COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND 2022 Legislative Session

Resolution No.	CR-091-2022
Proposed by	The Chair (by request - County Executive)
Introduced by	Council Members Hawkins, Harrison, and Medlock
Co-Sponsors	
Date of Introductio	on September 6, 2022

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION concerning

The 911 Charge

For the purpose of approving an increase in the additional charge for switched local exchange access service, commercial mobile radio service, and other 911 accessible service within the County.

WHEREAS, Public Safety Article, Section 1-301, et seq., of the Annotated Code of Maryland, provides for the existence and funding of a 911 System to provide timely and appropriate assistance when the lives or property of the citizens of Maryland are in imminent danger; and

WHEREAS, there is currently an additional charge of seventy-five cents (\$0.75) per month to be applied to all current bills rendered for switched local exchange access service, commercial mobile radio service, or other 911 accessible service within the County; and

WHEREAS, the County 911 fee has not been raised since 2003 and thus has not provided the revenue necessary to fully pay for County 911 services; and

WHEREAS, amendments to the Public Safety Article, Section 1-311 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, effective July 1, 2019 authorize the County to increase the 911 additional charge to a level necessary to cover a County's operational costs not exceeding one dollar and fifty-cents (\$1.50) to all current bills rendered for switched local exchange access service, commercial mobile radio service, or other 911 accessible service within the County; and

WHEREAS, the most recently completed audit of actual 911 expenditures in the County exceeded the amount of revenue from the current additional charge of seventy-five cents (\$0.75) by the rate equivalent of sixty-five cents (\$0.65), it is necessary for the County to increase the

additional charge to one dollar and forty-cents (\$1.40) to all current bills for switched local exchange access service, commercial mobile radio service, or other 911 accessible service within the County in order to fully cover the County's 911 operating expense; and

WHEREAS, proceeds from the 911 additional charge may only be used to fund the installation, enhancement, maintenance and operation of the County's 911 system; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Article, Section 1-311(e) of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides that the Public Service Commission shall direct each telephone company that provides service in a County that imposes an additional charge to add, within 60 days, the full amount of the additional charge to all current bills rendered for switched local exchange access service, commercial mobile radio service, or other 911 accessible service within the County; and

WHEREAS, within 60 days after a County enacts or adopts an ordinance or resolution that imposes, repeals, or modifies an additional charge, each 911 service carrier that provides service in the County shall add the full amount of the additional charge to all current bills rendered for switched local exchange access service, commercial mobile radio service, or other 911 accessible service within the County; and

WHEREAS, the County Council conducted a public hearing on October 24, 2022, pursuant to Section 1-311, prior to increasing the 911 additional charge from the charge previously adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that the 911 additional charge of one dollar and forty-cents (\$1.40) per month per bill for switched local exchange access service, commercial mobile radio service and other 911 accessible service in the County, be and the same is hereby approved, retroactively effective to September 1, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Council shall forward a copy of this Resolution, upon adoption to the Maryland Public Service Commission.

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Adopted this 24^{th} day of <u>October</u>, 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: <u>Calvin S. Hawkins, II</u> Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown Clerk of the Council