

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

PRESS RELEASE

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**COUNTY EXECUTIVE ALSOBROOKS ANNOUNCES POSSIBLE MODIFIED
PHASE TWO REOPENING FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ON JUNE 15**

LARGO, MD – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced today that the County will remain in a modified phase one despite the Governor's statewide move to phase two on Friday. Prince George's has experienced some of the highest infection, hospitalization and death rates in the state since this pandemic began, which requires the County to take a targeted and measured approach to reopening. However, the County's metrics are trending in a positive direction and Prince George's could potentially begin a modified phase two on June 15, 2020. The decision will be made in consultation with the Chief Health Officer who continues to monitor the County's health data, including continued downward trends in the number of COVID-19 deaths and hospitalizations.

"We are encouraged by the trends we are seeing in our data since announcing our modified phase one reopening, but we must remain vigilant," said Alsobrooks. "All of our indicators tell us that COVID-19 is still active in our community, and while I am eager to continue reopening our County, we must do so in a safe, smart and responsible manner that is data driven. If we continue to see the declines we are currently experiencing, we could move to a modified phase two by June 15."

Prince George's County Health Department officials say that in order to enter into a modified phase two reopening, some of the metrics that will be used to make a determination will be positivity rates, declines in deaths, hospitalizations and medical/surgical bed utilization.

A modified phase two reopening will allow for the reopening, in part, of personal services, outdoor recreation, retail establishments, food establishments and houses of worship. The current modified phase one reopening that took effect on Monday June, 1 includes the following:

- **Retail stores** are open with curbside pickup only.
- **Manufacturing** is open with appropriate social distancing, use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on cleaning high contact surfaces. All employees must be trained on CDC COVID-19 guidance before returning to work.
- **Barbershops and hair salons** are open for hair services only and by appointment only, with one customer per 200 square feet and use of PPE. This includes face masks and gloves for all employees. Customers must also wear masks, and shops must have appropriate floor markings to create adequate social distancing. Employees will not be permitted to have clients waiting in a sitting area. All CDC guidelines for cleaning high use surfaces must also be followed.
- **Restaurants** are open with outside seating only. There can be no more than 6 people seated at a table, tables must be at least six feet apart, and no more than 50 people will be allowed at any outdoor restaurant establishment regardless of space. Employees must receive health screenings prior to their shifts, and all CDC guidelines must be adhered to. Additionally, all employees must wear face coverings, and restaurants must have hand sanitizer and appropriate hand washing facilities available. There will soon be a concierge service portal available to restaurant owners that will allow for them to apply for the appropriate expedited licenses, so that they may conduct dining operation outside. Information on how to access that portal will be available soon.
- **Houses of worship** can open for gatherings of 10 people or less. Otherwise, they must maintain online services only.
- **Farmer's markets** are open for carryout only, maintaining proper social distancing, mask wearing and following CDC guidelines for cleaning high use surfaces.
- **Childcare facilities** are to open for essential employees and for employees who are returning to work as part of the modified phase one. In addition to the use of masks and gloves for all employees and having appropriate social distancing and disinfecting in place, they must also have a schedule for staggered drop offs and pickups, conduct daily symptom checks and have a strict dismissal policy in the event of positive cases.
- **Car washes** are open with automated systems, but drivers and passengers must stay inside of the vehicles at all times. Interior car cleaning is not permitted, but employees may wipe down the outside of the car as long as they wear masks and gloves.

The County will remain in this modified phase one until the County Executive authorizes the move to phase two. Basketball courts and playgrounds remain closed. Fitness facilities remain closed. Youth Sports will not resume at this point. Nail salons, tanning salons and tattoo shops remain closed. Residents and visitors must wear face coverings inside all businesses and on public transportation, and businesses must continue to enforce social distancing.

County Government buildings remain closed to the public and employees continue to telework. The County Government is still open and operational, adding a number of virtual services in our agencies to ensure that we can still serve our residents. Finally, the County is offering essential workers, first responders, County Government employees and their families free COVID-19 tests even if they are not exhibiting symptoms. These individuals should call 301-883-6627 to make an appointment at our testing sites.

For the latest COVID-19 updates and resources in Prince George's County, please visit mypgc.us.

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