

**County Executive  
of  
Howard County, Maryland**

**Executive Order: 2020-11**

**Dated: June 5, 2020**

**Subject: Exercise of Emergency Powers –  
Rescinding local orders related to  
religious institutions; tattoo parlors,  
tanning salons, massage parlors and  
establishments that provide esthetic  
services or nail technician services; and  
drive-in movie theaters.**

**WHEREAS**, on March 5, 2020, Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., declared a state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19, a communicable respiratory disease, and that emergency still exists; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 15, 2020, by Executive Order No. 2020-02, pursuant to the authority granted by Howard County Code sections 6.103 & 6.104, I declared a state of emergency in Howard County and ordered the closure of specified businesses and places of public assembly, and Council Resolution No. 41-2020 continues the state of emergency while the state of emergency and/or the catastrophic health emergency declared by Governor Hogan remains in effect or until terminated by Executive Order issued by the County Executive, whichever is later; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Maryland Department of Health recommend social distancing and limitations on the size of large gatherings to reduce the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 3, 2020, Governor Hogan issued State Executive Order Number 20-06-03-01 that continues to restrict gatherings of more than ten people for social, community, recreational, leisure, and sporting activities and events, and allows for the limited re-opening of certain businesses and personal services providers and activities under certain conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, State Executive Order Number 20-06-03-01 provides that political subdivisions may continue to impose limitations on business and personal activities that are more restrictive than those permitted by State Executive Order Number 20-06-03-01, if the political subdivision determines that it is necessary and reasonable to do so to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, section 6.104(a) of the Howard County Code authorizes the County Executive to exercise certain emergency functions during a declared state of emergency within the County, including, but not limited to the following:

- (1) Control traffic, including public and private transportation;

- (2) Designate zones in the area of the emergency in which occupancy and use of buildings and vehicles may be controlled;
- (3) Control places of amusement and places of assembly; and
- (4) Control individuals on public streets.

**WHEREAS**, on May 15, 2020, I issued Executive Order No. 2020-08 that set forth restrictions applicable to religious services, retail, manufacturing, barber shops/ hair salons, archery/shooting ranges, campgrounds, marinas/watercraft rental, horse boarding/riding facilities, and malls; and

**WHEREAS**, consistent with State Executive Order No. 20-05-13-01, Executive Order No. 2020-08 also ordered that the following non-essential businesses, organizations, establishments, and facilities shall remain closed including, but not limited to:

- (1) Tattoo parlors, tanning salons, massage parlors, and establishments that provide esthetic services or provide nail technician services; and
- (2) Movie theaters

**WHEREAS**, on May 26, 2020, I issued Executive Order No. 2020-09 that allowed for reopening of barber shops and hair salons, religious institutions and retail establishments subject to certain restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 29, 2020, I issued Executive Order No. 2020-10 lifting the restrictions on food or beverage applicable to religious institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, Howard County has continued to monitor CDC Guidelines for re-opening which call for a downward trajectory of the positivity rate below 15% for 14 days after entering Phase 1; and

**WHEREAS**, related to the CDC Guidelines, currently, the County is seeing the following COVID-19 data trends that continue to progress in the right direction to allow further reopenings:

- (1) A rolling seven-day average positivity rate of 8.8%.
  - The State of Maryland has a collective positivity rate of 9.5%.
- (2) Howard County has tested approximately 15,712 people, or 4.5% of its population.
  - Howard County has increased testing from 1,300 tests performed each week as of May 14<sup>th</sup> to now more than 3,700 in the last week as new testing sites have come on board.
- (3) Howard County has increased contact tracers from 11 as of May 14<sup>th</sup> to 35 today. The Health Department is expecting additional hires in the coming week.
- (4) During the past seven days, the Howard County General Hospital's ICU utilization rate dropped from 70% to 52%.
  - (a) While a majority of the utilization in the ICU is driven by non-COVID patients, the number of COVID patients in the ICU has dropped from seven to three during that same period.

- (b) During May, the number of ICU COVID patients has consistently been below three and, the last time the number of ICU COVID patients was at or below three was on April 7.
- (5) Howard County also continues to increase PPE supply and testing sites. There is currently more than a 30-day supply of PPE; and

**WHEREAS**, in consideration of the CDC Guidelines and data points set forth above, it is reasonable and appropriate to lift restrictions on certain institutions, establishments, and businesses, as set forth below; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED** by the County Executive of Howard County, Maryland, that, in accordance with the authority granted by section 6.104(a) of the Howard County Code and the State Executive Order Number 20-06-03-01, that **effective at 5:00 pm on Friday, June 5, 2020, ONLY** conditions and restrictions applicable to the following entities as set forth in County Executive Order No. 2020-08, County Executive Order No. 2020-09, and County Executive Order No. 2020-10 are hereby rescinded and conditions and restrictions set forth in State Executive Order No. 20-06-03-01 shall apply to the following:


- (1) Religious institutions
- (2) The following non-essential businesses, organizations, establishments and facilities:
  - (a) Tattoo parlors
  - (b) Tanning salons
  - (c) Massage parlors
  - (d) Establishments that provide esthetic services or provide nail technician services
  - (e) Drive-in movie theaters, only

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that all other provisions of Executive Order No. 2020-08, Executive Order No. 2020-09 and Executive Order No. 2020-10 shall remain in full force and effect.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED**, that:

- (1) This Executive Order shall be promptly publicized; and
- (2) A copy filed with the Administrator to the County Council of Howard County.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I, Calvin B. Ball, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland, have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020.



Calvin B. Ball  
County Executive