OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ANGELA D. ALSO BROOKS

PRESS RELEASE

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COUNTY EXECUTIVE ALSO BROOKS SIGNS A STAY-AT-HOME ORDER FOR PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY

LARGO, MD – Prince George’s County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced today that she has signed a Stay-At-Home Executive Order for Prince George’s County, extending the previous order from the Governor that was in place for the entire State. This order will be in effect until June 1, 2020 and may be extended if Prince George’s County does not meet the metrics needed to safely begin to reopen.

“Our numbers have not begun to plateau in Prince George’s County, so we must make our own decisions and do what is best for our residents,” said Alsobrooks. “As difficult as I know this will be for our residents to continue to have to stay home, I am doing this to protect the safety and wellbeing of every Prince Georgian.”

The County Executive’s Stay-At-Home Order will essentially leave in place the same restrictions that have been in place statewide since March 30, 2020 at 8:00 PM. Prince George’s County residents should only leave their home for essential activities such as going to the grocery store, picking up medication, going to an essential job, or going to the bank.

Non-essential businesses will remain closed. Restaurants will still only be able to provide delivery or curbside pick-up. Churches and other religious facilities will have to continue to hold virtual services. The County Executive will consult with health officials to determine if the Order should be extended past June 1, or lifted early, as we get closer to that date.

“Acknowledging the unique impacts of COVID-19 in Prince George’s County, and the health and safety of our residents as priority, the County Council fully supports County Executive Angela Alsobrooks’ decision to extend the stay at home order in Prince George’s County,” said Prince George’s County Council Chair, Todd Turner. “We thank County Executive Alsobrooks
and her team, for her leadership and partnership, and we look forward to beginning our recovery in the County, when it is safe and appropriate to do so.”

The County Executive also announced the five pillars that will be required to reopen, which are: Reducing the Curve, Healthcare System Capacity, Adequate Testing, Contract Tracers, and Personal Protective Equipment. For each of these five pillars, the County must meet a number of measures before it is able to safely begin to reopen. These include measures such as a two-week decline in both new cases and deaths due to COVID-19, a two-week decline in hospitalizations, and the capacity to conduct at least 9,000 tests per week.

To be able to meet these measures, the County is taking several actions. The County’s current testing capacity is around 5,500 tests per week. To increase testing, the County is continuing its partnership with Montgomery County to purchase additional tests, as well as its partnerships with private labs to acquire tests.

The County has also requested 3,500 additional tests from the State, which will allow the County to open additional testing sites. The County Executive noted that it is the State’s responsibility to provide these tests, and that the County stands ready and willing to partner with the State, but the State must do its part. The County has already identified three additional locations for drive-thru and walk-up testing and is prepared to phase in these three sites over the next 30 days if we receive the resources that we need.

The County is also continuing its efforts to hire and train additional contact tracers for our local Health Department, which includes the plan to train some County employees to serve as contact tracers. The County will continue to work with the State of Maryland as well to ensure contact tracers can be hired and trained quickly and efficiently.

As a reminder, residents who need COVID-19 testing can call our hotline at 301-883-6627. As long as residents meet CDC testing guidelines, which include exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, they can receive an appointment to be tested at no cost, regardless of insurance coverage. For more information and resources related to COVID-19 in Prince George’s County, please visit mypgc.us.

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