

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-049-2020

Draft No.: 1

Committee: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Date: 06/02/2020

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 10-1 (In favor: Council Members: Turner, Anderson-Walker, Dernoga, Davis, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Hawkins, Ivey, and Streeter. Oppose: Council Member Taveras.)

The County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, to consider CR-49-2020, a Resolution concerning Temporary Road Closures—Outdoor Dining for purposes of implementing State and local directives for reopening of eating and drinking establishments in the County. Staff summarized the purpose of the resolution, which is companion legislation to CR-48-2020, also designed to implement the directives for reopening of eating and drinking establishments in Prince George's County.

Joseph Ruddy, Deputy County Attorney from the Office of Law explained the rationale for the temporary road closures is to provide a lawful mechanism for the Director of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement to temporarily close a County owned and maintained public road to provide lawful existing eating and drinking establishments the opportunity to offer newly created or expanded outdoor seating in adjacent or shared exterior space.

Council Member Taveras raised a concern about the ability to revoke the temporary use of exterior seating if new COVID-19 cases occur in certain defined areas within the County.

The Office of Law and Council staff pointed out that the resolution expressly retains the right to rescind the temporary authorization if warranted.

After further discussion of the legislation by members, the Committee voted 10-1 for a Favorable Recommendation as to CR-49-2020 (DR-1). (No: Taveras)