



Mayoral Proclamation
General Aviation Appreciation Month

WHEREAS, Bloomington 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 Central Illinois Regional Airport at Bloomington-Normal have an immense economic impact on the City of Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, according to the *2022 Illinois Aviation Economic Impact Analysis*, aviation in Illinois generates an estimated \$95.5 billion in business revenues to the state's economy each year and supports more than 490,000 jobs and a payroll of \$32.6 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Illinois' economy, but it also 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 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, Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor of the City of Bloomington, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic asset to the City of Bloomington and declare October as **GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH** in the City of Bloomington, Illinois.

Mboka Mwilambwe
Mboka Mwilambwe
Mayor



Leslie Yocum
Leslie Yocum
City Clerk