Proclamation

WHEREAS, The City of Battle Creek 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 Battle Creek Executive Airport at Kellogg Field have an immense economic impact on the City of Battle Creek; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2017 Michigan Aviation System Plan, general aviation in Michigan generates an estimated \$5.2 billion in business revenues to the state's economy each year and supports more than 33,000 jobs and a payroll of \$1.4 billion annually; and

WHEREAS,

Battle Creek Executive Airport at Kellogg Field is one of the busiest airports in the State of Michigan which is not widely known as there are no commercial flights landing or departing from this airfield. This airport is a gem and an asset to the City of Battle Creek. There is a true appreciation for the businesses and manufacturers which operator out of the Battle Creek Executive Airport and for their contribution to the continued development around the airfield; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the Unites 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, Mark A. Behnke, Mayor of the City of Battle Creek, Michigan, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2022, as

"GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH"

in the Greater Battle Creek Area and urge all the citizens of Battle Creek to recognize and support the Battle Creek Executive Airport and Kellogg Field and our aviation professionals.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hand and caused the Official Logo of the City of Battle Creek, Michigan, to be affixed this 1st day of November.

Mark A. Behnke, Mayor