

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ANGELA D. ALSOBROOKS**

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

March 11, 2021

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE ALSOBROOKS ANNOUNCES MEASURED
REOPENINGS IN RESPONSE TO CONTINUED DECLINE IN COVID-19
METRICS**

*County Surpasses More Than 100,000 Residents With at Least One Dose of a
COVID-19 Vaccine*

LARGO, MD – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced today that the County is expanding COVID-19 capacity limits for businesses and other establishments due to a continued and significant decline in the County's positivity rate and other key COVID-19 metrics, and due to increasing vaccination rates in the County. The updated safety measures will take effect Friday, March 12, 2021, at 5:00 PM.

“While we are not ready to open as far as the rest of the State at this point, we are pleased by the information the Health Department is seeing, and our metrics tell us that we can safely do more than we are currently doing,” said Alsobrooks. “Because COVID-19 affected us so deeply, we will continue to be careful, and we will continue to follow the guidance of our Health Department to facilitate a safe reopening.”

The County Executive made these decisions under the guidance and advice of public health officials, based on a continued and significant decline in key COVID-19 metrics in the County. As of March 6, the seven-day average positivity rate is 4.3%, down from over 7% a month ago. The County's infection rate is sitting at 0.94 as of March 2.

In addition, the County's average daily case rate as of March 6 is 15.7 per 100,000 residents. This is down from an average daily case rate of 40.9 over a month ago on January 20. Finally, hospital capacity is around 55% as of March 9. The County continues to monitor and analyze COVID-19 data daily.

The County Health Department's vaccination capacity has increased to about 15,000 per week, with five vaccination clinics across the County and three mobile vaccination units. Last week, the County Health Department set another weekly record, administering 11,425 vaccinations, 8,200 of which were first or single doses. When counting all vaccine providers, over 31,000 vaccinations were provided to County residents last week, another weekly record. Finally, over 100,000 residents have now received at least one dose of a vaccine, and nearly 50,000 residents are fully vaccinated.

Due to these factors, health officials have advised that the County can safely move forward with a measured reopening. Under the County's updated Phase 2 guidelines, a number of businesses and other establishments will be able to reopen or expand current capacity limits, including:

- **Restaurants:** Indoor and outdoor dining is allowed at 50% of maximum capacity. Restaurants must ensure social distancing and mask-wearing is observed.
- **Theaters:** May reopen at 50% of maximum capacity.
- **Gyms/Fitness Centers:** May expand to 50% of maximum capacity. Face coverings must be worn over the nose and mouth when working out.
- **Banquet Halls, Receptions & Meeting Rooms:** May expand to 50% of maximum capacity, applicable to the specific room where the event will be held.
- **Houses of Worship:** Indoor services may expand to 50% of maximum capacity, with social distancing requirements in place. Outdoor services are allowed up to 50% maximum capacity of the outdoor area, with social distancing and access to hand washing or hand sanitizers in place. Masks must be worn.
- **Personal Services:** May expand to 50% of maximum capacity. These establishments must operate by appointment only.
- **Retail:** May expand to 50% of maximum capacity.

Businesses and other establishments must continue following all other safety guidelines, including the enforcement of wearing masks and social distancing. In addition, unless otherwise expressed in the Executive Order, indoor gatherings are limited to a maximum of 20 persons and outdoor gatherings are limited to a maximum of 50 persons. A full list of updated guidelines, as well as a copy of the Executive Order, will be available at mypgc.us/reopen.

COVID-19 metrics are available to the public and updated regularly through the County's [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#). COVID-19 vaccine data is updated daily and available through the County's [COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#). The latest COVID-19 updates are available at health.mypgc.us/coronavirus.

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