

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE
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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY TO LIFT MASK MANDATE DUE TO
CONTINUED DECLINE IN COVID-19 METRICS**

*Unvaccinated Individuals Strongly Encouraged to Get Vaccinated and Continue
Wearing a Mask Until Fully Vaccinated*

LARGO, MD – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced today that the County will align with the State of Maryland and CDC recommendations and lift the mask mandate for fully vaccinated individuals, due to a continued decline in key COVID-19 metrics and increasing vaccination rates. These new guidelines will go into effect by Executive Order on Friday, May 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

“Due to a continued decline in key COVID-19 metrics and increasing vaccination rates, we are now in a place where our health officials have advised it is safe to lift our County's mask mandate,” said Alsobrooks. “I want to thank Prince Georgians for working hard to get us to this point in our fight against COVID-19, and we continue to encourage everyone who is not yet vaccinated to do so as soon as possible. Please remember to be respectful of those who choose to continue wearing a mask, and also please be respectful of people's personal space as we adjust to these new changes after a difficult year for so many in our community.”

Beginning Friday, May 28 at 5:00 p.m., fully vaccinated individuals can resume normal activities without wearing a mask. In line with the State of Maryland and CDC guidance, masks will still be required on public transportation and in schools, child care settings and health care settings. Unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue wearing a mask until they are fully vaccinated and are encouraged to get vaccinated as soon as possible. Individuals who live or work in the County can walk up to County Health Department vaccination clinics with no appointment needed, or book an appointment in advance online at mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine.

Vaccination Outreach Team Update

Over the past month, the County's Vaccine Outreach Team has reached 30,000 Prince Georgians through door knocking, phone calls and text messages, providing information on COVID-19 vaccines and various government resources. The team has provided resource information on rental assistance to 2,146 families, temporary unemployment benefits to 2,669 families, access to food distribution sites or benefits to 1,753 families, and access to vaccination sites and appointments to 6,751 families.

The outreach team is only 50% of the way through the first canvass pass, and the County will continue this effort through July. The County encourages residents to answer the door or pick up

the phone if a member of the outreach team contacts them. Outreach team members will always wear bright yellow vests and carry identification badges to show they are affiliated with Prince George's County Government.

Summer Programming for Young People & Crime Prevention Efforts

The County Executive also announced that her office is finalizing the Alsobrooks Summer Passport Program, which will give youth ages 12 to 18 throughout the County a variety of safe and fun activities to choose from this summer. This program will operate from June to August, offering a number of day and evening events.

A few of the engaging activities for youth will include a 3-on-3 basketball tournament, a bowling experience, a Six Flags experience with both an educational component as well as an entertainment component, and family movie nights. The County is also planning an educational opportunity from the Plumbers and Steamfitters unions to teach trades to young people that can open their eyes to entrepreneurship. Additionally, the County is planning a cyber security and drone camp. More details and information on how to sign up for these opportunities will be available in the near future.

In addition, the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation recently reopened a number of community centers and facilities, and they are actively expanding summer programming available for residents of all ages. Residents can view a list of open facilities, a list of classes and programs available, and register for those opportunities at pgparks.com.

The County will also provide 2,550 young people ages 14-22 with employment opportunities through the 2021 Summer Youth Enrichment Program (SYEP). The County received over 7,700 applications for this year's program, and applicants are currently receiving offers for a number of virtual and in-person opportunities available this summer. Some of those opportunities include an energy conservation program, an aviation program, trade certification programs in a variety of fields, and working at food distribution sites through the County Executive's Stand Up & Deliver program.

Finally, this afternoon the County Executive is beginning a series of community walks to help address issues in the community. Members of the County Executive's office, the Police Department, and County Government agencies will join residents to discuss crime and other quality of life issues that impact the community. The County will also host a town hall with Acting Police Chief Malik Aziz on June 15, and additional details for that event will be announced in the near future.

COVID-19 Numbers & Vaccinations

Over 712,000 total vaccinations have been provided to County residents. 429,131 residents have received at least one dose of a vaccine, and 330,269 residents are fully vaccinated.

Approximately 55.4% of residents ages 12 and over in the County have received at least one dose of a vaccine.

The County's positivity rate is 1.9% as of May 22, the lowest since the start of the pandemic. The average daily case rate is 4.7 cases per 100,000 residents as of May 22, a 78% decrease since the most recent high of 21.0 on April 14. Finally, the County's infection rate is 0.79 as of May 17.

The latest COVID-19 numbers are available via the [County's COVID-19 Dashboard](#). The latest COVID-19 vaccination numbers are available via the [County's COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#).

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