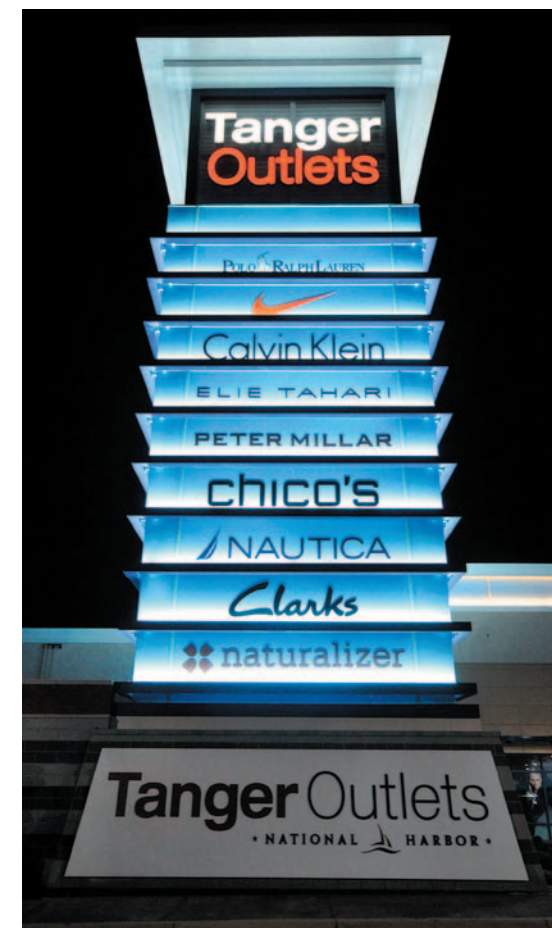




Office of the County Executive
County Administration Building
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Suite 5032
Upper Marlboro, Maryland
20772-3050

www.princegeorgescountymd.gov





As the 2014 Legislative Session of the Maryland General Assembly commences, I remain committed to a Legislative Agenda that is consistent with my Administration's foundation of economic development, job creation, improving our public school system, and developing more transportation infrastructure. Our continued focus on these key priorities, particularly in the designated Transforming Neighborhood Initiative geographic areas, is allowing us to realize significant growth opportunities and revitalizing Prince George's County. With our elected officials at both the State and local levels remaining unified in pursuit of these priorities, Prince George's County can only continue to grow and prosper as a nationally recognized jurisdiction, and our residents and businesses will know that this is one of the best places to live, invest, work, and visit.

The County's 2014 Legislative Agenda focuses primarily on promoting economic development (job creation and diversification of the County's tax base); safeguarding the County budget in areas of school construction and K-12 education funding, particularly funding to provide universal pre-kindergarten; creating and preserving affordable housing throughout the County; and enhancing transportation initiatives.

One priority that is of the utmost importance is securing an increase to the State's minimum wage. We will work with the General Assembly to ease the burden on Maryland workers statewide who struggle to make ends meet. The County will also focus on working with the State to discuss ways to ensure long-term stability in meeting our County's school construction, as well as adequate funding to meet the County's abundant school construction needs in the near future.

Overall, the County's legislative agenda centers on the core themes of growing the commercial tax base and improving the quality of life for our residents. Economic development and improvement of the transportation infrastructure will diversify the tax base, relieving some of the burden on the County's tax payers, continuing the advancement of the County's school system, reducing crime, and allowing the County to advance its successful Transforming Neighborhood Initiative.

I am looking forward to a successful 2014 legislative session, and with your support, we will move our County and Maryland forward.

Respectfully,

Rushern L. Baker, III
Prince George's County Executive

2014 Legislative Priorities

Prince George's Regional Medical System Funding

Ensuring the Prince George's County Regional Medical System project timeline is safeguarded and that necessary funding is in place.

Supporting Universal Pre-K Funding

State funding for pre-kindergarten in all County public elementary schools will improve students' school readiness and provide a foundation for future academic and social success. Prince George's County Public Schools, in collaboration with Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker's Transforming Neighborhood Initiative (TNI), allocated local resources to provide full-day pre-kindergarten in eight selected schools serving students in TNI communities.

Public School Construction Funding

Support the School System request for \$118 million for school construction and renovation projects and work with General Assembly to establish long-term funding mechanisms to address significant capital needs.

Supporting an Increase to the State's Minimum Wage

Support the efforts at the State level to increase the minimum wage. County Executive Baker recently signed local legislation increasing the minimum wage in Prince George's County to \$11.50 over a period of four years. Believing that the minimum wage should have as broad based application as possible, the County Executive supports a statewide increase as well.

Additional Priorities

- Support funding to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Rental Housing Works Program which would create more affordable housing options through the County.
- Supporting an increase to the Prince George's County State's Attorney's salary to place it in parity with the other Maryland jurisdictions with similar populations and caseloads.