

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2014 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-7-2014

Proposed by Council Members Olson, Lehman, and Turner

Introduced by Council Members Olson, Lehman, Turner, Franklin, Davis, Campos,
and Patterson

Date of Introduction February 18, 2014

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning
2 Prince George's County Science and Technology District
3 For the purpose of establishing a Prince George's County Science and Technology Business
4 District.

5 WHEREAS, Prince George's County is uniquely situated to attract and promote the
6 technology, life sciences, and biosciences industries with its strong federal research and
7 academic presence, with the University of Maryland at College Park, the M Square Research
8 Park, the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, the NASA – Goddard facility in Greenbelt, the
9 U.S. Army Research Laboratory in Adelphi, and the planned Howard University Research Park
10 in Beltsville; and

11 WHEREAS, a recent study of ten (10) United States life science clusters found that the co-
12 location of research facilities and technology assets can bring significant benefits in terms of
13 public and private sector job opportunities; and

14 WHEREAS, the County commissioned an economic feasibility study for a biotechnology
15 research and development center in Prince George's County, finding in its 2009 report that the
16 County's existing research and innovation corridor and concentration of research activity in the
17 area offer near-term growth and economic development for bioscience industry growth; and

18 WHEREAS, the location of science and technology industry facilities in proximity to
19 higher education institutions, to include Bowie State University, Prince George's Community
20 College, Capitol College, and the University of Maryland, further enhance local opportunities to
21 spark student interest in and preparation for science and technology careers; and
22

1 WHEREAS, the County is home to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
2 (“NOAA”) at the Suitland federal center campus, as well as M Square, which can both contribute
3 to Science and Technology research, development, and jobs; and

4 WHEREAS, investment in science and technology opportunities will provide Prince
5 Georgians with well-paying jobs, an increased tax base to bolster the County education system,
6 public services, and public infrastructure, as well as enhance health care for County residents;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the County Council is committed to facilitate and support the growth of high-
9 tech and bioscience businesses in the County in an effort to enhance the environment for
10 entrepreneurship and the creation of new companies; and

11 WHEREAS, innovation in science and technology at the University of Maryland is creating
12 dozens of new businesses each year, yet only a fraction of these businesses remain in Prince
13 George’s County.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
15 County, Maryland, that the Prince George’s County Science and Technology District (“District”) is hereby created.

16
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District shall be composed of the greater Beltsville,
18 College Park, Berwyn Heights, Riverdale, Riverdale Park, and Greenbelt geographic areas
19 within the following U.S. Postal Service zip codes: 20705, (but not west of I-95) 20740, 20742,
20 20737 (but not south of MD Route 410 and Riverdale Road), 20770, 20771, and the portion of
21 20706 that is east of I-495 and north of MD Route 564, as reflected in the attached map as
22 Attachment A.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in an effort to promote opportunities in Science and
24 Technology, it is the intent of the County Council to enact enabling legislation to create a
25 specific Prince George’s County Science and Technology investment tax credit.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the further intention of the Council to work with
27 the Maryland General Assembly House and Senate Delegations to pursue legislation to make the
28 State’s research and development tax credit permanent, as well as refundable or transferable, in
29 an effort to support emergent businesses in the life sciences and high technology fields.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the intention of the Council, in partnership with
31 the Prince George’s Planning Department, to provide an expedited review and approval process

1 for qualified science and technology projects within the District.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the intention of the County Council, to pursue the
3 full range of public economic incentives for facilities, equipment, and related infrastructure
4 necessary to support science and technology development within the District.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the intention of the County Council, in partnership
6 with the Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation, to promote the Prince
7 George’s County Science and Technology District.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that signage identifying the Science and Technology
9 District shall be one of the methods to promote the District.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that potentially qualified businesses in the technology,
11 science, and biotech industries are strongly encouraged to apply for economic development
12 funding through the Prince George’s County Economic Development Incentive (“EDI”) Fund.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that economic incentives can be added to this District in the
14 future.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that potentially qualified businesses in the technology,
16 science, and biotech industries are strongly encouraged to make application for certain existing
17 tax credits, to include a phased Personal Property tax exemption for research and development in
18 accordance with Section 10-235.04 of the Prince George’s County Code, and a phased Real
19 Property tax credit for research and development in accordance with Section 10-235.05 of the
20 Prince George’s County Code.

Adopted this 18th day of March, 2014.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S
COUNTY, MARYLAND, SITTING AS THE
DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PART OF
THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL
DISTRICT IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY,
MARYLAND

BY: _____
Mel Franklin
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council