



IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

**Thomas H. Bostwick
(410) 887-3196**

MEDIA ADVISORY

COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES UPDATE REGARDING CORONAVIRUS

Towson, MD – Cathy Bevins, (D,6th), Chair of the Baltimore County Council, announced that the Council has taken the following steps, in response to the County Executive’s statement today that Baltimore County has its first confirmed case of COVID-19, to proactively mitigate the effects on the Council functions.

All legislative sessions and work sessions will be held as scheduled in the Council Chambers. However, until further notice and as part of the social distancing recommendations set forth by the CDC, members of the public will not be permitted to attend these meetings. All Council sessions will be available to live stream on the Council website. Only essential County employees may attend in person. Members of the public are encouraged to provide written testimony or comment by email, fax, or traditional mail. Information on live streaming or contact information can be found on the Council’s website at

www.baltimorecountymd.gov/countycouncil or by calling 410-887-3196.

Consistent with the County Health Department’s guidelines, and out of an abundance of caution, Councilmembers are restricting all meetings with persons and organizations outside of County government to phone conferences rather than in-person meetings.

As we approach public hearings for the Annual Budget and CZMP, the Council is reviewing several options to fulfill its Charter- and Code-mandated meeting requirements. While the Council has not canceled or postponed the Budget Hearing scheduled for April 28th or the CZMP hearings scheduled throughout the month of June, the Council will put social distancing measures into place in order to balance the public health recommendations with the need for public participation and comment. Modifications to ensure public safety will be decided on a case-by-case basis, and further information will be released as soon as possible.

“I commend the County Executive, as well as Health Officer Dr. Gregory Branch, BCPS Superintendent Dr. Darryl Williams, and CCBC President Dr. Sandra Kurtinitis, for their decisive actions, and the County Council will seek to support their efforts in the best ways possible,” said Mrs. Bevins.

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