

RESOLUTION 2020-05

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND THAT THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER IS HEREBY ADOPTED THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2020.



P. Thomas Mason, President



Ronald H. Fithian, Member



Robert N. Jacob, Jr., Member

EXECUTIVE ORDER  
BY THE  
COMMISSIONERS OF KENT COUNTY  
MARCH 17, 2020

**WHEREAS,**

Kent County, Maryland is subject to a catastrophic health emergency which was proclaimed on March 5, 2020 by the Governor of Maryland, to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the County, and the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency still exists; and

**WHEREAS,**

COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, is a public health catastrophe and has been confirmed in several Maryland counties; and

**WHEREAS,**

For the facilitation of the deployment of requisite resources; and

**WHEREAS,**

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Maryland Department of Health recommend cancelling large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

- WHEREAS,** The currently known and available scientific evidence and best practices support limitations on large gatherings and social distancing to prevent exposures and transmissions, and reduce the threat to especially vulnerable populations, including older individuals and those with chronic health conditions; and
- WHEREAS,** To reduce the threat to human health caused by transmission of the novel coronavirus in Maryland, and to protect and save lives, it is necessary and reasonable that individuals in the County refrain from congregating; and
- WHEREAS,** It is further necessary to control and direct in Maryland the occupancy and use of buildings and premises, as well as places of amusement and assembly; and
- WHEREAS,** The Office of Emergency Services will closely monitor the Coronavirus Response Team updates to advise on related public health and emergency management decisions; and
- WHEREAS,** Pursuant to Section 14-111 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the principal executive officer of a political subdivision may declare a local state of emergency in order to activate the response and recovery aspects of any applicable local state of emergency plan and authorize the provision of aid and assistance under such plans.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** We, P. Thomas Mason, President, Ronald H. Fithian, Member, and Robert N. Jacob, Jr., Member, County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BY THE CODE OF PUBLIC LAWS OF KENT COUNTY, AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 WITHIN THE COUNTY, DO HEREBY ORDER:

- I. Social, community, spiritual, religious, recreational, leisure, and sporting gatherings and events of more than 50 people are hereby prohibited at all locations and venues, including but not limited to parades, festivals, conventions, and fundraisers.
- II. Planned large gatherings and events must be canceled or postponed until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.
- III. In accordance with Chapter 49 Purchasing of the Code of Public Laws of Kent County, Maryland, the provisions of the County Purchasing law are hereby suspended for purchases and contracts to secure such goods or services as deemed immediately necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

Given Under My Hand and Seal of the County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.



P. Thomas Mason

P. Thomas Mason, President

Ronald H. Fithian

Ronald H. Fithian, Member

Robert N. Jacob, Jr.

Robert N. Jacob, Jr., Member

Attest:

Sondra M. Blackiston

Sondra M. Blackiston, Clerk