PROCLAMATION

General Aviation Appreciation Month 2024

WHEREAS, Buena Vista in the state of 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 Central Colorado Regional Airport have a significant economic impact on the City of Buena Vista; 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. These airports serve almost 22,000 pilots and more than 6,900 registered aircraft; and

WHEREAS, according to the FAA, the state 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, it improves 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 our next generation of aviation professionals and pilots;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Libby Fay, Mayor of the City of Buena Vista, do hereby proclaim January 2024 as

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Town of Buena Vista on this 9th day of January 2024.

Libby Fay, Mayor