

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 3 – 2024

April 19, 2024

## USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE FOR ALL COUNTY AGENCIES AND COUNTY FUNDED OPERATIONS RESPONSIBLE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGNECE (AI) IN FURTHERING INNOVATION, TRANSFORMATION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES, DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS, AND DIGITAL EXPERIENCE

**WHEREAS**, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a powerful technology with the potential to revolutionize how we live and work. AI systems can learn, analyze information, and make decisions in ways that were once thought to be the exclusive domain of human intelligence, and

WHEREAS, with ongoing advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI), generally applied to digital computer systems endowed with intellectual processes such as reasoning, discovering meaning, generalizing, and learning from past experiences to carry out complex tasks; and an increasing number of products and services utilizing AI are rapidly advancing in use across society, business, government, and people's everyday lives; including, but not limited to, AI applications in healthcare technologies, self-driving vehicles, digital assistants, website search, voice and handwriting recognition, chatbots, and various other actions and aspects of daily life, and

WHEREAS advancement of digital innovation has been critical in Prince George's County for achieving goals and priorities related to technological capabilities in transformative government. This includes approving government services, utilizing data in decision-making, and fostering a positive digital experience for our community. Additionally, the County recognizes its position as a hub for a rich and growing Artificial Intelligence (AI) ecosystem. This ecosystem comprises academic institutions, industry leaders, government agencies, and civil society experts, researchers, and other stakeholders.

WHEREAS, Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming society and work, and the pace of that change will present new opportunities and risks for Prince George's County government and its residents, workers, and the economy. With the advent of generative AI (GenAI), governments have even more opportunities to streamline operations and deliver personalized constituent experiences. GenAI can automate information retrieval, categorize insights, and generate unique responses to user requests, further enhancing the potential of AI in government services.

**WHEREAS,** Prince George's County must ensure the responsible, ethical, beneficial, and trustworthy use of both artificial intelligence (AI) and generative AI (GenAI) in County government; and...

WHEREAS Prince George's County has established programs to eliminate discrimination or disparate impact to individuals or communities based on their race, color, ethnicity, sex, religion, age, ancestry or national origin, disability, veteran status, marital status, political opinion, sexual orientation, gender identity, and genetic information, AI policy should take into account that AI systems can perpetuate harmful biases and work collaboratively to mitigate these risks.

WHEREAS AI is highly reliant on data that is in automated systems, and

WHEREAS, as of yet, there are no computer programs that can match full human flexibility over all domains of activity, or everyday knowledge and other human characteristics, and systems; and

WHEREAS the potential for misuse or unintended consequences of Artificial Intelligence (AI) exists, creating a growing need to address these concerns. Concerted efforts are being made across government and commercial enterprises to establish and enforce standards that ensure the reliability, robustness, and trustworthiness of AI systems; and

WHEREAS President Biden issued a landmark Executive Order on October 30, 2023, to solidify American leadership in responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI) development, establishing standards for AI safety, security, privacy, equity, and civil rights, while promoting innovation and technological leadership, and directing AI developers; accordingly, and

WHEREAS, to address vulnerabilities in critical software and enhance overall security, advanced cybersecurity and privacy programs are being developed utilizing AI tools; to harness cyber capabilities to fortify software, networks, and consequently transactions and data; and

WHEREAS, in January 2024, the Governor of the State of Maryland, as part of its Digital Services strategy, issued an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Executive Order to: direct foundational work for the responsible and productive use of AI by state agencies; establish an AI Subcabinet to develop and implement an AI Action Plan; promote AI knowledge and skills within government; and issue a Digital Accessibility Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Prince Georges County Chief Information Officer and the Office of Information Technology is responsible for development of overall strategy and standards for technological capabilities and digital services for Prince Georges County government serving all County agencies, and established a Chief Information Security Officer and Cyber Security Office responsible for IT security policy, and compliance for safe and secure use of technologies; and

WHEREAS Prince George's County Government is committed to the responsible and ethical utilization of AI technologies, and the Office of Equity and Inclusion shall partner with agencies and the Office of Information Technology (OIT) in the equitable development of digital accessibility; and

WHEREAS County officials and leaders across the region and state government recognize a shared interest in establishing effective AI governance and commit to working together to develop the legal and policy framework for its responsible use; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT**, on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024, that I, Angela D. Alsobrooks, County Executive for Prince George's County Maryland, do hereby order the following:

**THAT** the Office of Information Technology (OIT), in collaboration with the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI), will establish a framework and standards for the responsible development and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) across IT platforms, software, data, and infrastructure. This framework will be aligned with existing and future IT policies. The Information Technology Policy Board (see AP 111) will have final approval authority.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Office of Information Technology (OIT) shall establish an AI Task Force with membership from county agencies appointed by County Administration. General supporting agencies to the AI Task Force shall include the Office of Law, Chief of Staff Communications, and other internal support agencies as deemed necessary in developing AI policy and responsible deployment. The AI Task Force shall develop strategies, acceptable use, use cases, prioritization, and governance models to incorporate digital access equity into decision making across County government's portfolio of services. The work of the AI Task Force shall take into account costs and talent surge. The AI Task Force shall also provide input to OIT regarding updated policies as AI and newer technologies evolve.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the AI Task Force may include industry experts from private sector firms in Prince George's County, who shall be vetted through County executive leadership and in which case will not present a conflict of interest or unfair advantage for that firm in doing business with Prince George's County government.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Chief Information Officer (CIO), shall develop and incorporate policies, procedures, and standards for the safe and responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to include privacy considerations of any future AI technologies that may be integrated into County operations.

IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED: That designers, developers, and deployers of automated systems prioritize continuous efforts to safeguard individuals and communities from potential algorithmic discrimination. These efforts should ensure the design and use of these systems in a manner that promotes fairness and equity.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Office of Information Technology (OIT) will work together with the Office of Procurement and the Office of Law on reviewing County contracts and legislation related to AI contracts and services.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Prince George's County Agencies and County-funded Agencies must adhere to and implement practices aligned with County principles and standards for responsible and equitable development and deployment of capabilities through Artificial Intelligence (AI) and any future technological advancements.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Executive Order shall take effect upon issuance and remain in effect for 12 months unless amended, extended, superseded, or terminated. Recognizing the ever-evolving nature of AI technology, the strategies, frameworks, and policies outlined here are subject to change at any time.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that if any provision of this Executive Order, or its application to any specific person, entity, or circumstance, is deemed invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions and applications shall fully remain in effect, as if the invalid provision or application were not included. To achieve this, the provisions of this Executive Order are severable.

Angela D. Alsobrooks

County Executive