

WHEREAS, Aurora, Colorado 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 Colorado Air and Space Port have a significant economic impact on the city of Aurora; and,

WHEREAS, the 2020 Colorado Aviation Economic Impact Study found that airports in the state support annual business revenues of \$48.6 billion, more than 345,000 jobs, and a payroll of \$16.2 billion; and,

WHEREAS, according to the FAA, the state has 70 public-use airports that serve nearly 22,000 pilots and more than 6,900 registered aircraft. Colorado is home to 75 repair stations, 14 FAA-approved pilot schools, almost 6,700 student pilots, and over 4,400 flight instructors; and,

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Colorado's economy, but it also improves the overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting, 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, the United States faces a shortage of aviation professionals; leaders should invest in this critical infrastructure to ensure future economic growth and the next generation of aviation professionals and pilots.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Coffman, Mayor of the city of Aurora, Colorado do hereby proclaim January 2024 as:

General Aviation Appreciation Month

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Aurora, Colorado to be affixed this 8th day of January 2024.

Wike Coffman, Mayor Aurora, Colorado