

PROCLAMATION DECLARING GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

WHEREAS, Big Rapids in the state of Michigan 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 Roben-Hood Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of Big Rapids, 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, 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 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 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, Fred Guenther, Mayor of the City of Big Rapids, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic asset to the City of Big Rapids and declare November as

General Aviation Appreciation Month

in the City of Big Rapids and urge all citizens of Big Rapids to recognize the vital strategic resource and economic boon that General Aviation provides to Big Rapids and to our community.



Mayor Fred Guenther

Proclaimed this 1st day of November 2022