

WHEREAS, the City of Fairmont in the state of West Virginia 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 Fairmont Municipal Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of Fairmont; and

WHEREAS, general aviation in West Virginia contributes over \$1 billion to the state's economy annually; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports West Virginia'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 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;

WHEREAS, leaders should invest in this critical infrastructure to ensure future economic growth and our next generation of aviation professionals and pilots.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Brad Merrifield, Mayor of the City of Fairmont, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic asset to the City of Fairmont and declare March 2020 as

## "GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH"

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Fairmont to be affixed this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020.



Brad Men Jola MAYOR