

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH 2020

WHEREAS, the City of Benton in the state of Illinois has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aircraft manufacturing, aviation educational institutions, aviation organizations and community airports; and

WHEREAS, general aviation and the Benton Municipal Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of Benton; and

WHEREAS, general aviation airports in the state of Illinois support over \$9 billion in total economic output.; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Benton's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, fire-fighting and disaster relief, investments in sustainable fuels and technologies, and by transporting business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely; and

WHEREAS, these aircraft and our network of airports represent a national public benefit, and Congressional oversight should be in place of this system to ensure that it remains a public system and serves communities of all sizes; and

WHEREAS, general aviation has been deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, causing an impact on operations, jobs, and dependent industries, sectors and communities; and

WHEREAS, general aviation stands to be at the forefront of the overall economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, the United States faces a shortage of aviation professionals, leaders should invest in this critical infrastructure to ensure future economic growth and our next generation of aviation professionals and pilots; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Fred Kondritz, Mayor of the City of Benton, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic asset to the City of Benton and declare September as

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH in the City of Benton.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

