

Office of the Mayor

LaGrange, Georgia

Proclamation

WHEREAS, LaGrange, in the State of Georgia, 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 LaGrange Callaway Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of LaGrange; and

WHEREAS, general aviation in *2020 Georgia Statewide Airport Economic Impact Study*; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Georgia'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 investments in innovative experimental technology like vertical takeoff and landing vehicles, 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Thornton, Mayor of the City of LaGrange, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic asset to the City of LaGrange and declare October, 2021 as

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

in the City of LaGrange.



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed.

Jim Thornton
Attest: *See Olson*

Date: October 1, 2021