure for the County Council.

4 WHEREAS, Section 316 of the Prince George’s County Charter provides for the County
5 Council to adopt and publish rules; and

6 WHEREAS, the County Council Rules of Procedure, as adopted by CR-1-1995 and
7 amended by CR-3-1996, CR-1-2008, CR-7-2008, CR-91-2016, CR-59-2017, CR-44-2018, and
8 CR-58-2020 are maintained by the Clerk of the Council.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
10 County, Maryland, that the Prince George’s County Council Rules of Procedure be and the same
11 are hereby amended.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Council Rules of Procedure, as adopted
13 by CR-1-1995 and amended by CR-3-1996, CR-1-2008, CR-7-2008, CR-91-2016, CR-59-2017,
14 CR-44-2018, and CR-58-2020 are hereby repealed and readopted with the following
15 amendments:

RULES OF PROCEDURE

FOR THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

18 (As Adopted By CR-1-1995 and Amended by CR-3-1996, CR-1-2008, CR-7-2008,
19 CR-91-2016, CR-59-2017, CR-44-2018 and CR-58-2020)

21 **3. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE MEMBERS.**

22 **3.1. Attendance.**

1 (a) By the adoption of these rules, the Members of the Council commit to be present, in-
2 person, for the convening of all regularly scheduled legislative and business sessions, including
3 public hearings, at the times designated on the agenda and to attend all meetings or work
4 sessions of Council committees to which they have been appointed. When a Council Member is
5 unable to be present, in-person, at any such meeting due to extraordinary circumstances, such as
6 illness, parental leave, caregiving responsibilities, or a significant or unexpected factor or event
7 outside the control of the Council Member, written notification shall be submitted to the Chair of
8 the Council or Committee and the Clerk of the Council at least 24-hours of the time designated
9 on the agenda for any such meeting. The written notification shall indicate whether the Council
10 Member intends to be present remotely at any such meeting, and if so, the appropriate
11 accommodation shall be provided to allow the Council Member to be present remotely. The
12 Chair of the Council or Committee shall announce the absence of any Council Member or any
13 Council Member attending a meeting remotely. Where a Council Member submits written
14 notification of absence to the Chair of the Council or Committee and the Clerk of the Council
15 due to extraordinary circumstances, such as illness, parental leave, caregiving responsibilities, or
16 a significant or unexpected factor or event outside the control of the Council Member, the
17 absence shall be excused. The Clerk of the Council shall record the attendance of Council
18 Members in the minutes for each meeting as in-person, remote, or absent. When appropriate, the
19 minutes shall note the subsequent arrival time of a Council Member previously marked absent.
20 The minutes shall also reflect whether an absence is excused and the recusal of any Council
21 Member in any matter under consideration.

22 (b) The Council shall designate times for the convening of regular legislative and
23 business sessions. Publicly advertised County Council or Council Committee meetings may be
24 rescheduled only if all members of the respective bodies are notified in writing providing at least
25 48-hours notice of the new date and time. The 48-hour notice requirement may be waived only
26 if the Members unanimously agree in writing. Consistent with the times so designated, the
27 Council Administrator, with the concurrence of the Council Chair, shall establish the times for
28 public hearings. [The Clerk shall enter the record of attendance in the minutes for each
29 legislative or business session. The minutes shall also note the subsequent arrival time of a
30 Member previously marked absent. The minutes shall contain an explanation of a member's

1 absence as provided by the Member. The minutes shall reflect that a Member has recused
2 himself or herself concerning a particular matter under consideration by the Council.]

3 * * * * *

4 **8. VOTING.**

5 (a) All questions shall be determined by a majority vote of the Members present, either
6 physically in-person or visible on camera remotely, except as required for:

- 7 (1) The final action on a bill or resolution;
- 8 (2) The suspension of rules;
- 9 (3) The amendment of a bill or resolution after introduction;
- 10 (4) The approval of a letter requiring the Council Chair's signature on behalf of the
11 Council;
- 12 (5) Any other circumstance specially provided for in these Rules, the Charter for Prince
13 George's County, Maryland, the County Code, or the Constitution and Laws of the
14 State of Maryland; or
- 15 (6) Special voting requirements for confirmation of administrative appointments
16 pursuant to Section 322 of the Charter.

17 (b) Members must be [physically] present, in-person or remotely, to make a motion or cast
18 a vote.

19 * * * * *

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amendments to the Rules of Procedure adopted by
21 this Resolution shall be effective on the date of adoption.

Adopted this 31st day of October, 2023.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Thomas E. Dernoga
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna Brown
Clerk of the Council

“CR-089-2023 (DR-1) was introduced on October 3, 2023, and contained new language to the County Council Rules of Procedures that was also in CR-078-2023 (DR-1), specifically Rule 3.1 Attendance and Rule 8 Voting. The language that is duplicative in CR-089-2023 (DR-1) was adopted via CR-078-2023 (DR-1) on October 3, 2023.”