

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
SITTING AS THE DISTRICT COUNCIL
2020 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-57-2020
Proposed by Council Member Turner
Introduced by Council Members Turner, Hawkins, Harrison, Taveras, Glaros and Franklin
Co-Sponsors _____
Date of Introduction June 23, 2020

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 The District Council Rules of Procedure

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

4 WHEREAS, Section 316 of the Charter for Prince George's County provides that the
5 Council shall adopt and publish rules of Procedure not inconsistent with the provisions of the
6 County Charter; and

7 WHEREAS, the County Council Rules of Procedure, as adopted by CR-1-1995, and as
8 amended by CR-3-1996, CR-1-2008, CR-7-2008, CR-91-2016, CR-59-2017, and CR-44-2018,
9 are applicable to the proceedings of the County Council sitting as the District Council for that
10 portion of the Maryland-Washington Regional District in Prince George's County; and

11 WHEREAS, the Rules of Procedure for the District Council have been adopted by CR-5-
12 1993, and amended by CR-2-1994, CR-2-1995, CR-74-1995, and CR-92-2016 to provide
13 supplemental rules which pertain to the unique operations of the District Council and to restate
14 portions of the Rules of Procedure which apply to operations of the District Council; and

15 WHEREAS, there is a need to provide rules of procedure for virtual hearings, including
16 virtual participation for quasi-judicial and administrative hearings.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
18 County, Maryland, sitting as the District Council for that part of the Maryland-Washington
19 Regional District in Prince George's County, Maryland, that the District Council Rules of
20 Procedure be and the same are hereby repealed and reenacted as set forth in Attachment A to this
21 Resolution.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the District Council Rules of Procedure, as
2 adopted by this Resolution, together with any subsequent amendments, shall be marked,
3 identified, and maintained by the Clerk of the Council.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rules of Procedure adopted by this Resolution
5 shall be effective from the date of adoption of this Resolution.

Adopted this 21st day of July, 2020.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE’S
COUNTY, MARYLAND, SITTING AS THE
DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PART OF
THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL
DISTRICT IN PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY,
MARYLAND

BY: _____
Todd M. Turner
Council Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

ATTACHMENT A

2. DISTRICT COUNCIL SESSIONS.

* * * * *

2.1. Meetings.

The District Council normally meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month, except during the months of August and December when the Council is in recess, or the Council is unable to meet due to closure, weather emergency, or other declared state of emergency. Where authorized, the Council, Zoning Hearing Examiner and Board of Appeals may meet to consider zoning matters virtually or remotely in accordance with these Rules of Procedure. Additional meetings may be scheduled by the Chair upon notice to each Member, or shall be scheduled by the Chair upon the petition of a majority of the full Council. District Council hearings shall be scheduled during normal business hours unless there are twenty-five (25) or more parties of record and a Council Member has requested, in writing, that the hearing be held outside of normal business hours.

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6. ORAL ARGUMENTS AND EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS.

6.6. Hearings Conducted by Virtual/Remote Participation.

The District Council, the Zoning Hearing Examiner, or Board of Appeals are hereby authorized to conduct virtual/remote hearings, subject to the procedures set forth herein; provided, however, all hearings must satisfy applicable provisions of Subtitle 27, except as modified herein. When the District Council determines that it is impractical to conduct an in-person hearing at County designated buildings, all or a portion of the hearing may be conducted virtually/remotely.

Upon notification of a hearing, the applicant shall object in writing, within five (5) business days, if they are opposed to having a hearing conducted virtually. If the applicant submits a timely objection to the notice of the virtual hearing, the hearing will be rescheduled, provided the applicant submits written notification that it waives all statutory timelines related to the application.

A. Notice for the virtual/remote hearing and the agenda for the hearing shall include information about how the hearing will be conducted and how the public can access, observe, and participate in the hearing. If prior notice as required by law has been provided for a hearing to be held in person, additional notice shall be given as to reasonably inform an interested person that such hearing will be held by virtual/remote participation; provided, however, additional notice shall not be deemed jurisdictional.

The notice shall advise that documents will be available online and that any interested party may contact the Clerk of the Council, the Zoning Hearing Examiner, or Board of Appeals, as applicable, to receive a paper copy of a document if the document

is not accessible online.

B. Upon notification of an oral argument hearing before the District Council, an interested party required to file a document in accordance with oral argument procedures shall do so in person, by email, by other electronic portals, or by drop box. Any document required to be filed in accordance with oral argument procedures shall be submitted no later than five (5) business days before the scheduled oral argument hearing.

C. Upon notification of an evidentiary hearing before the District Council, the Zoning Hearing Examiner, or Board of Appeals, an interested party shall submit documents for the record in person, by email, by other electronic portals, or by drop box. All documents for the record shall be submitted no later than five (5) business days before the scheduled evidentiary hearing. With permission from the Zoning Hearing Examiner or the Board of Appeals, a party may submit supplemental documents for the record.

D. Before the commencement of a hearing, the District Council Chair (or designee), the Zoning Hearing Examiner, or the Chair of the Board of Appeals (or designee) shall describe the procedures that govern the hearing, including the procedures to receive virtual testimony and public comment.

E. The District Council, Zoning Hearing Examiner, or Board of Appeals shall not be responsible for resolving any technical difficulties incurred by any person participating in a virtual/remote hearing.