

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2021 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-77-2021
Proposed by The Chair (by request – County Executive
Introduced by Council Members Hawkins, Davis, Turner, Taveras, Streeter, Dernoga,
Ivey and Glaros
Date of Introduction July 6, 2021

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning
2 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND'S TWELFTH CONTINUED DECLARATION
3 OF EMERGENCY—CORONAVIRUS (“COVID-19”)

4 For the purpose of continuing the emergency declarations most recently adopted by the
5 governing body on May 11, 2021, CR-48-2021, and as may be further amended.

6 WHEREAS, Section 14-111 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of
7 Maryland provides for the declaration of a Local State of Emergency; and

8 WHEREAS, Section 10-328(b) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of
9 Maryland states that a county may provide for the prevention of contagious diseases in the
10 county; and

11 WHEREAS, Subtitle 6 of the Prince George's County Code, including but necessarily
12 limited to Division 5 of this Subtitle, provides for the declaration of a Local State of Emergency
13 by the County Executive and the authority to issue rules and regulations as deemed necessary to
14 control the situation; and

15 WHEREAS, the President of the United States proclaimed that the COVID- 19 outbreak in
16 the United States constituted a national emergency beginning March 1, 2020; and

17 WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the Governor of the State of Maryland declared a state of
18 emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the State of Maryland to control and prevent
19 the spread of COVID-19; and

20 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization, on March 11, 2020, announced that the
21 COVID-19 outbreak can be characterized as a pandemic; and

22 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County, Maryland has previously issued the following

1 emergency declarations: Executive Order Number 6-2020 dated March 16, 2020; Executive
2 Order Number 7-2020 dated April 13, 2020; CR-31-2020 adopted May 11, 2020; Executive
3 Order Number 8-2020 dated May 14, 2020; Executive Order Number 10-2020 dated May 28,
4 2020; CR-51-2020 adopted June 9, 2020; Executive Order Number 13-2020 dated June 12,
5 2020; Executive Order Number 15-2020 dated June 25, 2020; CR-64-2020 adopted July 7,
6 2020; Executive Order Number 20-2020 dated September 3, 2020; CR-90-101 adopted
7 September 15, 2020 ; CR-101-2020 adopted October 13, 2020; CR-125-2020 adopted November
8 17, 2020; and Executive Order 27-2020 dated December 15, 2020; CR-02-2021 adopted January
9 12, 2021; Executive Order 3-2021 dated January 26, 2021; CR-13-2021 adopted February 16,
10 2021; Executive Order 8-2021 dated March 11, 2021; CR-33-2021 adopted March 30, 2021; CR
11 48-2021 adopted May 11, 2021; Executive Order 11-2021 dated May 14, 2021; Executive Order
12 14-2021 dated May 26, 2021; Executive Order 17-2021 adopted June 28, 2021 (amended
13 Executive Order 14-2021); and

14 WHEREAS, Prince George' s County, Maryland has been and continues to be severely
15 impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak; and

16 WHEREAS, as of June 28, 2021, the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the County
17 was 85,526 cases, with approximately 8741 hospitalizations and approximately 1559 deaths; and

18 WHEREAS, based upon reported data analysis as of June 30, 2021, the County's infection
19 rate is .75, its positivity rate is .7%, the average daily case rate is 1.2 per 100,000 residents;

20 WHEREAS, the number of inpatients with COVID-19 has remained below 20 for nearly
21 three weeks, and while the number of inpatients with COVID-19 can fluctuate, County hospitals
22 have seen over a 65% decrease in the past month.

23 WHEREAS, current available hospital capacity is around 53%, with only 1% of hospitals
24 beds in use for patients with COVID-19; and

25 WHEREAS, as of June 28, 2021, approximately 834,639 County residents have received a
26 vaccine dose, which amounts to 482,363 residents receiving at least one dose of the vaccine and
27 426,965 have completed the vaccine series; and

28 WHEREAS, the County's health care system continues to need resources to effectively
29 combat this emergency; and

30 WHEREAS, Section 14-111 (b) (1) of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of
31 Maryland states that the consent of the governing body is needed if a local declaration is

1 continued or renewed for more than 30 days; and

2 WHEREAS, CR-48-2021 remained in effect through July 9, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., unless
3 amended or terminated sooner; and

4 WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose an imminent threat to the health, safety and
5 welfare of County residents; and

6 WHEREAS, relevant metrics have shown a downward trend, Prince George’s County
7 remains in the low or medium category of disease transmission for the key metrics, public health
8 experts continue to indicate that we may still be at risk for a surge of COVID-19 cases and warn
9 against re-opening too quickly, and continued concern over community spread of new COVID-
10 19 variants, it is necessary that the County remain vigilant and cautious with its re-opening
11 planning:

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
13 County, Maryland, that Prince George’s County, Maryland continue under a declaration of
14 emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak;

15 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Plan
16 remain in full force and effect until terminated by the County Executive; and

17 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Prince George’s County will follow federal mandates
18 regarding the wearing of face coverings on public transportation. The most recent rules can be
19 found at [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/face-masks-public-](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/face-masks-public-transportation.html)
20 [transportation.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/face-masks-public-transportation.html);

21 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED unvaccinated residents are STRONGLY encouraged to get
22 vaccinated and continue wearing their masks in public until they are fully vaccinated. “Fully
23 vaccinated” means the individual has received all required dosages as applicable to the vaccine
24 received, including two weeks post the date of the last dose; and

25 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED restrictions will be reinstated if the relevant metrics show
26 measurable increase in the spread of the COVID virus and that more restrictive measures are
27 needed to save lives and to protect the public safety and welfare.

28 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the rules set forth in this Resolution will go into **effect on**
29 **July 9, 2021 at 5:01 p.m.**; and

30 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the directives set forth herein will be enforced by the
31 Prince George’s County Health Department, with the assistance of Prince George’s County law

1 enforcement and other appropriate County employees as determined by the Chief Administrative
2 Officer, as needed; and

3 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED the County may continue to conduct scheduled and
4 unscheduled inspections of retail, restaurant and business establishments as needed to help
5 prevent increase in virus spread; and

6 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that non-compliance may subject the owner and/or operator
7 to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 pursuant to the Prince George's County Code and/or the
8 establishments to closure pursuant to the legal authority of the Health Officer and/or other legal
9 authority; and

10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Branch continue to provide regular updates
11 to the Council Chair or Vice Chair; and

12 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED this declaration supersedes any inconsistent provision of a
13 prior Council Resolution or Executive Order; and

14 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the provisions of the Resolution are severable such that if
15 any provision of this Resolution or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held
16 invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of this
17 Resolution shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or
18 application; and

19 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this declaration of emergency shall stay in effect through
20 September 10, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., unless amended or terminated sooner by the County Executive
21 or as extended by a subsequent resolution of the governing body.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect on the day it is
23 adopted.

Adopted this 6th day of July, 2021.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Calvin S. Hawkins, II
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

Date: _____

BY: _____
Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive